

## OUR VISION

Imagine an Ireland where cycling is once again a normal way to go to school, to work, to the shops, to visit friends, to explore...

Our vision is that all rural communities in Ireland – towns, villages and rural areas will be bicycle friendly.

Cycling will be a normal way to get about, especially for short trips.

We will have a healthier and happier population with consequent positive benefits on the health service.

We will all gain economically as cycling reduces our fuel costs and helps ease congestion in local towns.

**Imagine the greener, cleaner, healthier, happier world we could create.**

“The bicycle is the most important instrument in meeting climate change targets.”

Frans Timmermans,  
Executive Vice President of the  
European Commission

## GET IN TOUCH

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Rural Cycling Collective

# VISION FOR CYCLING IN RURAL IRELAND

–Councillor Action Points –

**Change is necessary.  
Change is happening.  
Be part of it.  
Be a leader in active  
travel.**

**cyclist.ie**   
the Irish  
Cycling Advocacy Network

## WHO WE ARE

We, the Cyclist.ie Rural Cycling Collective, are passionate, committed community groups from every corner of Ireland.

In 2020 we launched our **Vision for Cycling in Rural Ireland** [cyclist.ie/ruralvision](http://cyclist.ie/ruralvision)

Our Vision identifies 8 priorities that focus on bringing about an equitable transition to a cycle-friendly society.

We are doing what we can. We need you to help make this happen.

We have translated our 8 priorities into actions that you, as our elected representative, can take today, this week, this year...

**Every action big or small, plays an important role.**

**Can you commit to helping make change happen?**

## OUR 8 PRIORITIES

1. Create an environment in our cities, towns, villages and rural roads where **CYCLISTS ARE EXPECTED AND RESPECTED**

2. Create and map a network of useful, **CONNECTED CYCLE ROUTES** throughout Local Authority Areas

3. Implement **BEST PRACTICE DESIGN** to ensure routes are safe and comfortable for cyclists of all ages and abilities

4. Prioritise **SAFE CYCLE ROUTES TO SCHOOLS** and car free zones at school gates

5. **LOWER SPEED LIMITS** to make our roads and streets safer and more accessible for everyone

6. Ensure clear and timely **ACCESS TO FUNDING**, by improving capacity at all levels of local and national government

7. **COLLABORATE WITH ALL STAKEHOLDERS** -including cycling and community groups -at all stages of planning and design

8. Provide **CYCLE TRAINING** for all ages, especially children

**Read our Vision at:**  
[www.cyclist.ie/ruralvision](http://www.cyclist.ie/ruralvision)

## WHAT YOU CAN DO

1. Ensure Active Travel features regularly on the agenda for all Council meetings, MD, SPC, JPC, CPD Budget. Ask about bike-parking, signage, enforcement.

2. When cycle routes are being discussed at Council meetings, always ask "How does this route fit into a network?" "Who does it benefit?"

3. For cycling to be an option for all, designs need to consider all cycles - from cargo bikes to adult trikes to recumbents. Use the CRAC tool - [cyclist.ie/CRAC](http://cyclist.ie/CRAC)

4. Engage with principals, parents and BOM of your local schools and find out how you can support them in creating safe routes to school.

5. Let your Constituency TDs and Senators know you want lower speed limits in all built up areas and 'Rothar Roads' (see our Vision)

6. Ask for regular funding reports from your Active Travel Team. Ensure that, if not spent, funding can be rolled over to next year.

7. Find out what is important to your local cycling groups and other stakeholders. Ask them to take you out cycling.

8. Advocate for an expansion of Cycle Right to meet demand for instructors.