

Gilling West Cycleway/Footpath – Response from Louise Anne Neale – Team Manager, Transport Planning

We were recently invited to bid for emergency grant funding (the Emergency Active Travel Fund or EATF) to support NYCC, as the local Highway Authority, with the delivery of walking/cycling infrastructure to encourage active travel. The money was to be spread over two tranches:

- tranche 1 supports the installation of temporary projects for the COVID-19 pandemic
- tranche 2 supports the creation of permanent projects with a short lead time

I believe that we have already had contact from Janette Povey regarding this scheme and a response was sent to her earlier in the year. We considered this scheme as a potential for the second round of the Emergency Active Travel Fund but it was discounted for a number of reasons, see below:

Scheme Name	Description	Deliverable in 20/21	Replaces well used bus route	Segregated or Road Closure	Cycling AND Walking	Affordable within £1.065m Allocation	Identified in an LCWIP	Cost band	Potential usage	Cost Estimate (£m)
Gilling West To Richmond Footpath/Cycle way	To provide safe passage for pedestrians and cyclists between Gilling West and Richmond by the installation of a raised curb on the East side of the B6274. A footpath/cycle way to be created to a similar standard as that existing between Skeebby and Richmond. This project can be broken down into six stages to build on the footpath provision that already exists. (see email)	N	N	Y	Y	N	N	£1.5m to £2.0m	V Low	£1.8m

In total we assessed over three hundred potential schemes to put forward as part of our bid for tranche 2. The criteria of the funding was particularly stringent and with a relatively small amount of funding available only a handful of schemes were deemed suitable for this round of funding.

The EATF is part of a longer term funding commitment from the Department for Transport in which £2bn has been allocated over the next five years. At this stage we do not know the process for accessing this money but we will ensure that we put forward any suitable schemes once we have further details of the funding. We do not disagree that this scheme will have benefits for some people but we would need a suitable funding opportunity to progress it. The scheme has been included on our long list of cycle schemes so would be considered if a funding opportunity arose.