

Technical Note

Project: Princess Royal Theatre, Port Talbot

Job No: 1661

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Active Travel & Parking

1 Introduction

This Technical Note relates to proposed redevelopment of the Princess Royal Theatre and its public realm area in the centre of Port Talbot. It considers the site's accessibility by active travel modes of transport and the availability of nearby public car parking.

2 Active Travel

The figure below is an extract from the Council's Active Travel Network Map (ATNM) and shows the location of the site in the context of existing and future routes. A future walking and cycling route (FR-PT-SU113) is shown crossing the public realm space to the south and east of the theatre. As such, the development of this area will incorporate measures to facilitate the delivery of this route. The route will be designed in accordance with Welsh Government's 2021 'Active Travel Guidance' document.



Figure 1 Extract from Neath Port Talbot Council ATNM

Cycle parking will be provided to encourage trips to the theatre to be made by this form of transport. Cycle parking provision will be in accordance with the Council's adopted Parking Standards Supplementary Planning Guidance, which specifies a minimum of 1 stand per 10 members of staff plus 1 stand per 30 seats for theatre users.

3 Parking

It is envisaged that the redevelopment of the site will result in the loss of a small number of car parking spaces (approximately 7) that are located to the rear of the existing theatre building. It is considered that the loss of these spaces is acceptable for the following reasons.

Including the civic centre's car park there are three other Council public car parks within a 5-minute walk of the site that currently provide a total of 992 parking spaces (912 at times the civic centre car park is not open to the public). These are listed below.

• Bethany Square	166
• Civic Centre	80* (open to the public evenings & weekends)
• Multi Storey Car Park	705
• St Mary's / Heilbronn Way	41

The loss of around 7 parking spaces represents a reduction of less than 1% of this parking capacity and is therefore insignificant in this context.

The site is centrally located with a high level of accessibility for pedestrians, cyclists and public transport users where many trips can be made by these sustainable forms of transport. The redevelopment of the site will deliver active travel infrastructure improvements that will encourage a greater proportion of trips to be made on foot or by bike, which will mitigate against the loss of these parking spaces.

The site is a 5-minute walk from the town's bus station and 10-minute walk from the railway station, which provide regular and frequent public transport services that allow trips to and from the theatre to be made by this form of transport.