Visualisation of Active Transport Data

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Keywords: routes, safety, density, space-time, school students

The Built Environment and Active Transport to School (BEATS) study aims to increase physical activity in adolescents by studying and promoting the benefits of active transport to school. A large resource of space-time route data has been collected through drawn routes on maps and derived from shortest path network analysis of the geocoded home and school addresses.

Spatial and space-time visualisation has been applied to this comprehensive dataset. For active transport research, this process can reveal patterns in the complex route dataset (i.e. the BEATS dataset) that would otherwise be hard to make visible or would otherwise be invisible. The data were visualised using spatial (routes arranged and aggregated on a map so that there was no overlap) and spatiotemporal methods. Assumptions about time of travel to school (timed to arrive at school within a short time interval, prior to the first lesson) adds a temporal element to this data.