

SNATRA

South Northants Active Travel Route A43 & B4525

We are seeking your support to help an action group to build a safe active travel route from Towcester to Brackley, via the A43 and to Banbury via the B4525 from Syresham.

Since the completion of the M1 in 1958, the M40 in 1991 and A43 improvements in the early 2000s and the imminent construction of the HS2 there are 30 plus villages and towns which have been insidiously enclosed by and travel restricted to these fast motorised forms of transport.

An active travel route would benefit all towns villages and hamlets by increasing footfall with less pollution and lessening the need to provide parking but also allow villagers to get to work, gain access to commercial, industrial, educational, medical, leisure and social facilities that may not be available in their village.

This South Northants active travel route would fall in line with the £2 billion that has been ring fenced by Boris Johnson (28th July 2020) for active travel nationally and also its obesity strategy and statements that people should be given the opportunity to make short (under five mile) journeys safely by non-motorised forms of transport.

This would not only benefit our local environment but encourage individuals living in south Northants to improve their own and their families physical and mental wellbeing.

The NHS spends on obesity related diseases over £5 billion per year and the overall cost to society is estimated at £27billion per year. The human cost to lack of opportunities for active travel and exercise as part of a normal life style is an increased risk of many major adverse health conditions including; premature death, coronary heart disease (doubled), high blood pressure, stroke, metabolic syndrome (inclusive of obesity, abnormal blood cholesterol levels), type2 diabetes, breast and bowels cancers, depression and anxiety, osteoporosis and lipid disorders. *1

The routes that now entrap us have previously been accessible to all forms of travel for hundreds of years, but in less than a century, we have lost these safe non-motorised active routes of travel, by prioritising the motor car. It may seem costly now to provide an active travel route but it is essential for residents and visitors of South Northants to re-establish safe means of active travel between the villages, hamlets and local towns and all the facilities and benefits that they offer to all ages and for our future generations.

(Other counties are also forming active travel initiatives under the governments lead and these can only benefit our future children.)

To support this South Northants active travel route would your parish council:

1. Please add this to your next parish council meetings agenda to give your council the opportunity to offer support to this initiative.
2. Establish a satellite group with members of your community who are prepared to support and actively participate with the lead action group.

3. Identify a member of your community satellite group who will then liaise between the main action group and your community group.
4. please bring this initiative to the attention of your community and encourage them to actively become involved by: -

Write to

Your Member of Parliament,

County Councillor, (or Unitary Councillor)

District Councillor, (or Unitary Councillor)

Highways Department of your County Council, or Unitary Council

Sustrans

East of England

18 Cowgate,
Peterborough
PE1 1NA

Find it using what3words: [///trail.twig.hands](http://trail.twig.hands)

Tel: 01733 319 981

Email: eastofengland@sustrans.org.uk

<https://www.sustrans.org.uk>

Speak to your employer

To join the initiative, email us at snatra43@gmail.com

Please request all communications are made via the email address snatra43@gmail.com and please add the email address to your contacts.

All email addresses and data collected will be used only for the purposes of the active travel initiative and will not be used for any other purpose or shared with any other party.

*1 <http://obesityhealthalliance.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2017/10/OHA-briefing-paper-Costs-of-Obesity-.pdf>

David N Cranwell & Stephanie Brackpool
South Northants Active Travel Group