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Cycling viability has improved since 2015 but there is still more to do

The Auditor General today tabled in Parliament the [Viable Cycling in the Perth Area](#) report.

This audit looked at what State entities had done in response to recommendations from our 2015 [Safe and Viable Cycling in the Perth Metropolitan Area](#) audit and if State and local government entities were effectively working to facilitate cycling in the community.

Auditor General Ms Caroline Spencer said State and local government entities have improved cycling for the community.

'State entities have promoted cycling and safe road use, added 85 kilometres to its cycling network and planned for the future, including for other forms of active transport, such as scooters and e-bikes.

'However, it's disappointing that some recommendations from the 2015 audit are still not finished. We found the State's network of principal paths is still incomplete and the remaining 100 kilometres will take time, with only 21 kilometres planned to be built by 2025.

'There has been little progress to develop a centralised crash and hazard tool to better inform planning, and key guidance documents to support local government entities are not published.

'In addition, the Department of Transport did not document how it would evaluate its 7-year, \$21 million program of innovation projects, until 5 years after it had started, and there is a lack of transparent decision-making in the Department's assessment of cycling grants,' Ms Spencer said.

It was encouraging to find that the 4 local government entities audited all have plans to improve cycling conditions for their communities. However, many paths built by local government entities since 2016 are narrower than widths recommended by better practice guidance. This is important as changes to the Road Traffic Code in 2016 allowed all cyclists to ride on footpaths.

Ms Spencer said further improvements to how paths are planned and delivered, and promotion of the benefits of cycling, will help make cycling more viable for our community.

Report resources

- [PDF version](#)
- [summary video](#)