

REGULATORY COMMITTEE
9th OCTOBER 2002

**CHIPPENHAM: BRISTOL ROAD - SHARED USE ROUTE FOR
PEDESTRIANS AND CYCLISTS**

Purpose of Report

1. To seek a resolution to convert a footway alongside the carriageway of the A420 into shared use path for cyclists and pedestrians.

Background

2. The County Council adopted a Cycling Strategy in 1996, which included a requirement for all towns above 10,000 population to have a defined cycle route network. Under the Safe Routes to School initiative, all Secondary Schools have now been assessed for accessibility and safety of cycle routes to school.
3. As part of the Local Transport Plan (LTP), the County Cycle Action Plan, which was approved by the Environment and Transport Committee on 5th July 2000, was aimed at accelerating progress towards a sustainable transport system for Wiltshire. Priority is currently given to creating sustainable transport links for commuting and school trips.
4. The County Council is committed to reducing the dependency of the private motor car using a variety of measures.
5. A number of schemes have been identified to be implemented during 2002-03 from the second year's Local Transport Settlement funding. The scheme shown in **Appendix 1** has been highlighted as a priority measure by the Chippenham Local Transport Plan Working Group.

Detail

Bristol Road, Chippenham

6. The Committee in March 2002 agreed an allocation of £15,000 for a shared use facility alongside the A420 Bristol Road, Chippenham from the Integrated Transport block of the Local Transport Plan.
7. The proposal is to link the existing cycle route on Hungerdown Lane with the Bumpers Farm Industrial Estate. This will involve converting sections of existing footway to shared use and the construction of a new pedestrian/cycle path over grass verge. The lengths of footway and verge affected are shown in **Appendix 1**. It is permissible to allow cycling on a footway with a continuing right of way on foot by formal resolution.

8. Wiltshire Constabulary, Chippenham Town Council, North Wiltshire District Council and the Local Member all support this scheme and no objections have been raised.

Financial Implications

9. The scheme is to be funded from the Integrated Transport block of the Local Transport Plan settlement for 2002-2003.

Recommendation

10. That:-
- (i) Under Section 66(4) of the Highways Act 1980, the lengths of footway shown on **Appendix 1**, be 'removed', and
 - (ii) Under Section 65(1) of the Act, a cycle track (shared use path) be 'constructed' in its place.

Reason for Recommendation

11. The introduction of a shared use path on the southern side of Bristol Road from its junction with Bumpers Farm Way to its junction with Hungerdown Lane, will complete a key element of the Transport Plan for Chippenham.

RICHARD J. LANDER

Director of Environmental Services

The following unpublished documents have been relied on in the preparation of this Report:

Letters from: Wiltshire Police
Chippenham Town Council
North Wiltshire District Council
Local Member

Environmental Impact of the Recommendation contained in this Report:

The provision of a shared cycle/footway will allow safer cycling and encourage cycle use, thus reducing the dependency on the motor car, in accordance with Local Transport Plan objectives.