

Area Board Project

1. What is the Initiative?

To provide a safe, wide pathway for cyclists and pedestrians to link in either direction with the new Puffin crossing in Harnham Road. It would provide a new section of cycleway to the residential estates in East Harnham and the Hospital to the east and Harnham schools and other community facilities to the west. This addresses the Area Board issue No1687, which was raised last year.

2. Where is the initiative taking place?

The new joint use pathway would follow the existing footway on the south side of the New Harnham Road from the Gyratory as far as Old Blandford Road. This is the most dangerous section of the Harnham Road as traffic approaches and leaves the Harnham Gyratory. Please see the detailed attached plan.

3. When will the initiative take place?

Feasibility and detailed design work will be carried out early in the financial year 2012/13, with the facility being constructed in the same year.

4. What are the Community benefits/evidence of need/links to Community Plan/Community Issue?

The residential area of Harnham is bisected by three main 'A' roads, the A338, the A354 and the A3094 which carry a high volume of traffic. In addition the hospital, with all its associated traffic, lies on the southern edge. This has a considerable impact on the quality of life of residents and reduces their travel choice as cycling is unsafe for both adults and children.

East and West Harnham have developed as two distinct areas separated by the Harnham Gyratory, but many facilities, which serve the whole community, are located in West Harnham. These include the schools, two churches, community centre, uniformed organisations and other community clubs and groups.

Pedestrian links are good with crossing points at the Gyratory, as are routes into the city, but there has long been a desire for a safe cycleway linking East with West Harnham to enable residents, in particular young people, to access community facilities.

The schools have an active Travel Plan and have achieved considerable success with increasing numbers of children walking to school. However there remain high numbers driven to school from the estates south of the gyratory. The location of the new St. Osmunds Field development is further away making walking to school too far for many children and time-consuming for parents whereas cycling would be a welcome option.

Improvements to the existing footway to create a joint use facility are relatively straightforward and achievable and would benefit the whole community. This would be the first step towards a complete cycleway along Harnham Road.

Please see the attached detailed plan.

5. What is the desired outcome of this initiative?

The provision of an east-west link in Harnham would give residents greater travel choice resulting in reduced car use and greater freedom for young people.

Parents would be able to choose a healthy option for getting to school, so reducing congestion at the school gates. Improve access to the hospital for cyclists by provision of a safe route avoiding the gyratory.

6. Who will Project Manage this initiative?

Wiltshire Council Transport team.

7. Costs/quotes/ match funding? (total cost £5k require 1 quote, total cost £5k-25k require 3 quotes)

This Area Board bid is for £9,000 towards the scheme, which will be match funded from two other sources, as shown in 8 below.

Mouchel would carry out the work under the framework contract which is already subject to competition and therefore demonstrates good value for money. Mouchel is Wiltshire Council's main contractor, who was appointed for this type of work in accordance with the council's stringent procurement regulations; therefore there is no need to get two further quotes for this scheme.

The total cost of the scheme, as quoted by Wiltshire Council's Transportation Team is:

Traffic Management/Welfare: £1,600

Earthworks: £3,100

Kerbing/Edgings: £4,900

Footway Construction: £9,200

6mm Surface Course: £2,700

Signing/Lining: £2,100

Drainage: £1,000

Publicity, including maps for school travel pack: £900

Total: £25,500

Contingency @ 15% = £3,825

Grand Total: £29,325

8. Additional information

The school will be applying for the rest of the funding from the following two sources:

- 1) "Taking Action on School Journeys Challenge" (TAOSJ) as recommended by Cllr Tonge, Cabinet Member for Highways and Transport - £16,300
- 2) "Salisbury City Council's Community Grant Award Scheme" - £3,000