

READING BOROUGH COUNCIL

REPORT BY DIRECTOR OF ENVIRONMENT AND NEIGHBOURHOOD SERVICES

TO:	TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT SUB COMMITTEE		
DATE:	9 MARCH 2017	AGENDA ITEM:	15
TITLE:	CYCLE FORUM - MEETING NOTE		
LEAD COUNCILLOR:	TONY PAGE	PORTFOLIO:	STRATEGIC ENVIRONMENT, PLANNING & TRANSPORT
SERVICE:	TRANSPORTATION & STREETCARE	WARDS:	ALL
LEAD OFFICER:	EMMA BAKER	TEL:	0118 937 4881
JOB TITLE:	SENIOR TRANSPORT PLANNER	E-MAIL:	emma.baker@reading.gov.uk

1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to inform Members of the discussions and actions from the Cycle Forum held in February 2017.
- 1.2 The Cycle Forum meeting note from 2 February 2017 is appended.

2. RECOMMENDED ACTION

- 2.1 That the Sub Committee notes the attached minutes from the Cycle Forum held on 2 February 2017.

3. POLICY CONTEXT

- 3.1 Reading's Cycling Strategy: Bridging Gaps, Overcoming Barriers & Promoting Safer Cycling, was adopted by the Council on 19 March 2014 as a sub-strategy to the Local Transport Plan (LTP). The strategy includes detailed policies regarding the design principles for delivering infrastructure and route improvements for cyclists on the public highway, as well as policies to encourage and promote cycling to different demographics.
- 3.2 The Cycling Strategy is aligned with wider local policy documents such as the Sustainable Community Strategy and Climate Change Strategy, contributing towards wider public health and air quality objectives.

#### **4. THE PROPOSAL**

- 4.1 The meeting of the Cycle Forum held on 2<sup>nd</sup> February 2017 was chaired by Councillor Gittings. The Forum was also attended by Councillors Duveen, Hopper and Jones as well as Reading Borough Council officers and representatives of various local cycling groups. The notes of the meeting are attached.

#### **5. CONTRIBUTION TO STRATEGIC AIMS**

- 5.1 The delivery of the cycle schemes outlined in this report help to deliver the following Corporate Plan Service Priorities:
- Keeping the town clean, safe, green and active.
  - Providing infrastructure to support the economy.

#### **6. COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT AND INFORMATION**

- 6.1 As described above.

#### **7. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS**

- 7.1 None.

#### **8. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

- 8.1 None at present.

#### **9. BACKGROUND PAPERS**

- 9.1 Cycle Forum - Meeting Note, Traffic Management Sub-Committee reports from January 2016 onwards.

# READING CYCLE FORUM - MEETING NOTE

Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> February 2017, 6pm

Mayor's Parlour, Civic Offices, Reading

## Attendees

Cllr Paul Gittings (Chair)  
John Lee (RCC)  
Richard Pearson (Reading CTC)  
Tanya Rebel (GREN)  
Karen Stanbridge (Reading University)  
Karen Richardson (RCC)  
Berny Torre (RCC)  
Cllr Ricky Duveen (RBC)  
Cllr Tony Jones (RBC)  
Cllr Ed Hopper (RBC)  
Cris Butler (RBC)  
Chris Maddocks (RBC)  
Emma Baker (RBC)

## Apologies

Cllr Tony Page (RBC)

## 1. Introductions

Cllr Gittings welcomed attendees to the meeting and introductions were made.

## 2. Note of the Last Meeting

The note of the last meeting was agreed.

## 3. NCN Route 422 Update

An update was given on progress of the NCN422 Phase 1 scheme. The detailed plans for Phase 2 - along Berkeley Ave, through the town centre, along Kennetside and Watlington St to London Road, were discussed with the following conclusions:

- Include the installation of shared-use tiles through The Oracle to highlight presence of other users. To be taken forward in consultation with the Shopping Centre.
- Identify improvements to Mill Lane as an alternative to the route through The Oracle.
- Investigate opportunities to upgrade lighting along Kennetside between Star Lane and Sidmouth Street in partnership with NCP.

A discussion also took place on two potential route options for Phase 3 - a direct route along London Road and Wokingham Road and a quieter route linking to the hospital and University along Erleigh Road, Eastern Avenue and Whiteknights Road.

**ACTION** - RBC to add Phase 2 concept designs to RBC website, circulate link for feedback and update designs as appropriate.

**ACTION** - Circulate a plan illustrating the preferred Phase 3 route for feedback, following consultation with Ward Councillors.

#### **4. Town Centre Branded Routes Update**

Proofs of the updated branded cycle vinyl stickers that compliment town cycle signage were shared with the Forum, following feedback discussed at October's meeting. It was decided that it would be beneficial to delay further changes to the vinyl stickers until the completion of NCN 422 to ensure the route is included on the updated vinyl stickers.

#### **5. EMPOWER Project Update**

The Forum was given an update on the development of the EU project - EMPOWER, including the anticipated work programme over the summer and the key project partners.

#### **6. Cycle Forum - Requested Schemes List**

A discussion took place on the latest requested schemes list with the following conclusions:

- It was agreed that the town centre signage 'quick wins' as discussed at the site visit in July should be implemented by Network Management asap (items 14-15).

**ACTION** - RBC Network Management to implement town centre signage 'quick wins'.

#### **7. Items Raised by Forum Members**

8a. Thames Path surfacing (TR) - a quote for gravelling the towpath from Scours Lane and Rivermead has been received for £91,500, however this scheme is currently unfunded.

8b. Cycle parking in town, residential areas and stations (JL) - Officers updated the Cycle Forum on the replacement of fittings at the Northern Interchange cycle hub. It was suggested that signs highlighting the use of CCTV in the area are installed. RBC informed attendees that it is happy to receive other suggestions for improvements at cycle parking facilities or new locations.

8c. Henley Road cycle lanes improved markings, signing and yellow lines (JL) - A request to refresh existing road markings between Donkin Hill and Westfield Road was noted and added to requested schemes list. It was also suggested that double yellow lines be installed to prevent parking in the cycle lane.

ACTION - Install signs warning on CCTV use surrounding cycle hub at Northern Interchange.

## **8. Any Other Business**

None raised.

## **9. Date of the Next Meeting**

The date of the next Cycle Forum is expected to take place in June 2017. Exact date will be agreed following the publication of the 2017/18 Committee calendar.