Planning methods - Methods for prioritising programmes to benefit pedestrians

PRIORITISATION BASED ON:	ADVANTAGES	DISADVANTAGES
Multi-criteria analysis: Prioritise highest rated schemes after scoring all schemes against different criteria/objectives. Criteria should reflect the objectives of the walking action plan.	 Allows a true comparison across different criteria (Holistic approach) 	 Requires enough information (data) about all criteria Scoring might be time-intensive
Pedestrian numbers: Prioritise schemes on routes with existing high pedestrian use.	 Ensures that the greatest number of pedestrians will benefit from the treatment. Can be useful to identify high- profile schemes that help demonstrate a commitment to walking. 	 Fails to consider areas where flows are suppressed by hazards, physical difficulties or personal safety concerns. Difficulties in comparing pedestrian flows, due to their inherent variability.
Trip linkage: Prioritise schemes on routes used for trips between the greatest number of origins and destinations.	 Can mean that the greatest number of pedestrians benefit from the treatment. Can be useful to identify high- profile schemes that help demonstrate a commitment to walking. May reflect latent demand. 	 Does not consider pedestrian numbers. Takes no account of whether there are actual or perceived problems.
Barrier or gap removal: Prioritise schemes that remove physical obstacles on routes where the surrounding pedestrian facilities are of high quality.	 Creates continuous routes. Straightforward to identify physical barriers. Especially effective in creating the core of the pedestrian network. 	 Difficult to ascertain perceived barriers without considerable data.
Proximity to major trip generator: Prioritise schemes that are geographically closest to a major trip origin or destination (e.g. school, supermarket)	 May benefit the maximum number of pedestrians, as the likelihood of walking declines with increasing distance. May reflect latent demand. Trip origins and destinations are straightforward to identify. 	 Does not consider pedestrian numbers. Takes no account of whether there are actual or perceived problems.
Supporting walking trips to a particular land use: Prioritise schemes in the vicinity of specific land uses e.g. schools, hospitals or aged care facilities.	 Can have a positive effect on crash rates in the area(s) treated. The type of land use to be treated can easily be changed. Creates a high-quality environment for pedestrians, albeit in a limited area. 	 Disregards longer-distance routes between origins and destinations. May not support connected networks. May not identify the needs of other pedestrians in areas of different land uses.



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Community need: Prioritise schemes that local people feel has the greatest need, determined through consultation.	 Has the potential to reflect latent demand. Can be useful to publicly demonstrate a commitment to schemes. 	 The actual need may be different from perceived need. Requires a consultation exercise. Only reflects the views of those consulted.
Crash savings: Prioritise schemes that generate the greatest potential crash cost savings.	 Crash data is easily available. Can result in cost-effective solutions. 	 Significant under-reporting of pedestrian accidents means not all locations will be identified. May not account fully for places that pedestrians may avoid because of poor safety perceptions.
Easiest or cheapest to implement: Prioritise schemes that are the cheapest and/or easiest to implement.	• Generates the maximum number of interventions on the ground.	 Does not consider the perceived pedestrian need for schemes. The cheapest and easiest solutions may not be the most cost effective or appropriate.
Road classification or mode hierarchy: Schemes on roads that are higher in the road classification or on key routes for walking (the One Network Framework may assist).	 Ensures that roads where pedestrians are especially vulnerable are treated. May reflect latent demand. Road classification is widely available. 	 Does not consider pedestrian numbers or desire lines. Takes no account of whether there are actual or perceived problems.
Gaps in assets: Prioritise schemes where asset data shows gaps (e.g. missing kerb cutdowns)	Quick and objective comparison criterion	 Requires appropriate data to be either available or collected
Demographics: Prioritise schemes in areas that have higher transport disadvantage, or proportion of people with disabilities	 Is equitable Can achieve major benefits in previously underserved areas 	 The local demographics on their own do not provide information on desire lines or specific locations within these areas: follow-up with street audit and local engagement to prioritise interventions

