CTC - The National Cyclists Organisation

CTC Cymru
33 Highbury Crescent
Bridgend
South Wales
CF31 4RD
Tel: 01656 659116

James Davies
Welsh Affairs Committee
House of Commons
7 Millbank
London. SW1A 0AA

John Grimes
Economic Development and Transport Committee
National Assembly for Wales
Cardiff Bay
Cardiff. CF99 1NA

14TH June 2004

Draft Transport (Wales) Bill

Dear Sirs

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the Draft Transport (Wales) Bill.

In general we have no real objections to any items in the Draft Bill, although the lack of any comment towards cycling was noted.

We would however highlight the following:

We believe that more centralised co-ordination of transport and planning policy has the potential to do one of two things:

- It could either support the adoption of traffic-restraint-based policies at a local level, (e.g. providing a mechanism for regionally consistent approaches to local traffic reduction targets and parking standards); OR

- It could provide a vehicle to get undesirable major infrastructure projects established through a mechanism over which local communities have little influence.

We clearly hope that the Wales Transport Bill will move things in the former direction, and that it will strengthen (and not weaken) the impetus to develop freight and transport policies which reduce the need to travel and promote alternatives to Lorries and the private car.

As regards to the reference to the Assembly having the power to issue direction and guidance to the SRA, we would like to seek assurances that this will cover the issue of increasing the number of journeys made in the cycle–plus-rail combination, by ensuring that the rail franchisees take action on the following measures.

- cycle access to, from, within and through stations;

- cycle parking, storage and hire facilities at stations;

- cycle carriage on trains;

- information and publicity;

- ticketing and reservation systems

- monitoring of the above.

Mr Lou Lusardi
Campaigns and Policy Co-ordinator
CTC Cymru