

Direction amending the timescale for the submission of integrated network maps (with a consequential change in the date for submitting further existing routes maps) under the Active Travel (Wales) Act 2013

The Active Travel (Wales) Act 2013

To all county and county borough councils in Wales

Direction amending timescales for the resubmission of existing route maps and integrated network maps

The Welsh Ministers, in exercise of the powers conferred on them by section 4(6)(b) of the Active Travel (Wales) Act 2013 (“the Act”), make the following Direction.

Statutory background

Section 3(10) of the Act provides that once an existing routes map prepared by a local authority has been approved by the Welsh Ministers, the local authority:

- (a) must keep it under review,
- (b) may revise it, and
- (c) must submit it to the Welsh Ministers for approval on each occasion on which the local authority’s integrated network map is submitted for approval under section 4.

Section 4(1) of the Act provides that each local authority must:

- a) prepare an integrated network map, and
- b) submit it to the Welsh Ministers for approval.

Section 4(6) of the Act provides that a local authority must submit its integrated network map to the Welsh Ministers for approval:

- a) before the end of the period of 3 years beginning with the day on which this section comes into force, or
- b) if the Welsh Ministers by direction given to the local authority specify a date after the end of that period as the date by which it must be submitted to them, no later than that date.

The operative provisions of the Act were commenced on 25 September 2014 by the Active Travel (Wales) Act 2013 (Commencement) Order 2014. Under Direction from the Welsh Ministers the first edition of the existing route maps was submitted on the 22 January 2016, and the first integrated network maps on 03 November 2017.

Section 4(6)(a&b) of the Act requires that the next edition of the integrated network map should be submitted by local authorities three years following the previous edition, or no later than a date specified by the Welsh Ministers under Direction.

In view of circumstances beyond the control of local authorities at this time, Ministers consider it appropriate to extend the previously communicated date for submission of the next round of integrated network maps and updated existing routes maps. This is dealt with by the following Direction.

The Direction

In exercise of their power under section 4(6)(b) of the Act, the Welsh Ministers direct that the integrated network map required to be submitted by each local authority under section 4(6) of the Act to the Welsh Ministers for approval must be submitted to the Welsh Ministers for approval no later than **31 December 2021**. When submitting their integrated network map for approval by this date, each local authority must submit at the same time to the Welsh Ministers for approval the existing routes map required by section 3(10)(c) of the Act.



Signed by.....

Lee Waters MS, Deputy Minister for Economy & Transport, on behalf of the Welsh Ministers

Date: 14 October 2020