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[National Walking Strategy aims to get Norwegians moving](#)

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Picture:



Country:

Norway

Topic:

Walking and cycling

Body:

Norway's National Walking Strategy, developed by the Norwegian Public Road Administration, has now been adopted by the Norwegian government.

With a mandate to set national targets for 2014 - 2023, propose actions and measures to achieve those goals and recommend a system to evaluate progress, the strategy's two main goals are that walking should appeal to everyone, and that more people should walk more often. Currently many Norwegians will walk distances of under 0.5 km, but are reliant on cars for journeys of more than 1.4 km.

Some specific targets to be met by 2023 include at least 80 per cent of children walking or cycling to school, and increasing the share of people walking 1.5 km from 16 to 25 per cent. This will be accomplished by the creation of continuous pedestrian networks in Norwegian towns and cities, making walking the logical choice to get around. Improving the accessibility and attractiveness of walking routes will be key to establishing these networks.

There are also requirements for public authorities to ensure that pedestrians are given adequate priority in land and transport planning, and to actively engage in improving existing pedestrian spaces. Particular emphasis is given to maintenance during winter, as up to 45 per cent of all injuries to pedestrians is estimated to come from slippery roads and pavements due to inadequate

maintenance.

For more information see [the Norwegian Public Road Administration's presentation](#) (opens pdf).

Photo: bertknot, Flickr

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