

Frequently Asked Questions – A192 Preston Road: Healthy Links to Metro

Why was this route chosen?

The route forms part of the Council's strategic cycle network and it will provide a safe link for cyclists, including schoolchildren, between the A1058 Coast Road and the town centre which is the destination location.

It would tie into junction improvements, which are currently underway at Stephenson Street as part of the Authority's Ambition for North Shields and the Fish Quay.

How is the scheme funded?

North Tyneside Council has a track record of successful funding applications related to improved walking and cycling schemes. For this project the Council acquired funding from the Department for Transport's Transforming Cities Fund. Investing in cycling supports the economy, society and health. The Department for Transport found that every £1 spent on cycling projects brought £5.50 of social benefit: this is classed as 'very high' value for money.

What engagement has been carried out with residents and businesses along the route?

The project team delivered a letter to all properties along the route regarding the proposal. The scheme is currently at detailed design phase and the feedback we've received will be taken into consideration as the design develops.

Are any measures being introduced to address vehicle speeds on the A192 Preston Road southbound approach to The Wynd/Front Street roundabout?

Northumbria Police is responsible for the enforcement of speed restrictions in North Tyneside. However, the road will be narrowed and islands around the roundabout widened. This type of treatment is an effective traffic calming measure which should result in a general reduction in traffic speeds along the A192 Preston Road. In addition, the new raised cycle path will keep cyclists off the main road completely.

What will the impact be on parking along the proposed section from Preston Avenue to North Shields town centre, via Blanchland Terrace and Drummond Terrace?

This portion of the route will involve no physical changes to the existing road and no loss of parking. We would use traffic signs and road markings only to highlight to other road users that there will be people cycling on the road.

Why is the Authority introducing new cycle routes across the Borough?

Cycling is a healthy, affordable and sustainable way of making everyday journeys, which often replace motorised journeys. Cycling is also an inclusive way to travel, open to people of all ages and backgrounds, with a range of adapted cycles available suited to people's mobility needs – while the growing availability of e-bikes and cargo bikes mean cycling can increasingly replace car and van use as a way for businesses to operate more sustainably. Supporting the demand for increased participation in cycling can boost the local economy, people's health and quality of life, helping to make North Tyneside an even greater place to live, work and visit.