

# Active Travel

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# What is Active Travel?

Active Travel is making a journey by walking, cycling or wheeling (i.e. skateboards, roller skates, non-motorised scooters). These journeys are generally repetitive and short, like walking to the shop or school, or cycling to work.

It is defined by the Department of Transport as '*travelling with a purpose, using your own energy*'

Note: The term *Sustainable Travel* generally refers to Active Travel plus Public Transport

## What Active Travel is not

Journeys undertaken for the purpose of recreation, e.g. cycling a rural greenway or blueway (cycletrack built on a river bank), or walking along a scenic route.

Note: An exception to the above is what are termed *urban greenways* – this is where a cycling and walking route is developed as an amenity but also functions as a commuter facility

It is also not the refurbishment of existing infrastructure, e.g. footpath maintenance, or, travelling by public transport (sustainable transport).

# Typical Active Travel Projects

Cycle Tracks (both on and off road)

- provision of an active travel mode of transport to work / education

Footpaths / Walking Routes (including pedestrian crossings)

- connecting households to local services

Permeability Schemes

- connecting residential development to local amenities, services, and to adjoining residential areas

School Safety Measures (SRTS programme)

- provision of a safe active travel mode of transport to school for children



# Active Travel Design Guidelines

Design Manual for Urban Roads and Streets (DMURS)

Cycle Design Manual (revised September 2023)

Permeability Best Practice Guide

## Active Travel Funding

Funding of Active Travel projects is provided by the Department of Transport through the National Transport Authority (NTA).

Nationally, the 2023 budget for Active Travel is €290m for approximately 1200 individual projects.

The current Programme for Government has committed €1.8billion over 5 years for Active Travel and Greenways i.e. c€360m / annum.

Note: Greenways are also funded by the Department of Transport but through Transport Infrastructure Ireland (TII). The 2023 budget for Greenway development is €63m.



# Challenges to the successful delivery of Active Travel Projects

## Public Mindset

- Safety (and the perception of safety), of using Active Travel infrastructure
- Behavioural change

## Capacity of Irish Construction Industry

## Finance

# Improved safety measures for Active Travel projects

Provision of physical barriers between cycle tracks and vehicle lanes

Prioritisation of cyclists and pedestrians at junctions

- provision of at-grade junction crossings
- traffic light sequencing
- junction tightening

Roundabout design / retrofitting

**The key to improving the safety of Active Travel infrastructure is the separation of pedestrians, cyclists and wheelers from vehicular traffic**









# Benefits of Active Travel

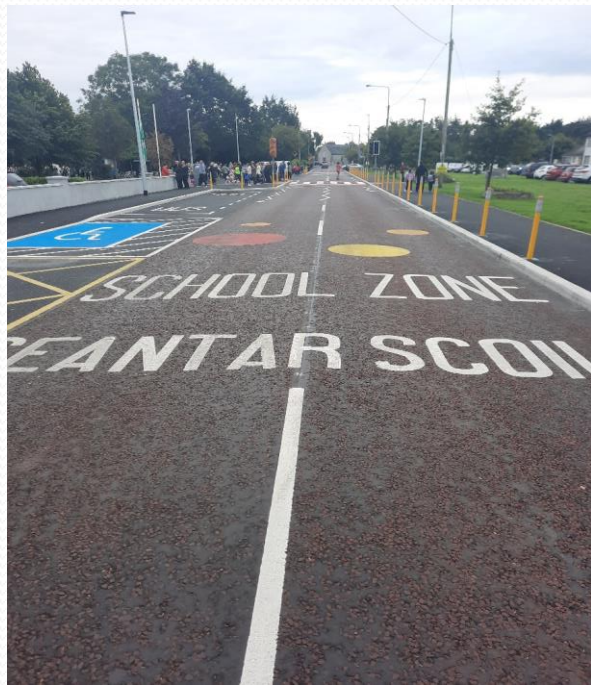
## Personal Benefits;

- Healthier Lifestyle
- Reduced Cost
- Increased Social Interaction
- Faster Journey Times

## Societal Benefits;

- Reduction in Air Pollution
- Reduced Traffic Congestion
- Climate Change Benefits (reduced fossil fuel consumption)
- Economic savings





# local road safety

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# ROAD FATALITY STATS – Are we all just a number?

- 166 Fatalities in Ireland to date. +35 on *Last year*
- 40 Pedestrians
- 58 Drivers
- 33 Passengers
- 04 E-Scooter Operators
- 24 Motorcyclists
- 06 Cyclists
- 01 Pillion passenger / Other

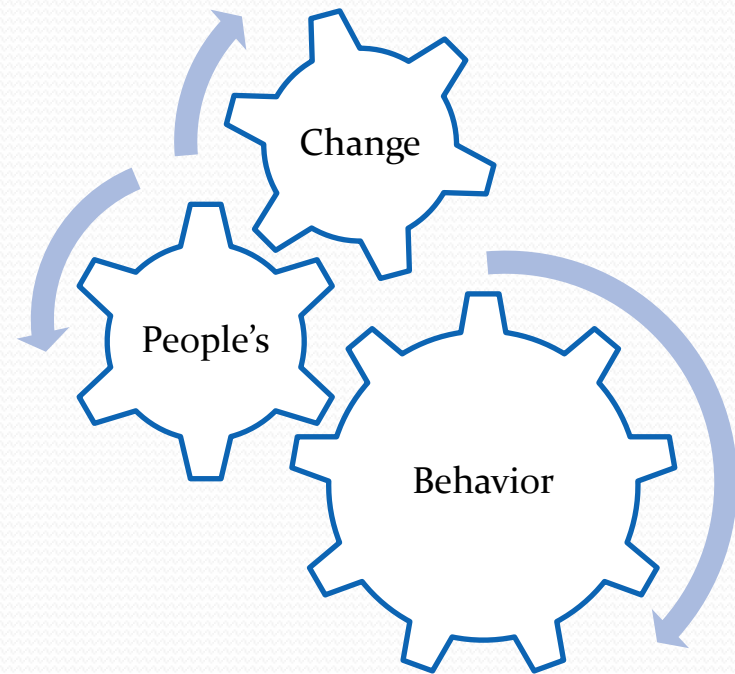
# TALKING POINT – what's causing road FATALITIES?

- Drink & Drug Driving
- Speeding & Aggressive Driving
- Non-Wearing of Seatbelt
- Mobile/Smart Phones while driving
- Careless and Irresponsible Road Behavior
- Lack of Road User Visibility  
*(Pedestrian, Cyclists)*
- Lack of caution, courtesy and consideration



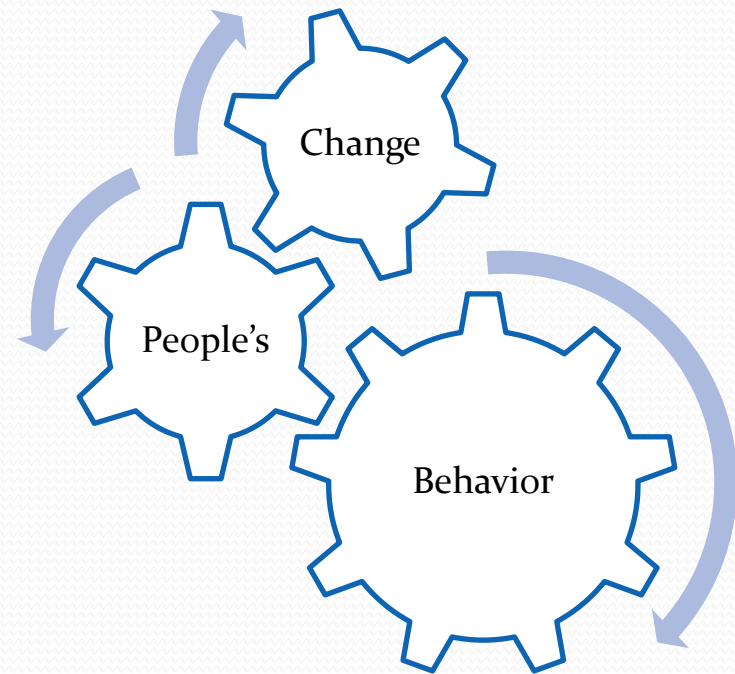
# Getting into the minds of people's behavior

- Education
- Engineering
- Enforcement
- Personal Responsibility
- Driver Behavior
- Attitudes and Consequences
- What do you think?...



# How can we change?

We can all change our behaviors,  
We can all improve our attitudes,  
We can all make our roads safer.







# End of the road!

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# Thank You