

Policy & Programmes

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Dear Oxfordshire County Council,

Thank you for inviting responses on the Wantage and Grove Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan (LCWIP). We would like to take this opportunity to express our strong support for infrastructure planning for active travel. We welcome these proposals to make walking and cycling easier and more enjoyable in the Wantage and Grove area, which forms a destination for both existing and future residents in our district, including those from Didcot. Wantage and Grove also provides homes for workers in South Oxfordshire. Providing safe active travel links between Wantage and Grove and South Oxfordshire will support the uptake of longer distance active travel commuting and leisure travel.

We would also like to confirm our support for the delivery of further LCWIPs across our own district, notably for the Wallingford Area, which is underway, and the Henley-on-Thames area.

We recognise the value of walking and cycling infrastructure, not only to help active travel for work and other purposes, but also because it supports leisure journeys as well. It is well documented that levels of activity correlate positively with health and well-being.

The LCWIP proposals support our [South Oxfordshire Council Plan](#) through promoting carbon reduction through modal shift and thus “action on climate change”, the proposed schemes help to identify “infrastructure that meet[s] local needs”, and encourages “inclusive communities” that foster cohesion and inclusion. Enabling active travel through new and improved infrastructure supports our [Nature and Climate Action Plan](#) target, which is to be a carbon neutral district by 2045.

The LCWIP proposals also align with our existing and emerging Local Plan policies which seek to promote the use of active travel, including Policy TRANS2: Promoting Sustainable Transport and Accessibility ([South Oxfordshire Local Plan 2035](#)) and Policy IN2 – Sustainable transport and accessibility (emerging [South Oxfordshire and Vale of White Horse Joint Local Plan 2041](#)).

Yours sincerely



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