



Youth Voice on Active Travel in Gloucestershire

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GYCG Panel Member Representatives

Who are we?

- 16-25 year olds who live, work or study in Gloucestershire
- Brings together young people who are passionate about sustainability and the climate.
- Get involved in local projects and have a say in what happens in their area.
- Member led by our core panel who meet monthly
- Kai – Human Geography student, previous sustainability work around Food Waste
- Merry – A level student, into biking for fun and nature



Sustainability/Behaviour Change

- Young People want to do active travel for: Sustainability, Health and Cost Saving reasons.
- The willingness is there but there are barriers to doing it. eg - low confidence and safety concerns
- You learn how to ride a bike before you can learn how to drive - Bike riding itself is very accessible to young people. - less barriers to cycling than to driving.
- ICN 2022 Survey (Gloucestershire) Statistics which spoke to nearly 3,000 responses:

Of the 74% who are already taking action, what are they doing?



Using public transport or active travel was in the top 3 actions



Of the young people who said they weren't taking action surveyed (26% of total) – over half are willing to walk, cycle, scoot or use the bus/train instead of by car.

Affordability

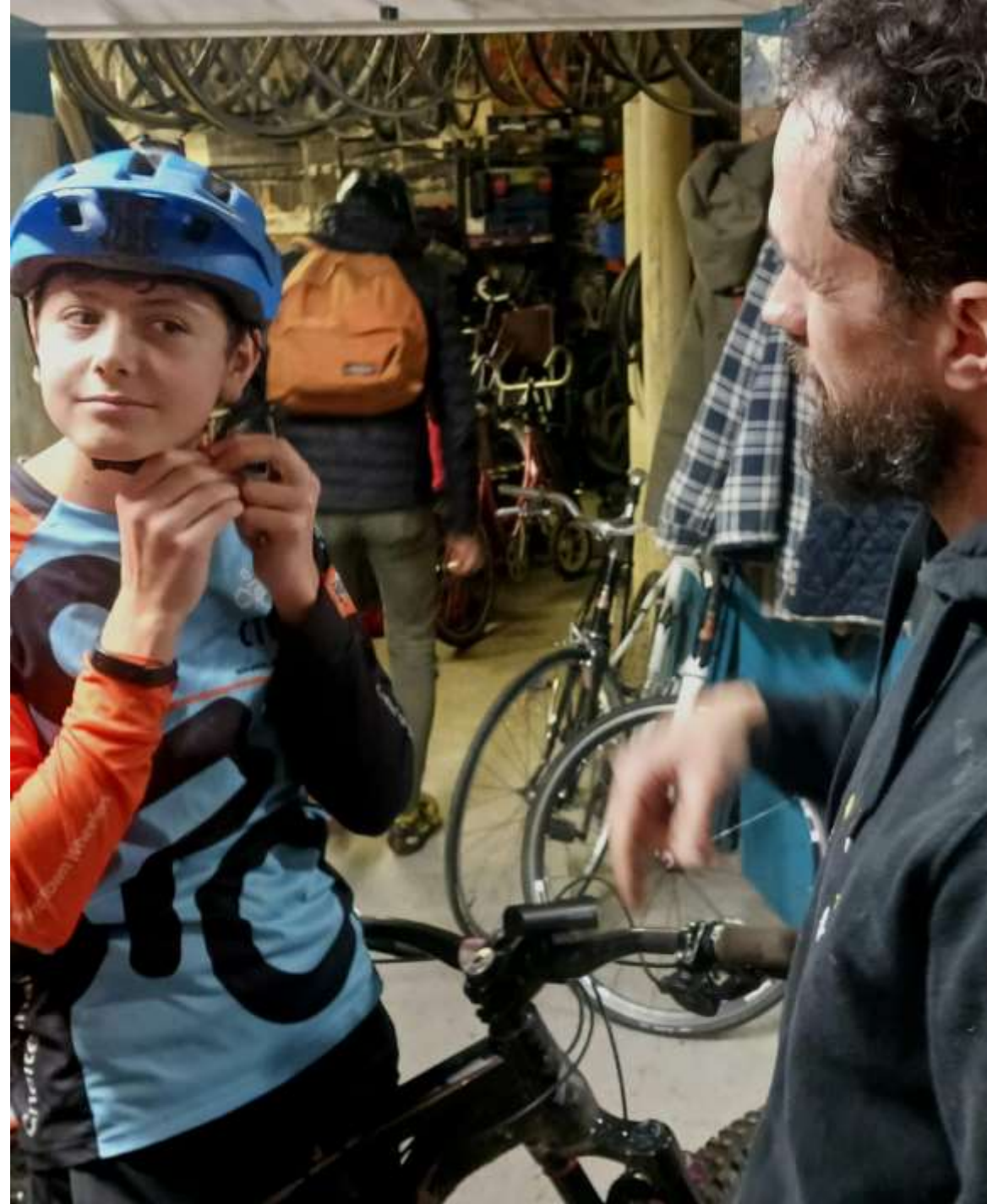
- Saving money is a reason to want to do active travel - but its not completely free to access.
- E-bikes are expensive to own and service. E-bikes make cycling more accessible to support physical needs, make it quicker, make it possible with hills but they are expensive.
- Not many options to trial or hire an e-bike – try it out as it's a big investment
- Buying replacement parts, tools or getting it fixed/service for a normal bike is also expensive and need the skills to do it.
- Young people aren't earning at all / only able to have part-time jobs due to studying



Safety Concerns

Big concern for young people and they don't feel safe due to:

- Lighting on roads
- The way that people drive and weight of vehicles
- Precedence of cars on the road
- Not feeling safe at night time
- Not feeling safe due to quality of roads (eg potholes) and lack of bike lanes
- Not having space or a way to lock your bike - worries about theft



Infrastructure -

- Community bike workshops - access tools, affordable parts and learn how to fix and maintain bike
- Halfords do a free bike check and service – how can we encourage more places to do that?
- Change the priority of the road
- Bike storage - especially in house share/student housing
- The DfT has an annual budget of £30 billion pounds, of which £13 billion goes to rail, £240 million goes on buses and the rest goes to car and road networks*
- In 2023, the government cut their active travel budget by £200 million, around two-thirds**
- What does Gloucestershire County Council spend on active travel compared to car and road networks?



Citations/Further Reading

- ICN Survey (Gloucestershire) 2022 - <https://interclimate.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/12/Gloucestershire-Climate-Action-Survey-2.pdf>
- GCC CAP 2022 Appendix – GYCG research [https://glostext.gloucestershire.gov.uk/documents/s87973/2022%203rd%20Annual%20Report Annex%201%20inc%20Appendices%20Climate%20Change%20Strategy%20Action%20Plan%20for%20Cabinet%20APPR.pdf](https://glostext.gloucestershire.gov.uk/documents/s87973/2022%203rd%20Annual%20Report%20Annex%201%20inc%20Appendices%20Climate%20Change%20Strategy%20Action%20Plan%20for%20Cabinet%20APPR.pdf)
- <https://www.sustrans.org.uk/our-blog/news/2023/march/sustrans-responds-to-active-travel-funding-cuts-in-england>
- Halfords free bike checks - [https://www.halfords.com/cycling/bike-maintenance/free-bike-check/free-bike-check-605064.html?cm_mmc=&\\$ja=tsid:57505%7Ccid:10042443329%7Cagid:101068805677%7Ctid:aud-271742666404:kwd-304284631418%7Ccid:654288960689%7Cnw:g%7Ccrnd:9547919511213816693%7Cdv:m%7Cadp:%7Cmt:p%7Cloc:9045586&gad_source=1&gclid=CjwKCAiA9dGqBhAqEiwAmRpTC5yUFzOv4RYRRGEmfBG7beGEMn8F0DKElSJn_XH1LXZZqLB02NajhoCPYAQAvD_BwE](https://www.halfords.com/cycling/bike-maintenance/free-bike-check/free-bike-check-605064.html?cm_mmc=&$ja=tsid:57505%7Ccid:10042443329%7Cagid:101068805677%7Ctid:aud-271742666404:kwd-304284631418%7Ccid:654288960689%7Cnw:g%7Ccrnd:9547919511213816693%7Cdv:m%7Cadp:%7Cmt:p%7Cloc:9045586&gad_source=1&gclid=CjwKCAiA9dGqBhAqEiwAmRpTC5yUFzOv4RYRRGEmfBG7beGEMn8F0DKElSJn_XH1LXZZqLB02NajhoCPYAQAvD_BwE)



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