



FOR A HAPPIER,
HEALTHIER SCOTLAND

Consultation Response

A803 Stage 2 – Public Consultation

18/4/24

If you have any questions about this response, please contact our policy team:
policy@pathsforall.org.uk

Who We Are

Paths for All is Scotland's walking charity. Established in 1996, we work in partnership with 30 national organisations with a shared vision of a healthier, happier, greener Scotland, where everyone can be active every day. Walking is the easiest and most accessible way to be active, and our work to change the way people move, travel, and enjoy life in Scotland is focused on the following three themes:

- Walking is for everyone.
- Walking is for everywhere.
- Walking is for every day.

Our [strategy](#) sets out our vision for tackling physical inactivity, poor mental health, increased health and transport inequalities and the climate emergency.

Our Response

Paths for All welcomes the opportunity to respond to this consultation. We do not have the local knowledge to comment on the detail of the proposals but would like to make some general points. We will limit these to aspects that have direct relevance to the work and objectives of Paths for All.

We welcome the to create active travel links and prioritise buses to better connect key retail, regeneration, health, and education locations.

We generally support the project objectives – in particular:

Walking and wheeling:

- Routes available for walking and wheeling that include safe crossing points.
- Footways meet demand and the minimum width requirements.
- Improved accessibility for all users.

Cycling:

- Improved provision for cyclists along and across the corridor, aiming for best practice but always meeting at least the minimum requirements.

Bus use:

- Enhanced accessibility of bus stops along the corridor, e.g. kerb height for step-free access and footways/crossing provision to the stops. Most trips by bus also comprise an element of walking or wheeling – getting to bus stops easily is key for all users.

Residential Amenity:

- Walking and wheeling routes between residential areas and the corridor have sufficient footway widths and safe crossing facilities.
- Access to cycle parking for residents.

Traffic:

- Ensure the proposals do not result in an increased level of private motor traffic along the corridor.

Sustainability:

- Additional green/blue space along the corridor and plant native trees.
- Improved interchange between sustainable transport modes.

We support proposals that will increase road safety, improve public space, and promote walking and wheeling.

Active Travel interventions should be evidence-led. You may be interested in our recently published 2023 National Survey of Attitudes to Walking and Wheeling in Scotland. Read the full survey report or take a look at our summary infographic. <https://www.pathsforall.org.uk/blog/blog-post/what-do-scots-think-about-walking>

Paths for All's vision is for walking, wheeling, and cycling to be the natural choice for short journeys, creating a healthier, socially inclusive, economically vibrant, environmentally friendly Scotland.

Active Travel is about improving quality of life and quality of place. There is a need to achieve a significant shift to walking, wheeling, and cycling as the most sustainable forms of transport. The proposals for active travel are very much in tune with this.

We would be very happy to engage further and to discuss any of the points we have raised. We have no objection to our comments being made publicly available.



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Paths For All

Kintail House, Forthside Way Stirling FK8 1QZ

T 01786 641851

E info@pathsforall.org.uk

pathsforall.org.uk

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Registered Office: Kintail House, Forthside Way, Stirling, FK8 1QZ