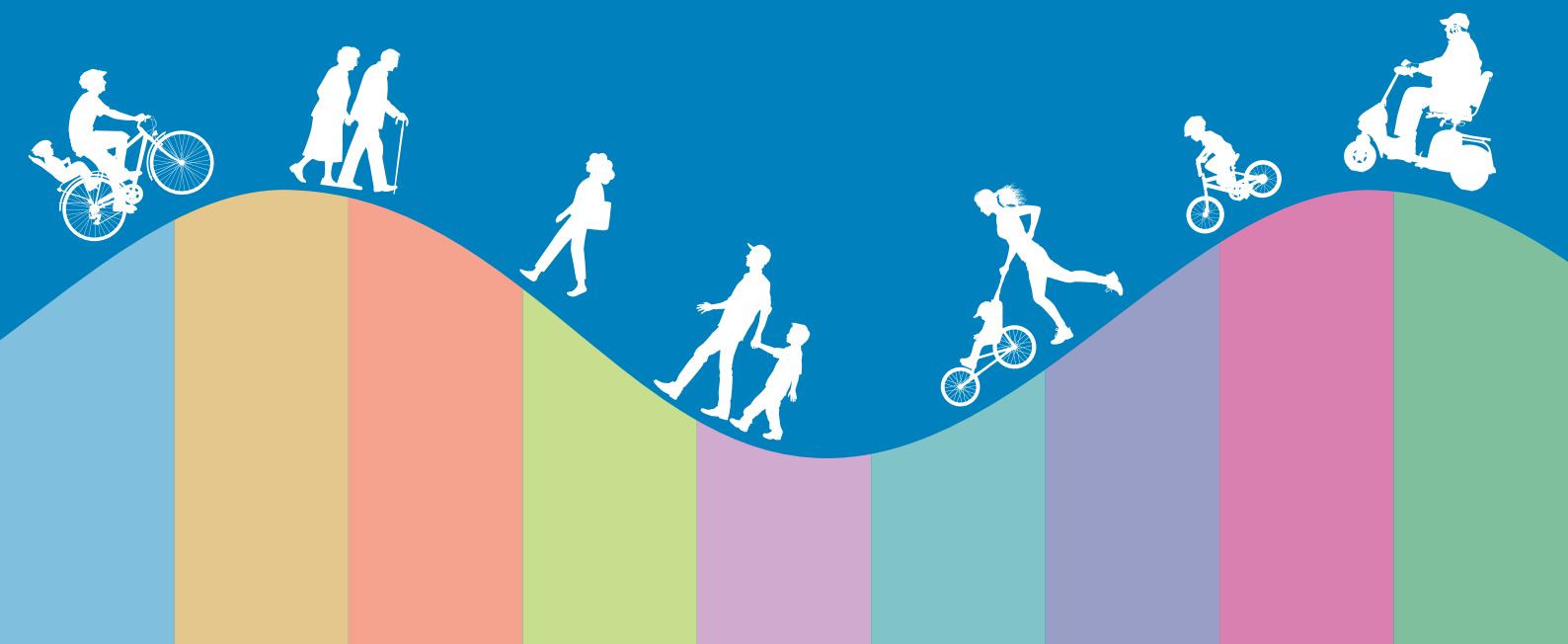


Sefton Council



Sefton Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan 2025 Summary

sefton.gov.uk



Introduction

What is this document?

This document is a summary of Sefton's Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan (LCWIP). It sets out ideas for how walking, wheeling and cycling could be made safer and easier across the borough over the coming years.

What is Active Travel?

Paths for All defines active travel as simply making journeys in physically active ways. This includes walking, using a wheelchair or mobility scooter, cycling, or other kinds of wheeling such as using a scooter.

What is a Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan?

An LCWIP (Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan) is a plan showing how we can make an area better for walking and cycling and sets where could benefit most from investment.

It helps councils decide where to improve:

- footpaths
- crossings
- cycle lanes
- other routes

This makes it easier and safer for people to get around and reduces the number of cars on the road, which can improve traffic flow and reduce journey times.

The plan looks at:

- where people live, work, and go to school
- where it's currently hard to walk or cycle
- what changes would help more people choose active travel

This helps the council make decisions on where to invest active travel funding when it becomes available from the Government, Liverpool Region Combined Authority or other funders.

Why is Sefton Council developing an LCWIP?

Sefton's vision is to create a safer, greener and more accessible borough where walking, wheeling and cycling are practical, attractive options for everyday journeys.

An LCWIP is key to this and to delivering the Government's Cycling and Walking Investment Strategy "to make walking and cycling the natural choices for shorter journeys or as part of a longer journey".

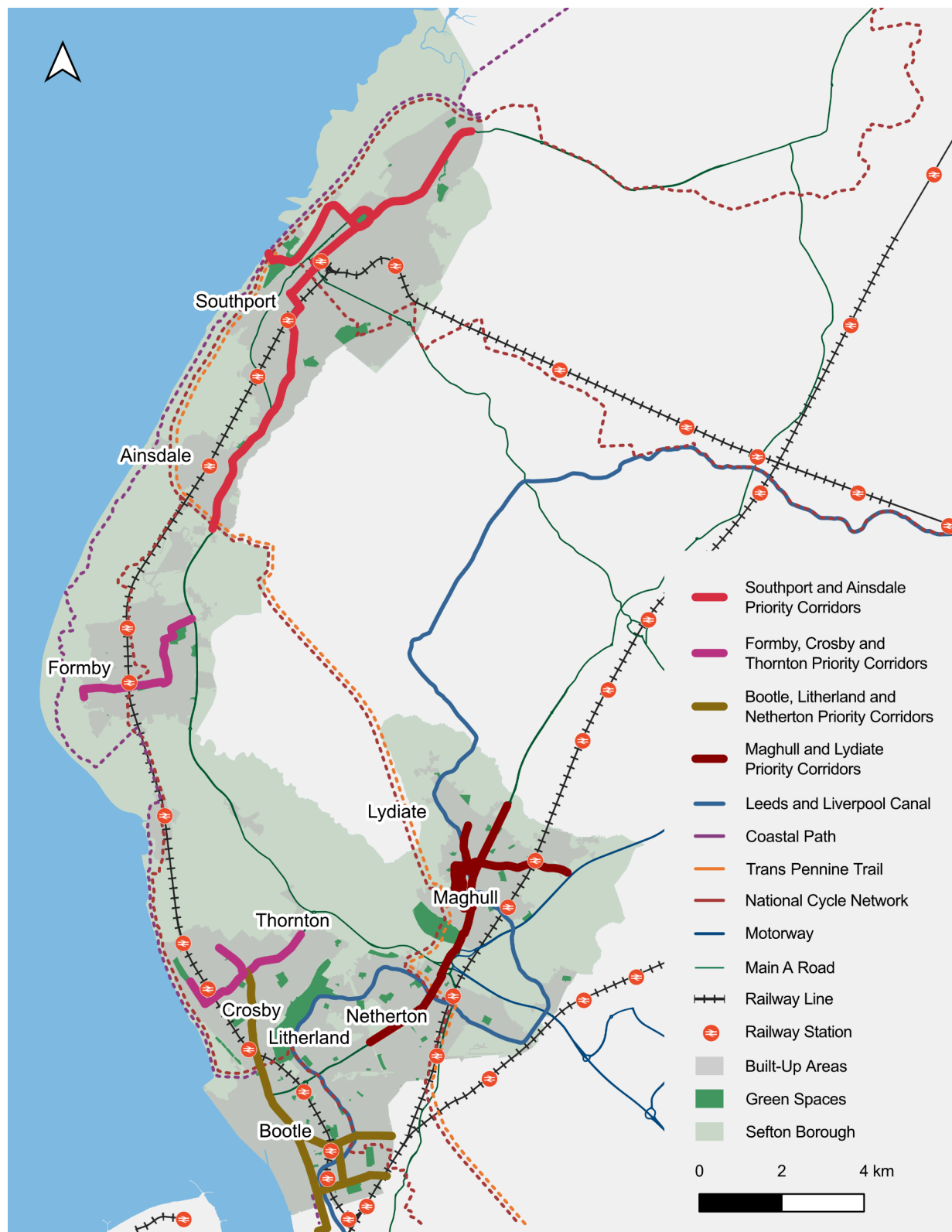
Our LCWIP sets out how we will improve local routes, remove barriers, support healthier travel to school, and help tackle climate change by making it easier for more people to choose active travel. It is based on evidence and shaped by local community input.

The key objectives of the Sefton LCWIP are to:

- Develop local walking and cycling networks to increase cycling and walking trips.
- Create attractive, safe, accessible routes and local networks for all.
- Increase the number of children and young people walking and cycling to and from school.
- Make sure walking and cycling routes are easy for everyone to use, with no unnecessary barriers.
- Support, and contribute to, the Council's Climate Declaration to be a net zero local authority for council operations by 2030 (and as a region 2040, and nationally by 2050).
- Develop an implementation plan for delivering improvements.

Active Travel in Sefton

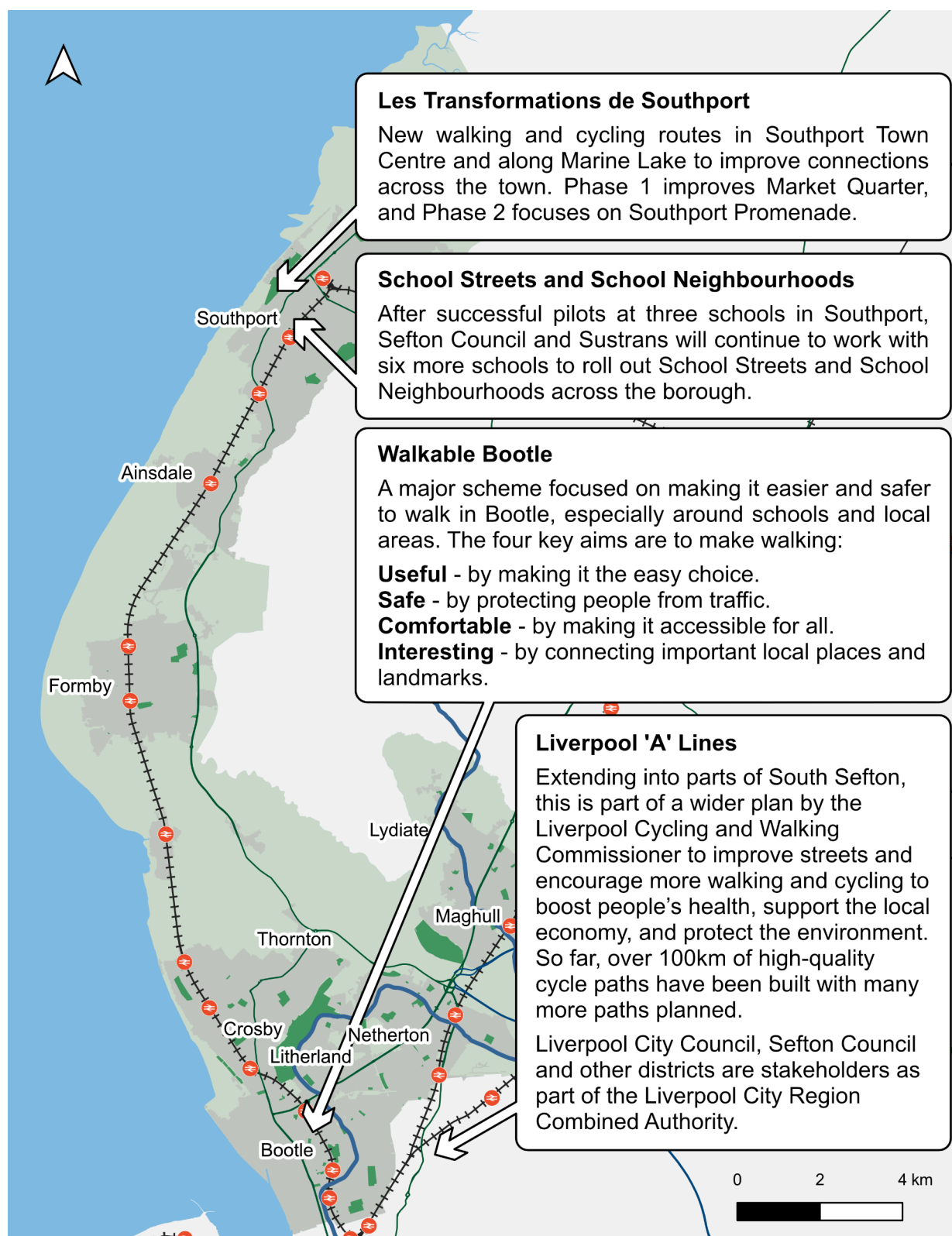
In Sefton, we have a wide range of existing walking and cycling routes. This plan proposes how we can improve that network with new priority active travel corridors.



Our proposed corridors will link to and compliment the existing active travel routes in our area, which include:

- National Cycle Network (Routes) 62, 81, 810 - crossing the borough, and following the coastline.
- The Sefton Coastal Path, a route which forms part of the King Charles III England Coast Path - a walking a cycling path along the coast from Waterloo to Southport.
- The Leeds-Liverpool Canal.
- The Trans Pennine Trail - a long-distance coast-to-coast route starting in Southport and heading south and east.
- An extensive Public Rights of Way (PRoW) network.

Ongoing Active Travel Schemes in Sefton



Developing a Future Active Travel Network in Sefton

The LCWIP covers the whole of the Sefton Council area which has been divided into four main areas:

- Southport and Ainsdale
- Formby, Crosby and Thornton
- Maghull, Lydiate and Netherton
- Bootle and Litherland

The corridors in this plan aren't ready to be built. They are indications of where routes could go. They will continue to be developed and refined over time as each one moves through more detailed design and planning stages.

The detailed LCWIP corridor assessments looked at:

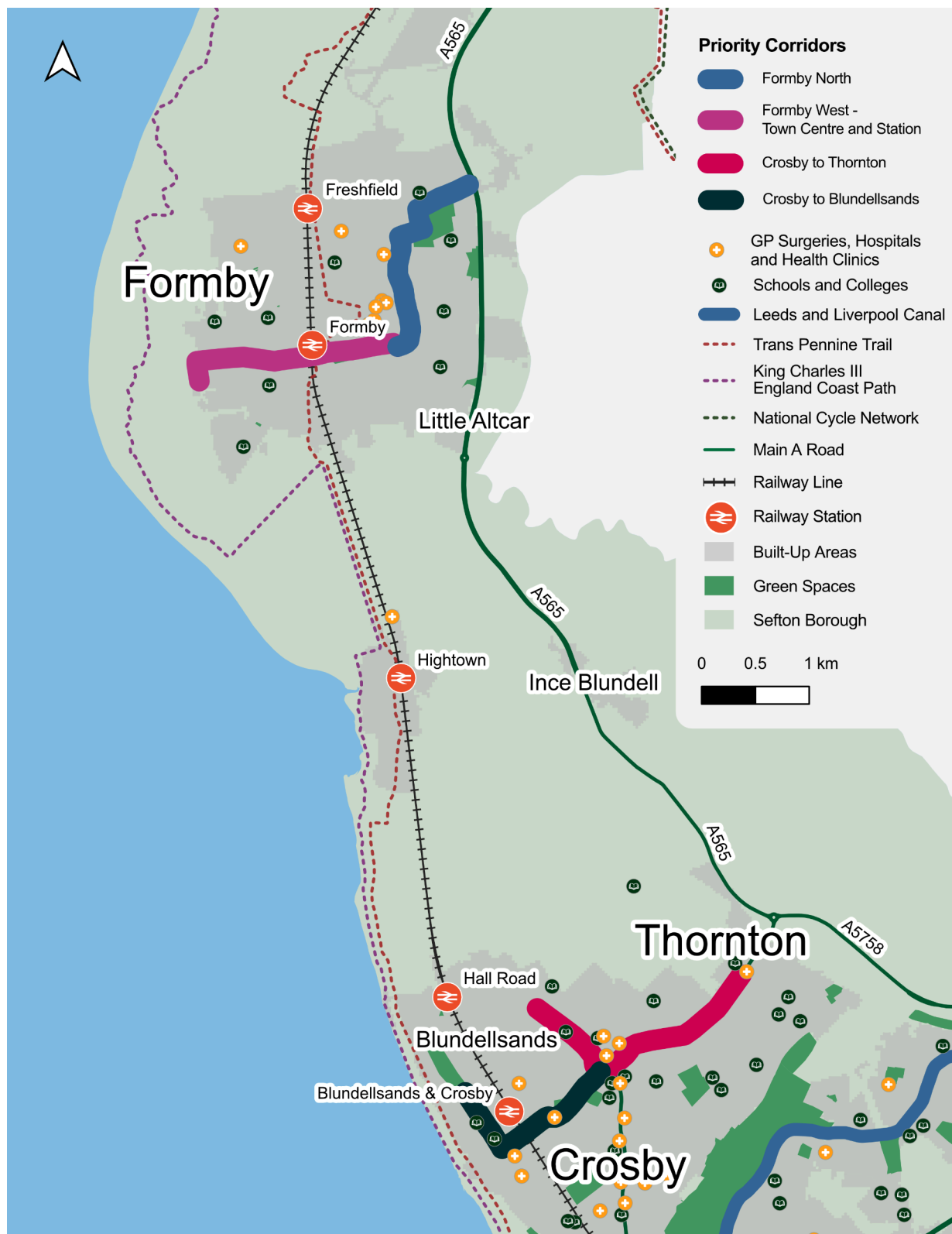
- How easy they will be to deliver
- How much they would cost to deliver
- Whether they would deliver value for money
- How much they align with the LCWIP objectives

The following pages show the highest priority active travel corridors in each area.

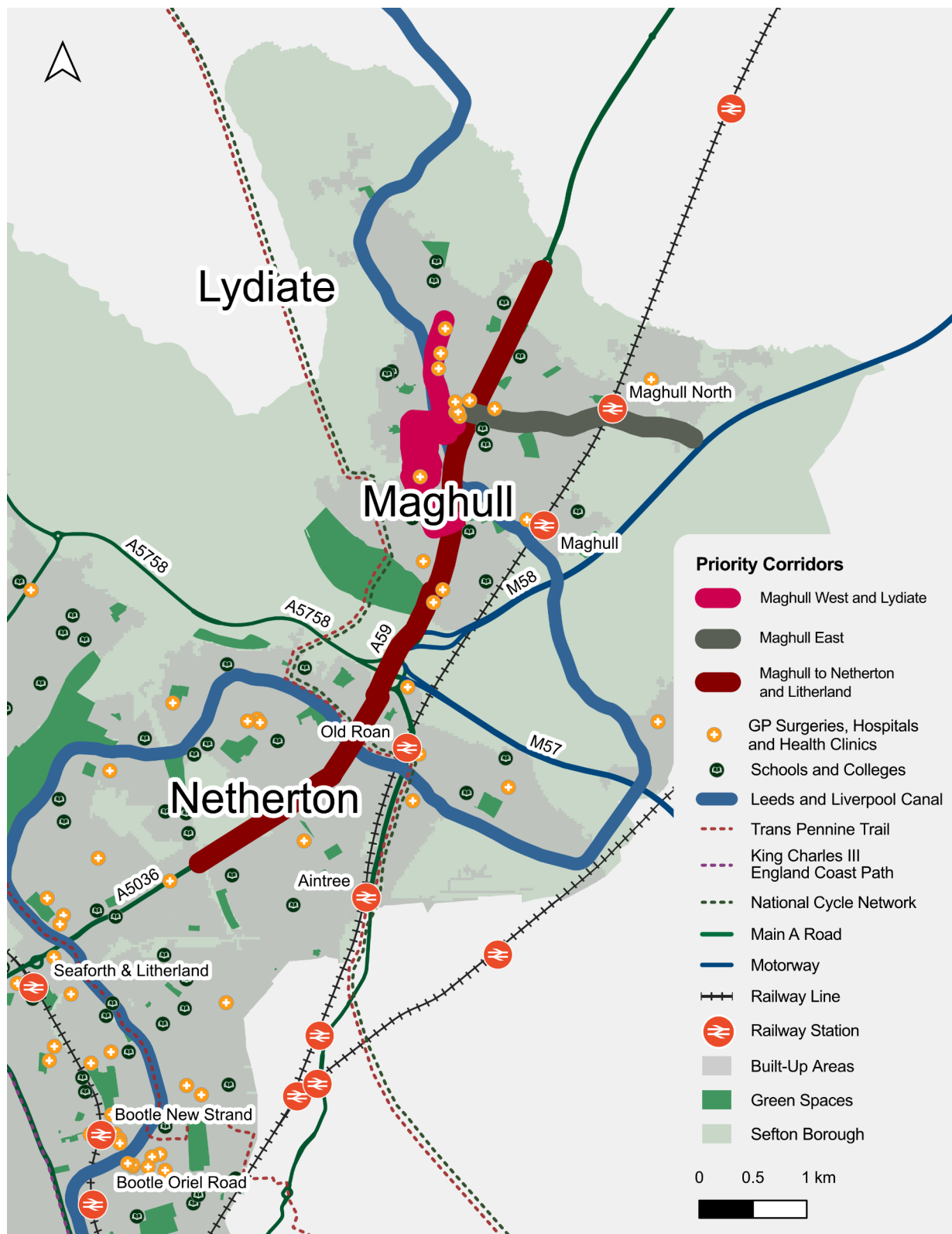
Southport and Ainsdale



Formby, Crosby and Thornton



Maghull, Lydiate and Netherton



Bootle and Litherland



Engagement so far

July to October 2022:

Early Stakeholder Discussions

Discussions with key groups to get their early involvement. This included:

- Groups with specific access needs - Wheels for All, Disabled Ramblers, SAFE
- Young People - Sefton Young Advisors
- Local or specialist knowledge groups - Sustrans, Living Streets, Cycling UK

June 2025:

Ward Member Discussions

Further ward member meetings gave Sefton Council officers a chance to hear actions completed based on previous feedback and priorities. These discussions also shared the goal of the upcoming public survey, and how feedback will be collected, reviewed, and incorporated into the final LCWIP.

November 2024:

Ward Member Discussions

Ward member meetings gave Sefton Council officers a chance to listen to, and understand, local walking and cycling priorities. Feedback highlighted key themes which are reflected in the LCWIP update.

July 2025:

Public Survey

We want to know what you think about proposed improvements to walking, wheeling, and cycling in the Sefton area. We want your feedback to ensure it can be reflected in the final LCWIP.

Our Response To Feedback So Far

Below are key themes which emerged in our engagement so far and what we plan to do in response.

Safety at Crossings and Junctions

Make sure existing road crossings and junctions support active travel.

The LCWIP proposes new or improved cyclist and pedestrian crossings, especially on busy roads, such as the A59, A565, and A570.

Behaviour Change

Educate people who cycle about road hazards and how to cycle safely, especially children.

Use behaviour change to help make walking around schools and local areas easier and safer.

We are continuing our work with schools, colleges, and young people's groups such as the Young Advisors to build upon the success of the 'School Streets' project in Southport.

We will continue to engage young people in the further development of 'School Neighbourhoods' projects.

'Walkable Bootle' will focus on improving walking around schools and local areas.

Existing Paths and Connectivity

Make use of and connect to existing walking and cycling routes as best as possible.

New routes will link with and enhance existing walking and cycling routes such as the canal towpath.

Some existing routes have also been identified for improvement such as the path behind Southport Hospital to better link to the town centre.

Maintenance

Invest in existing walking and cycling routes to make sure they are in good condition and connect into the proposed new network.

Plan for new routes to be well maintained.

While we think about new corridors, the maintenance of existing routes is also important to ensure the success of the LCWIP. This includes things like:

- Surface Repairs
- Gritting in cold weather
- Drain clearance
- Lighting repairs
- Cutting back vegetation

Inclusive Design

Make sure new routes are accessible for as many people as possible.

New routes, crossings, and junctions will comply with the Disability regulations and the Equality Act.

There will continue to be improvements where footways are not continuous, are narrow, or lack dropped kerbs.

Anti-Social Behaviour

Tackle challenges with anti-social behaviour, such as over-powered electric bikes, which might put people off using certain paths such as the Trans Pennine Trail and Rimrose Valley.

We will aim to improve the feeling of personal safety for people who want to walk, wheel, or cycle by discouraging anti-social behaviour.

We will also balance the use of bollards to discourage anti-social behaviour while still allowing access for as many users as possible with prams, wheelchairs, adapted cycles, etc.

Have your say

We want your feedback on the draft proposals for walking, wheeling, and cycling routes across Sefton. At this stage, we are especially keen to hear:

- Your views on the proposed routes
- Any local knowledge that might help improve the proposals
- What would help you and others walk, wheel, or cycle more often

Your feedback will help shape the development of these ideas and influence which routes are prioritised for investment. Comments about local connections, access and road safety issues, and route priorities are particularly helpful at this stage.

As funding becomes available, routes will be developed in more detail and delivered in phases. Longer distance routes may take several years to complete. Local communities will continue to be involved as plans progress, to ensure routes meet the needs of the people who will use them.

How to give feedback

You can share your thoughts by completing the online questionnaire on the Your Sefton, Your Say website. The survey is open until **Monday 15th September**.

Alternatively, you can email us at: **transport.planning@sefton.gov.uk**.

