

DUBLIN JOINS GLOBAL NETWORK OF HEALTHY CITIES

Dublin has joined the Partnership for Healthy Cities, a prestigious global network of 70 cities committed to saving lives by preventing non-communicable diseases and injuries, and Dublin City Council will now continue to work toward transforming the streets and footpaths of the capital city to support active mobility as part of Dublin's commitment to this initiative.

Dublin City Council's policy objective – Safe and Active Mobility – seeks to enhance public mobility across the city by developing a new and inclusive emphasis on walking in Ireland's capital city.

DCC has started to develop 'walkability audits' for the capital city with a focus on mobility from a senior citizen perspective. The council is set to roll out 20km of new cycle lanes this year, in addition to investing in cycle tri-shaws for use by less mobile citizens, and it has also reviewed road speed limits with a view to enhancing road safety.

Lord Mayor of Dublin Alison Gilliland said that as a local authority Dublin will strive to improve safe and active mobility across the city, particularly for less mobile and disabled citizens.

"Partnerships like these are very important in helping us all to learn from one another. In Dublin we have been working hard to promote active mobility by increasing facilities for cyclists, and introducing school zones and cycle buses, as well as pedestrianising some of our city centre streets."

Non-communicable diseases (NCDs) together with injuries such as road traffic crashes, cause an estimated 80% of deaths across the globe each year. Since people who live with NCDs are at higher risk for the most severe COVID-19 complications, the partnership's core prevention mission aims to be more important than ever.

IMPROVING HEALTH AND SAVING LIVES

"Through the Partnership for Healthy Cities, local leaders around the world have enacted key policies that are improving health and saving lives – and we're glad to welcome six new members," noted Michael R. Bloomberg, founder of Bloomberg LP and Bloomberg Philanthropies and WHO Global Ambassador for



A coastal mobility route was opened for tri-shaws in Dun Laoghaire in September 2020. Dublin City Council is set to roll out 20km of new cycle lanes this year, in addition to investing in cycle tri-shaws for use by less mobile citizens.

Non-Communicable Diseases and Injuries.

He issued the statement following the summer announcement by Bloomberg Philanthropies that six new cities will join the network – Bucharest, Romania; Cairo, Egypt; Córdoba, Argentina; Dublin, Ireland; Greater Manchester, UK; and Warsaw, Poland – as part of a renewed commitment to the flagship initiative with a \$31 million investment

“These cities and their mayors are committed to implementing programmes and policies that improve the health and safety of millions of people. We look forward to supporting their work and replicating the most effective efforts around the world,” he added.

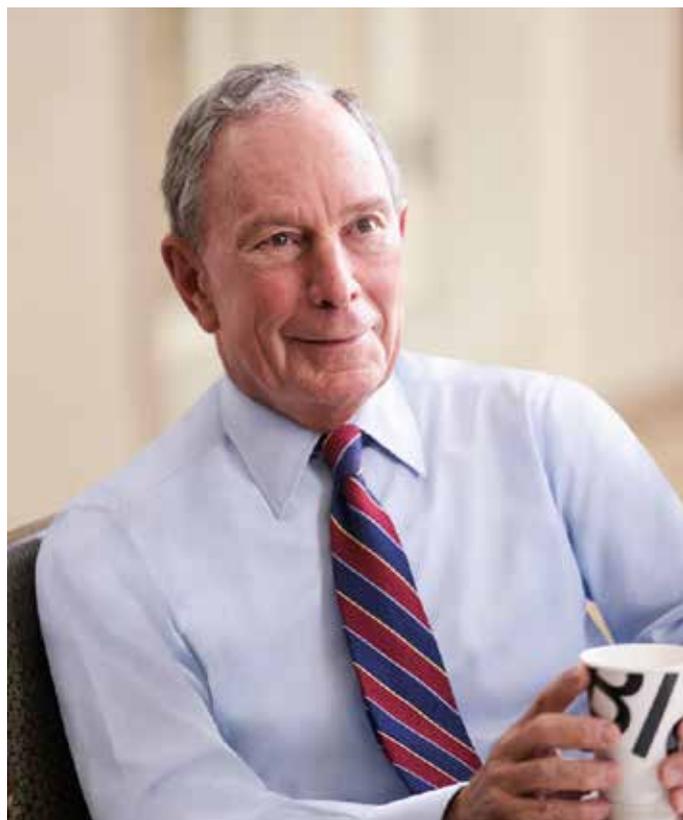
The burden of preventable deaths caused by NCDs and injuries on populations around the world remains a crisis upon a pandemic. Only 2% of development assistance for health addresses the challenge, and road traffic injuries already cost most countries 3% of their gross domestic product (GDP).

REDUCING EXPOSURE TO INJURIES AND RISKS

A framework to significantly reduce exposure to NCD and injury risk factors already exists and can be swiftly implemented in urban areas. Through the partnership, cities commit to one of 14 proven



Dublin City Council is excited about participating in this international partnership over the next four years, according to Dublin’s Lord Mayor Alison Gilliland.



“There is a growing movement of big cities and small towns that are striving to use data to improve the performance of government and the lives of their citizens” – Michael R. Bloomberg, founder of Bloomberg LP and Bloomberg Philanthropies and WHO Global Ambassador for Non-Communicable Diseases and Injuries.

interventions, such as implementing smoke-free laws to protect residents from second-hand smoke, rolling out cycling routes safe for all road users, or restricting advertising for the sugary drinks and junk foods that negatively impact urban diets.

The Partnership for Healthy Cities is supported by Bloomberg Philanthropies, in partnership with the World Health Organisation (WHO) and Vital Strategies. The global network was set up to recognise the critical role played by cities in implementing evidence-based interventions to prevent NCDs and injuries.

With support from the partnership network, cities are already making an impact on the health and safety of their residents. For example, Bandung in Indonesia unveiled a new smoke-free law which prohibits smoking in seven types of public spaces and will protect the health of urban residents.

In Latin America, four cities added 61.9km of new bike lanes during the pandemic alone – implemented not only to maintain safe and active travel during the global pandemic, but also to achieve long-term goals for safe, sustainable transport and urban mobility.

For more information on the ‘Partnership for Healthy Cities’ project and to view the full list of 14 interventions visit: <https://partnershipforhealthycities.bloomberg.org/>