

Enabling Active Travel to School in Greater Manchester

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Active Travel Team

Support Greater Manchester (GM) Mayor and GM Active Travel Commissioner to increase levels of walking, cycling, and wheeling



Today's presentation...

Enabling Active Travel to School in Greater Manchester

- Scene setter
- GM context
- Demand and opportunity
- How to walk or wheel more
- What TfGM is doing



Why walk or wheel to school?

- Reliable
- Fun (for adults and kids!)
- Improves physical and mental health
- Builds in routine daily exercise
- Improves young people's attainment
- Improves congestion
- Improves young people's road sense and confidence
- Good for the environment – air quality and congestion



What's the story locally?

- At least 75% of primary school children in GM travel less than two kilometres to school
- During the school holidays morning peak traffic drops by around 10% – halving journey times on some routes
- Only 45% of children are achieving an average of 60 minutes physical activity a day
- Childhood obesity is higher than the national average and doubles while at primary school
- Over 33% primary schools are affected by poor air quality
- Traffic is responsible for 65% of dangerous emissions linked to around 1,200 premature deaths each year



Is there parent/carer demand?

Walking and Cycling Index found:

- 68% support the creation of more low-traffic neighbourhoods
- 54% agree with closing streets outside of schools
- 84% of parents do not want to drive their children to school
- 73% of parents want their children travelling actively – though only 54% currently do



What do young people think?

Walking and Cycling Index found:

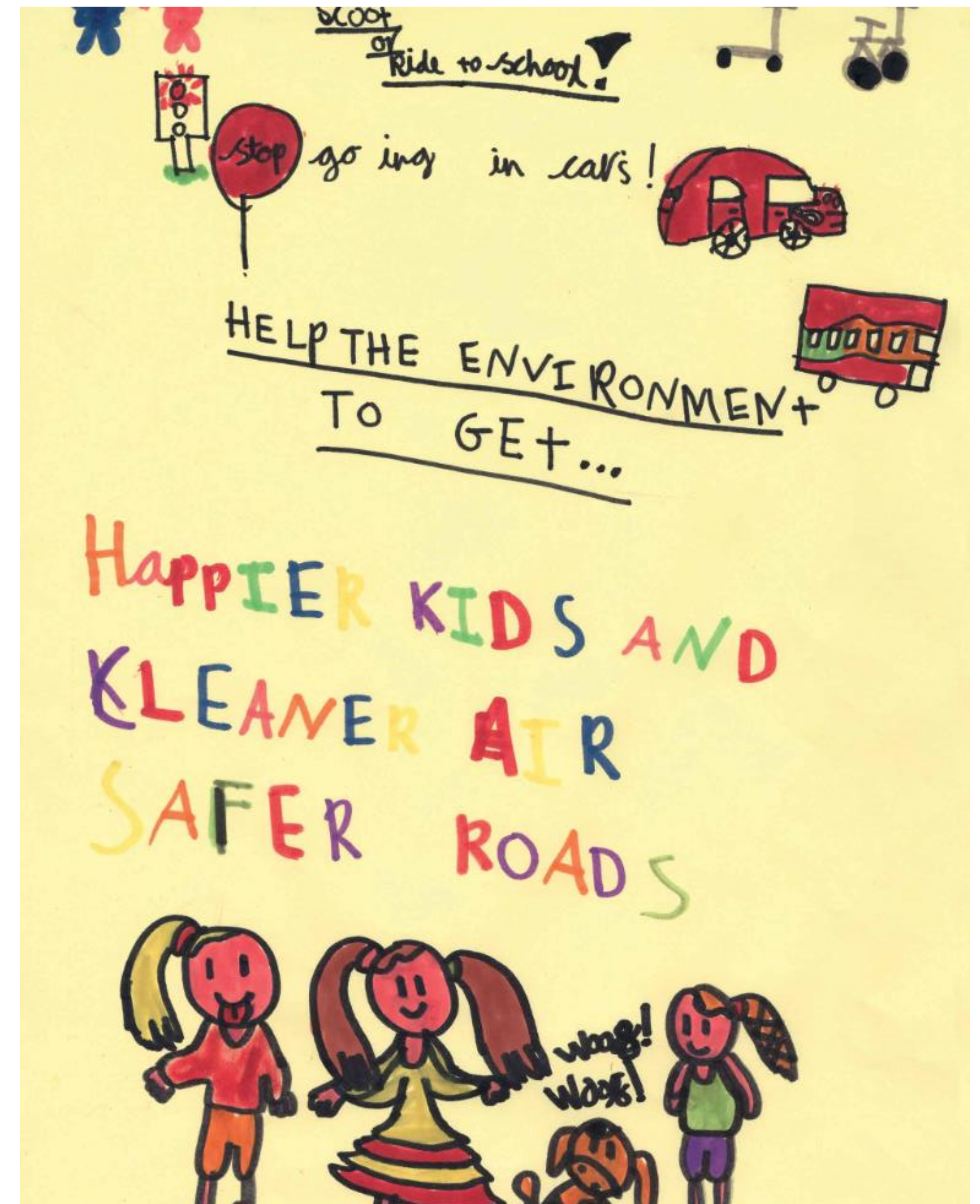
- 48% children want to cycle to school – though only 2% currently do

St Mary's, Reddish

- "It's good because we have no [fumes] coming from the cars..."

WRGS, Whalley Range

- "It means there's more confidence to walk on the streets. It allows people to walk together in larger groups"



Is there opportunity?

Walking and Cycling Index found:

- 84% of households in GM live within an 800m walk or wheel of a primary school
- 69% of households with children have at least one child's bike

Improvements to Active Travel Infrastructure

- Total GM programme value now over £250m
- 1,800 miles of joined up walking and wheeling routes
- 2,400 crossings



How to walk or wheel more?


- Understand barriers and opportunities
- Learn from what others have already done
- Ensure schools have up to date School Travel Plans
- Introduce Park & Stride and Walking or Cycling Buses
- Develop a Safe Parking Charter
- Sign up for Bikeability training
- Take part in national campaigns
- Engage pupils with competitions and rewards
- Provide parking and storage for scooters, cycles, and wellies
- Work towards gaining a Modeshift STARS accreditation



What is TfGM doing to help?

Toolkits

Travel Champions
How to encourage cycling and walking at your school



Transport for Greater Manchester

This leaflet aims to equip students, teachers and the wider school community with the tools and information to create and deliver activities for the purpose of increasing walking and cycling to school.

Get started

Create a School Travel Champions group

You can start by setting up a group of Travel Champions who will deliver the project. Typically, champions are people who feel this is a really important topic and are excited about promoting the ideas to friends and other students and staff, to get them involved. A Champions Group is made up of students and could be student council members, but teachers and governors could also



Discovery

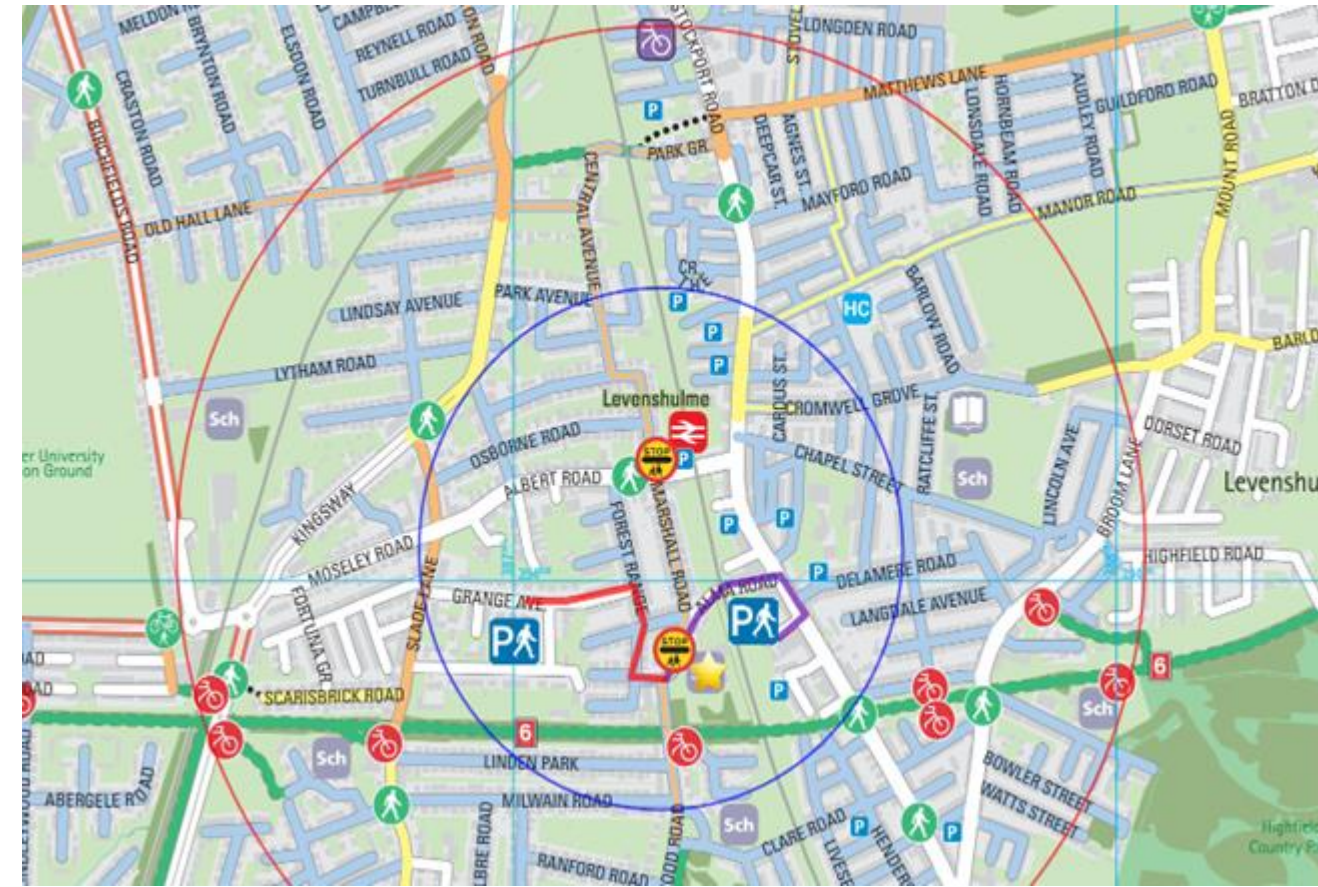
Factfinding to identify three action points for how to promote walking and cycling to school

Has your school ever done a school travel survey? If so, can you find out how many students already walk and cycle to school? If not, there is a sample survey at the end of this document.

You could also ask your fellow students, teachers, parents and governors what might motivate them to



Bespoke maps



Modeshift STARS



Youth Travel Ambassador



School Streets



Cycle training



In summary...

- There is opportunity and demand
- Lots of initiatives / projects / programmes to enable active travel to school
- Listen to and involve young people
- Focusing on children helps everyone remember this agenda is about healthy lives, healthy neighbourhoods, healthy future



Thanks! Any questions?

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