

QUESTION NO. 1

Tim Cook to ask the Chair:

Cycle Improvements

Are there any plans for cycle paths in the following areas:

- Vastern Road,
- Caversham Road,
- Oxford Road
- Reading Town Centre
- River paths

I believe that the size of the pavements on some of these roads, for example Vastern Road could accommodate a cycle path in both directions.

I would like the Reading Borough Council to state which roads are ear-marked now or in the next two years for cycle improvements and possibly have a map published of these cycle routes. I believe it should spiral out from the town centre?

REPLY by Councillor Page:

The Council's future cycling programme is set out in the Cycling Strategy Implementation Plan 2015/16 which was approved by the Strategic Environment, Planning & Transport Committee in July.

The programme includes a number of major enhancements to cycle routes in Reading, including:

- Opening of the new pedestrian cycle bridge over the River Thames, providing a new route for cyclists from Caversham to Reading Station and the town centre.
- A new raised section of cycle route R1 between Rose Kiln Lane and Bennet Road to ensure it remains usable during times of flooding.
- Opening of the Napier Road underpass to provide an additional north-south link under the Great Western railway line between Napier Road and Kenavon Drive.

The current situation with regard to the specific locations raised is:

- There are no plans to implement further cycle provision on Vastern Road or Caversham Road at present.
- Route improvements on the Oxford Road will be implemented through the Oxford Road Corridor Transport Study and a further review of cycle provision will be undertaken following completion of the Cow Lane Bridges scheme, which will provide an opportunity to significantly improve cycle access from the West of Reading.
- Cycle provision in Reading town centre is being reviewed following feedback from the cycle forum; including the provision of cycle routes through town, improved signage and increased cycle parking facilities.

- There are no plans to implement further improvements to river paths at present, following the improved access arrangements currently being implemented for the new pedestrian cycle bridge over the river.

Future route improvements will be subject to securing the necessary funding and will be included in the Cycling Strategy Implementation Plan which is updated annually. The full indicative programme for 2015/16 is set out in the table below:

Scheme Name	LTP Action Plan Area	Timescale
A33 Pinch Point Scheme	2 - Southern	Summer 2015
Annual Resurfacing Programme	0 - All	Summer 2015
Pedestrian and Cycle Bridge over the River Thames	1 - Central 5 - Northern	Summer 2015
Traffic Signal Upgrades	Multiple Areas	Summer 2015
East Reading Transport Study	6 - Eastern 7 - Southeastern	Autumn 2015
Napier Road Underpass	6 - Eastern	Autumn 2015
ReadyBike Station Relocations	Multiple Areas	Autumn 2015
Cow Lane Bridges	4 - Western	Spring 2016
Oxford Road Transport Study	4 - Western	Spring 2016
Pocket Places	2 - Southern	Spring 2016
Bike It	0 - All	On-going - 2015/16
Bikeability	0 - All	On-going - 2015/16
CTC Development Programme	0 - All	On-going - 2015/16
Cycle Facility Improvements	Multiple Areas	On-going - 2015/16
Cycle Route Improvements	Multiple Areas	On-going - 2015/16
LED Street Lighting Upgrades	Multiple Areas	On-going - 2015/16
NCN 422 Scheme Development	Multiple Areas	On-going - 2015/16
ReadyBike Cycle Hire Scheme	Multiple Areas	On-going - 2015/16
West Reading Transport Study	3 - Southwestern	On-going - 2015/16