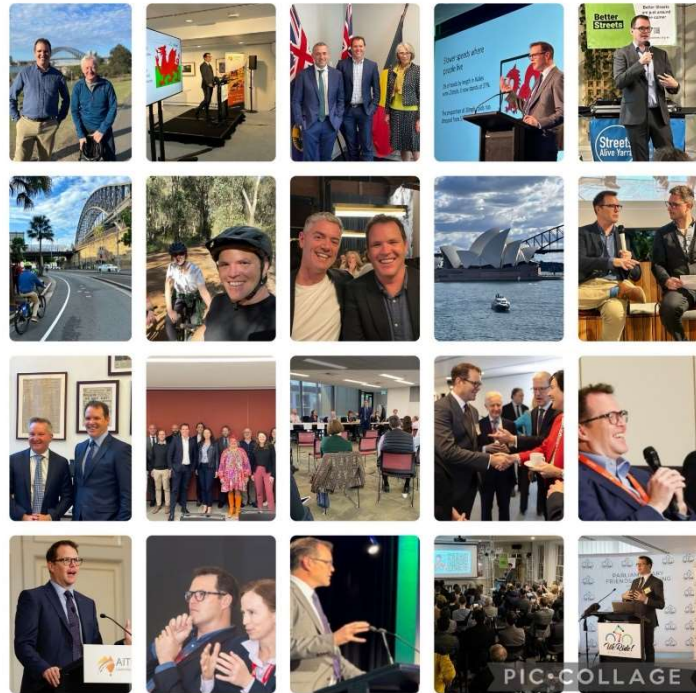


## International Travel – Lee Waters’ Australia Report

### Purpose and objectives of the trip

I took part in an international speaker tour as a guest of the Australian Institute of Traffic Planning and Management (AITPM) to share Wales’ experience in implementing sustainable transport policies.

I was the keynote speaker at their international conference in Perth and toured several cities to meet with transport practitioners and policy makers to discuss the Senedd’s record in passing a series of progressive measures, including the Active Travel Act, the 20 mph default speed limit in built-up areas and the Welsh Government’s new roads policy.



*Compilation of the different speaking engagements I attended while in Australia*

I challenged Australian policymakers to consider similar measures and highlighted the multiple benefits of active travel, such as improved health and a cleaner environment. I also emphasized the importance of systemic change in transportation policy, urging a move away from car-centric planning and a shift towards prioritizing walking, cycling, and public transport.

My trip served as a platform to share insights from Wales, offer suggestions for improvement, and encourage bolder action on climate change.

### Speaking Engagements

In Sydney, I spoke at a public forum hosted by the City of Sydney. During the forum, I shared the stage with the Lord Mayor of Sydney, Clover Moore, and the former New South Wales Minister for Active Transport, Rob Stokes. In my speech, I emphasised the importance of courage in politics to advocate for sustainable transport policies.

I also gave a presentation to members of Australia's Parliament, and met separately with the federal Climate Change and Energy Minister, Chris Bowen MP, whose ancestors were from Llanelli. We discussed carbon reduction targets and how to enact meaningful transport reforms.



*Meeting with Chris Bowen MP, Minister for Climate Change and Energy*

In addition, I spoke at a cycling breakfast hosted by the Australian Parliament's "friendship group for cycling." Phil Jones, who led the development of active travel design guidance in Wales, was also present at the breakfast.

I was also a featured speaker at the "Streets for People: How Yarra's 30 km/h zone can grow across Melbourne" public event. At the event, I shared my experience implementing the 30 km/h (20 mph) default speed limit in Wales. Following my presentation, a panel discussion and Q&A session took place, with guests Lauren Pearson, Ben Rossiter, and Sophie Wade. I discussed how slower speeds can create a safer and more pleasant environment for pedestrians and cyclists, leading to health and social benefits.

I also cycled around Sydney and some of its suburbs with Fiona Campbell, Manager of Cycling Strategy at the City of Sydney. Fiona has worked to improve Sydney's liveability by making it more bike-friendly for the past 15 years. She discussed her experience working in the city's cycling strategy department and highlighted some of her biggest challenges and successes.

Fiona said that one of the biggest challenges she has faced has been changing people's perceptions of bike riding. Many people see it as a dangerous or inconvenient way to travel, but Fiona believes that with the right infrastructure and education, it can be a safe and enjoyable experience for everyone. She also described facing political roadblocks and a culture of prioritising car travel.

Some of the trip was facilitated by members of State Parliaments that I had met through the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association, which demonstrated the value of the network.



*Overlooking Sydney Harbour with Fiona Campbell, Manager of Cycling Strategy at the City of Sydney*