



Report to Leader (Transport portfolio)

Decision Date:	15 October 2024
Reference number:	TR24.24
Title:	Platinum Way Cycleway Improvements – Stubble Hill DYs
Cabinet Member(s):	Councillor Steve Broadbent, Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member of Transport
Ward Member(s):	Councillor Sarah James, Councillor Steven Lambert, and Councillor Adam Poland-Goodyer
Author and/or contact officer:	Josh Tomlinson, Senior Project Manager, Transport Infrastructure and Delivery josh.tomlinson@buckinghamshire.gov.uk
Ward(s) affected:	Aylesbury West
Recommendations:	That the Leader notes the outcome of the Statutory Consultation for the Traffic Regulation Order; That the Leader approves the making of the Traffic Regulation Order, subject to the following amendments: Mill Meadow and Long Leys – reduction of Double Yellow Line extents.

Reason for decision:

To improve the visibility for those crossing the junction, allowing all users to see oncoming traffic more easily. This in turn, will allow users of the Platinum Way Cycleway to be more clearly seen by drivers, reducing the risk of accidents at the junction, and mitigating potential hazards for vulnerable users and other persons, from traffic travelling through this junction.

1. Executive summary

- 1.1 The completed Platinum Way Cycleway has successfully resulted in an increase of cycleway users since its opening in 2022.
- 1.2 This cycleway has recently been upgraded as part of the Platinum Way Cycleway Improvements Scheme across multiple areas in Aylesbury.
 - a) A previous consultation for a raised table in Picasso Place took place in late 2023. The decision for this traffic calming proposal can be found here: [Decision - Proposed Picasso Place Cycle Crossing, on the Platinum Way Cycle Way \(Decision to be taken\) - Modern Council \(modern.gov.co.uk\)](#)
- 1.3 The junction between Stubble Hill, Long Leys, and Mill Meadow forms part of the cycleway route.
- 1.4 Mill Meadow currently has a physical restriction (bollards), preventing vehicles from entering the road from Stubble Hill.
- 1.5 The recommendations in this report are following the results of the Statutory Consultation.

2. Content of report

- 2.1 Buckinghamshire Council is the highway authority for the highways within Buckinghamshire and the responsible body for the highway network within its boundary; this includes the provision and management of the safe movement of vehicular and other traffic (pedestrians).
- 2.2 The proposed double yellow lines scheme was put to Statutory Consultation between **9th May** and **30th May 2024**.
- 2.3 Residents that would be affected by the proposed restrictions were directly notified of the consultation in the form of a consultation letter. The Notice of Proposal was published in the local press and attached to selected lamp columns in the immediate vicinity of the proposed double yellow lines.
- 2.4 The consultation and survey were posted online and the details (Appendices 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5 respectively) for this consultation can be found using the link below: [Platinum Way Cycleway Improvements - Stubble Hill - Your Voice Bucks - Citizen Space](#)
- 2.5 Residents and consultees were provided with a copy of the plan showing the proposals (Appendices 2 and 3).
- 2.6 A total of **47** responses to the Statutory Consultation were received via the online survey, email and letter. A summary of the results is shown below in Table 1:

Responses	Count (including percentage)
In Support	13 (27.66%)
Oppose	34 (72.34%)
Total	47

Table 1 - Result of Responses Received

- 2.7 Many of the objections received were from residents of **Mill Meadow** (42.55% overall).
- 2.8 Residents of **Stubble Hill** were mainly against the proposal (6.38% overall; compared to support percentage of 2.13%).
- 2.9 Residents of **Long Leys** who had made an objection had reached an overall of 4.26%.
- 2.10 Residents from outlying streets (19.15% overall), also voiced their concerns about parking options by visitors to the area.
- 2.11 Residents of Long Leys provided the most amount of support to the proposal (10.64% overall).
- 2.12 Buckinghamshire Highways have given careful consideration to each comment and response to the consultation.
- 2.13 A summary of the feedback, recommendations for the scheme, and reason for the recommendations is included in Appendix 6.

3. Other options considered

- 3.1 To not proceed, with the implementation of the traffic regulation order would not address the issues raised by Members. Potentially resulting in more frequent or serious incidents, or collisions between non-motorised users and motorised traffic.

4. Legal and financial implications

- 4.1 The Platinum Way Cycleway Improvements project is fully funded by budget from the Department of Transport (DfT) as part of a capital funding award of £1,557,102 for the wider Platinum Way upgrade. This was Buckinghamshire Council's allocation for the Active Travel Tranche 2 funding.

CHA.81.AHH	Budget £'000	Actuals YTD £'000	Forecast Outturn £'000
Previous Years	871	871	871
2024/25	270	64	150
2025/26	416	-	110
Total	1,557	935	1,131

- 4.2 Actuals to date cover Design and Construction, as well as consultation and stakeholder engagement costs for the traffic restrictions. Delivery of the remaining works, supervision and staff costs are captured in the forecast outturn.
- 4.3 Section 16 of the Traffic Management Act 2004 places a duty on Buckinghamshire Council to manage the highway network with a view to secure the expeditious, convenient, and safe movement of vehicular and other traffic (including pedestrians), on its highways.
- 4.4 Section 122(1) of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 (RTRA 1984) places a duty on Highway Authorities to secure the expeditious, convenient, and safe movement of vehicular and other traffic (including pedestrians).
- 4.5 The section 122(1) RTRA 1984 duty and the provisions of s16 TMA 2004 (above) must be considered in balance with certain factors as prescribed by s122(2), when an Authority determines whether to make a TRO. This must also be in consideration and in exercise of any of their powers under the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984.
- 4.6 Part IV of Schedule 9 provides the authority with the powers to vary or revoke an order made by the Council.
- 4.7 Regulation 14 of the Local Authorities' Traffic Orders (Procedure) (England and Wales) Regulations 1996 states that an order making authority may modify an order – whether in receipt of any objections or otherwise – before it is then made.
- 4.8 When the decision is taken and recommendations agreed, the TRO will be made. The responders to the consultation and persons likely to be affected will be informed of the decision made.
- 4.9 In accordance with the Local Authorities' Traffic Orders (Procedure) (England and Wales) Regulations 1996, the TRO will then be made and publicised by Buckinghamshire Council.
- 4.10 If approved, this key decision will be the authority for Legal Services to 'make' the TRO and advertise the Notice of Making in the local press in accordance with the Procedure Regulations.

- 4.11 Under Section 16(2) of The Local Authorities' Traffic Orders (Procedure) (England and Wales) Regulations 1996 the signs and lines must be implemented within two years of the date the notice of proposals was first published. This means the lines must be implemented by 9th May 2026.
- 4.12 Any further reviews or any other waiting restrictions TRO would require a new commission and further agreed funding streams.
- 4.13 Any income from Penalty Charge Notices (PCNs) will be retained by Buckinghamshire Council and will contribute to the running cost of parking enforcement and activities across the county.

5. Corporate implications

- 5.1 **Equality** - An Equality Impact Assessment (Appendix 7) has been undertaken and the decision is not expected to have any negative impacts on persons with protected characteristics.
- 5.2 **Property** – All land for this project is already within the Highway Boundary.
- 5.3 **Data Protection** - A privacy statement was included on Buckinghamshire Council's citizen space consultation online page which stated the following: "We will use the information you provide here only for this activity. We will store the information securely in line with data protection laws and will not share or publish any personal detail".
- 5.4 **Value for Money** – The lining works will be carried out by Balfour Beatty Living Places as the Term Maintenance Contractor (TMC).

6. Local councillors & community boards consultation & views

- 6.1 The Buckinghamshire Council Members for Aylesbury West, Councillor Sarah James, Councillor Steven Lambert, and Councillor Adam Poland-Goodyer did not respond to the public consultation.
- 6.2 Coldharbour Parish Council also did not respond to the consultation.
- 6.3 A consultation response from Thames Valley Police (TVP) was received on 8th May 2024. TVP has not objected to the proposals. This feedback has been provided in Appendix 6.

7. Communication, engagement & further consultation

- 7.1 Prior to the Statutory Consultation, communication and engagement have taken place between Buckinghamshire Highways, Local Members, Coldharbour Parish Council, and residents. Table 2 (below) shows the responses received:

Consultee	Response
Cllr Sarah James	No Response Received.
Cllr Steven Lambert	I do support the scheme.
Cllr Adam Poland – Goodyer	“[...] I am okay with these double yellow lines as they will definitely make that junction safer . I use it everyday ... <i>on my bike [...]</i> ”
Coldharbour Parish Council	No Response Received.

Table 2 - Responses from Consultees

- 7.2 Buckinghamshire Council has engaged with various key stakeholders to ensure that their requirements are met through the delivery of this scheme.
- 7.3 The public consultation took place between 9th May and 30th May 2024.
- 7.4 The consultation was advertised in the local press, through letters to directly affected properties, public (on-site) notices and online via the *Your Voice Bucks* consultation website.
- 7.5 Following the number of Opposition responses received, Buckinghamshire Council’s Parking Team were consulted for their views on 1st July 2024. The Parking Team confirmed that the proposals should still proceed, with the Highway Code being used as justification (Rule 243), supporting this opinion. Rule 243 of the Highway Code provides a list of destinations where drivers should not stop or park and includes locations opposite or within 10 metres of a junction, except in an authorised parking space. It should be noted that rule 243 provides best practice guidance and is not supported by a specific statutory offence.
- 7.6 However, Buckinghamshire Highways will recommend a slight reduction to the length of the proposed double yellow lines to be implemented on Mill Meadow and Long Leys, to help with the parking provision.
- 7.7 The amended Map Tile DV46 and the Detailed Location Plan can be seen in Appendices 8 and 9 respectively.

8. Next steps and review

- 8.1 If these recommendations are accepted, a Traffic Regulation Order will be made to implement the Double Yellow Lines.

- 8.2 Following a decision on this report, should the recommendations be approved the implementation of the scheme will be undertaken by the new council's highways contractor in the 2024/25 financial year.
- 8.3 All consultees and responders to the consultation (who supplied their contact details), will be contacted by either e-mail or letter and will be informed of the decision including where they can find the details of the statutory consultation as well as the decision taken. This report will be published on the Buckinghamshire Council web page.

9. Background papers

Appendix 1 – Letter to Residents

Appendix 2 – Map Plan DV46

Appendix 3 – Detailed Location Plan

Appendix 4 – Statement of Reasons

Appendix 5 – Street Notice

Appendix 6 – Redacted Responses and Buckinghamshire Council's Response

Appendix 7 – Equality Impact Assessment

Appendix 8 – Updated Map Plan DV46

Appendix 9 – Updated Detailed Location Plan

10. Your questions and views (for key decisions)

- 10.1 If you have any questions about the matters contained in this report, please get in touch with the author of this report. If you have any views that you would like the cabinet member to consider, please inform the democratic services team. This can be done by telephone 01296 382343 or email democracy@buckinghamshire.gov.uk by 5pm on 11 October 2024.