Appendix 1, Active Travel Tranche 1

Traffic Management Sub-Committee 15 June 2022

Scheme Details and Recommendations

The following pages provide detail about the schemes that have been delivered using the government 'Active Travel Tranche 1' emergency funding. The drawings provided should be considered indicative and text is provided to outline any alterations or additional elements that would be required to enhance the schemes for permanent adoption and the officer recommendations in this regard.

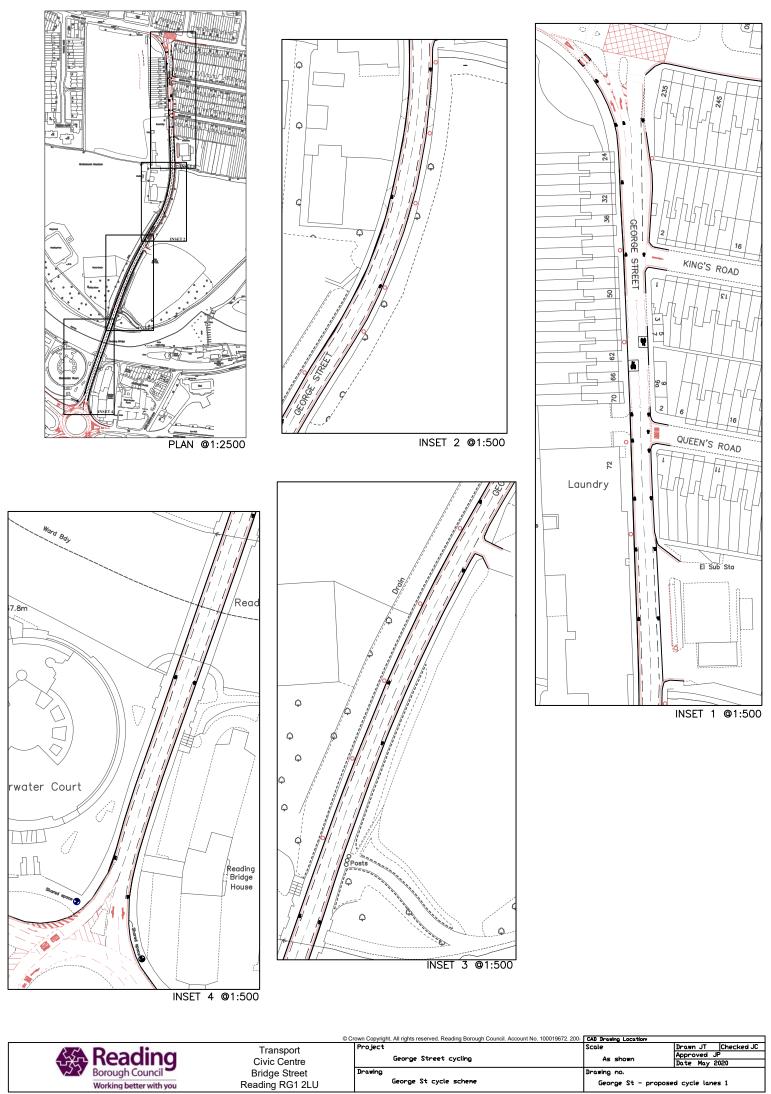
This appendix will cover the following schemes:

- 1. George Street (Reading Bridge)
- 2. Southampton Street, Silver Street, Mount Pleasant and Whitley Street
- 3. Oxford Road
- 4. Christchurch Road
- 5. Redlands Road
- 6. Sidmouth Street

Scheme 1: George Street (Reading Bridge) Scheme Summary Removal of a general traffic lane and addition of advisory cycle lanes in both directions. Necessary / Desirable Alterations (scheme-specific) Short-term It would be desirable to place additional signing along the route. While this . would be a relatively low cost, there are feasibility concerns at locations along the bridge structure, so trial excavations and some investigation would be necessary. Longer-term It would be desirable to implement some enhancements to the carriageway edge, which would not typically fall within 'maintenance' of the carriageway. These include investigating gully covers and other elements that would improve the experience for cyclists. Other elements raised in the cover report, applying to all schemes and the ambition for upgrades as part of larger, strategic schemes. Additional Comments/Background Usage counts over 12-hour daytime period in June 2021: o 68 northbound o 76 southbound Other general points are raised in the main report.

Officer Recommendation

To be retained as a permanent scheme.



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Drawing awing no. George St cycle scheme George St - proposed cycle lanes 1

Scheme

2: Southampton Street, Silver Street, Mount Pleasant and Whitley Street.

Scheme Summary

Reallocation road space and removal of a general traffic lane on Whitley Street to create new cycle facilities, which are predominantly mandatory cycle lanes.

Necessary / Desirable Alterations (scheme-specific)

Short-term

- There is a desire to widen the existing 'buffer zones' where the lanes pass parking bays. This may not be possible in all locations, due to the space constrains.
- Southampton Street: It may be desirable to remove the shared-use facility as the cycle lane is quite wide, but the footway is narrow.

Longer-term

- It would be desirable to implement some enhancements to the carriageway edge, which would not typically fall within 'maintenance' of the carriageway. These include investigating gully covers and other elements that would improve the experience for cyclists.
- Other elements raised in the cover report, applying to all schemes and the ambition for upgrades as part of larger, strategic schemes.

Additional Comments/Background

Usage counts over 12-hour daytime period in July 2021:

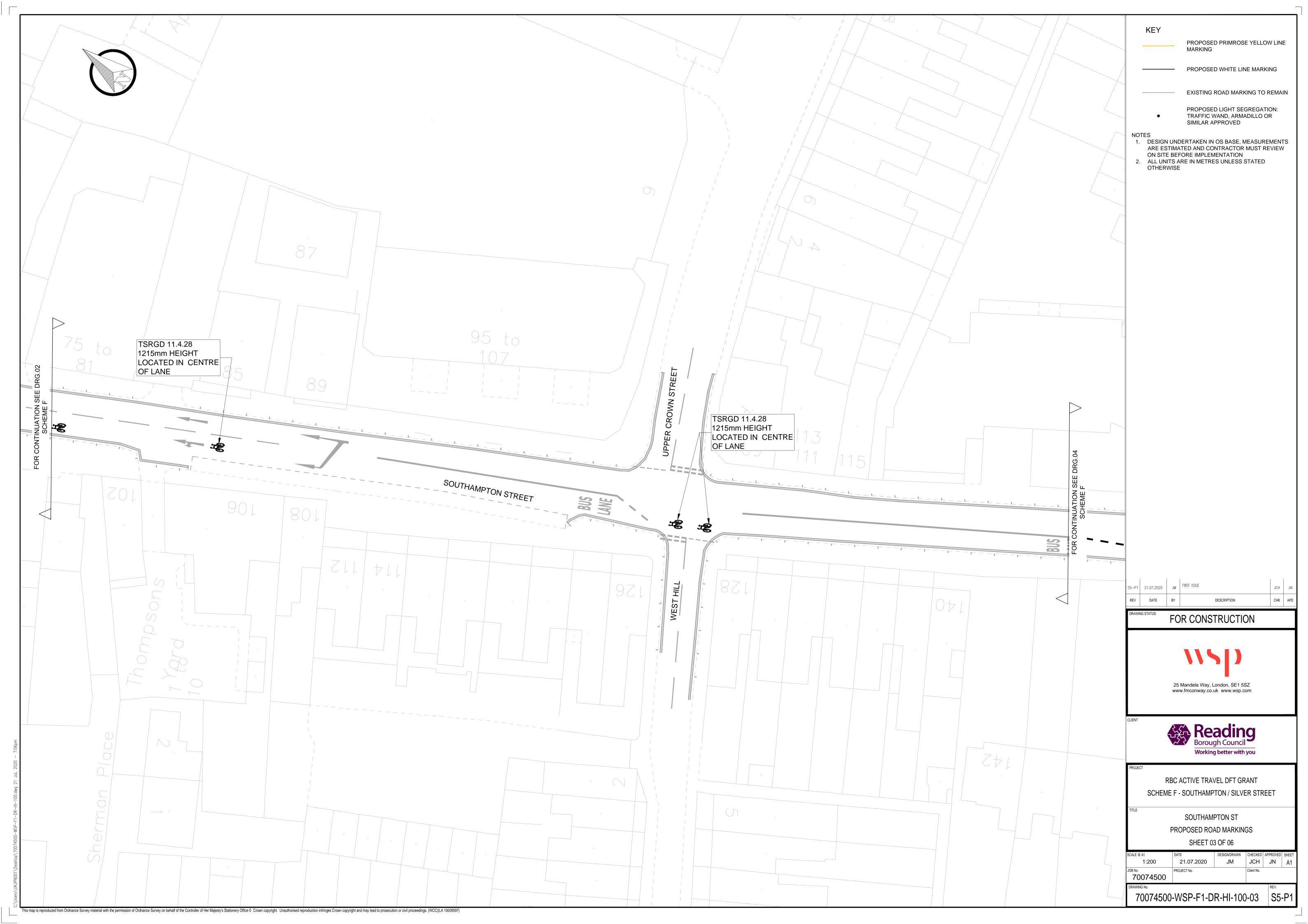
- Southampton Street: 97
- o Silver Street: 78
- o Mount Pleasant: 74
- o Whitley Street: 80

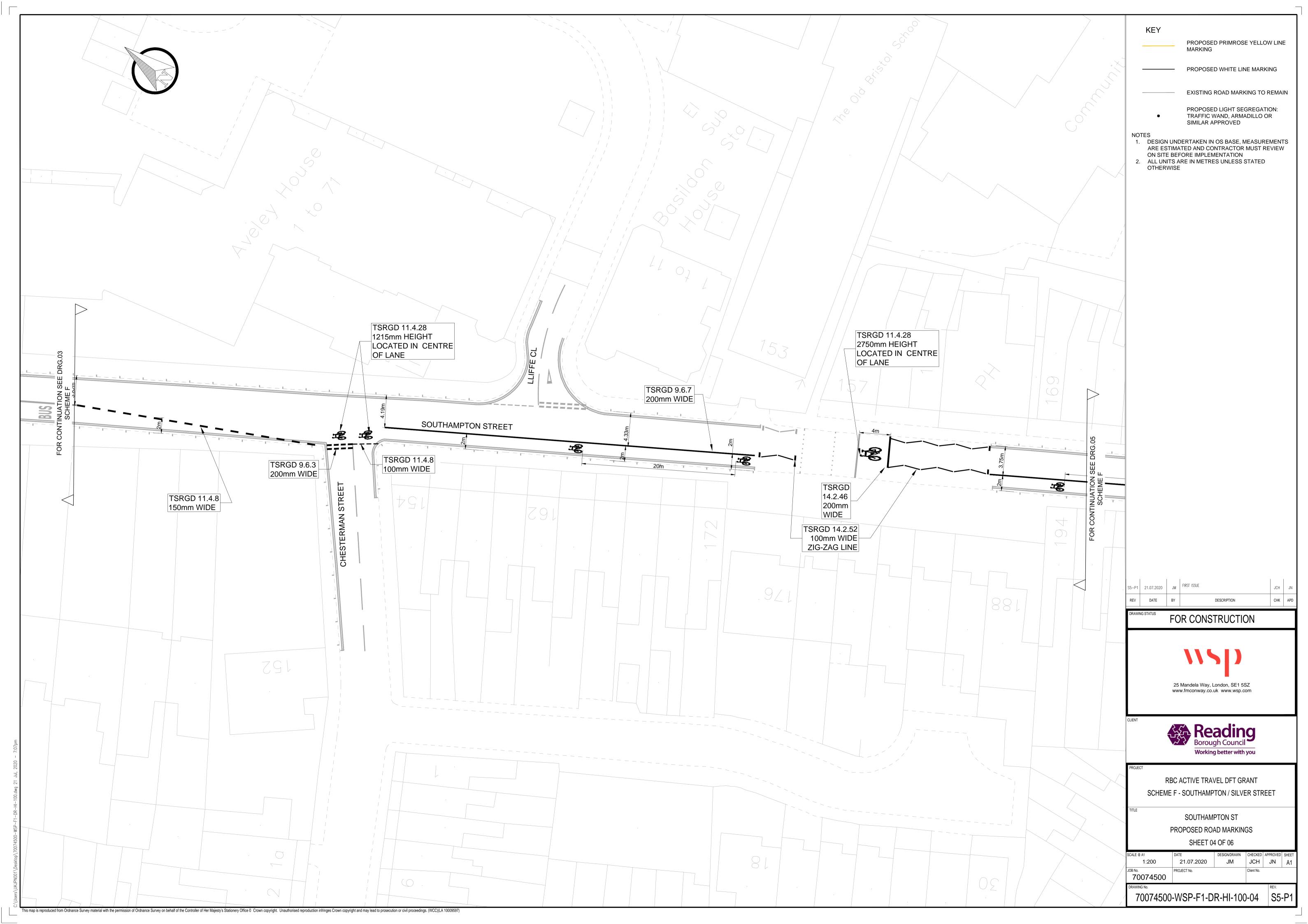
These facilities provide important links to/from the forthcoming Tranche 2 scheme on Shinfield Road, in addition to their current links toward/away from the town centre and through this retail area. There are wider strategies that will, once funding is available, look at options to extend these links further into the town centre, particularly focussing on the two junctions at either side of Crown Street and the section of Southampton Street between Crown Street and the roundabout with the IDR, whether these are cycle-specific or use of bus lanes through the Council's indicative successful funding bid for its Bus Service Improvement Plan (BSIP).

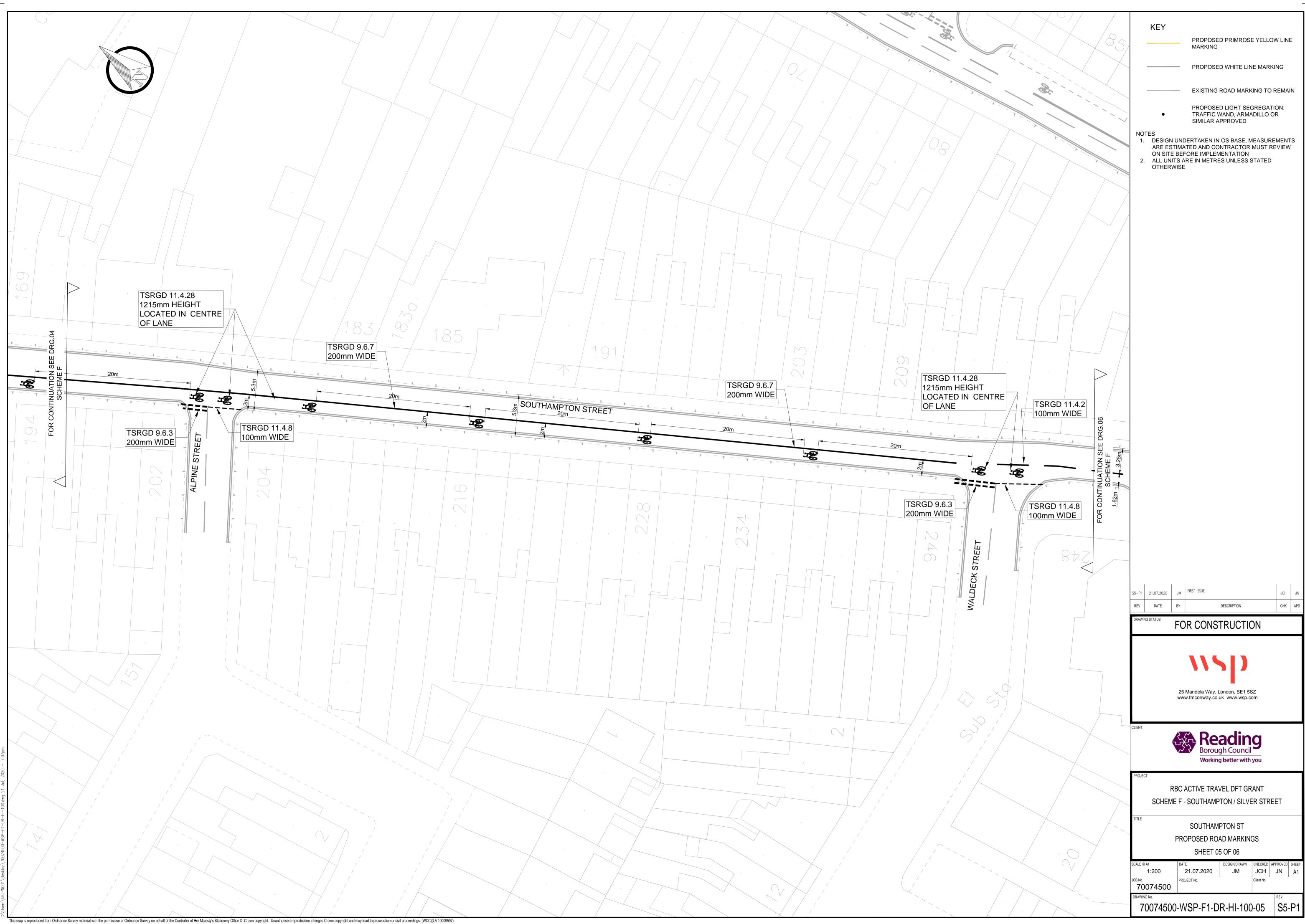
Other general points are raised in the main report.

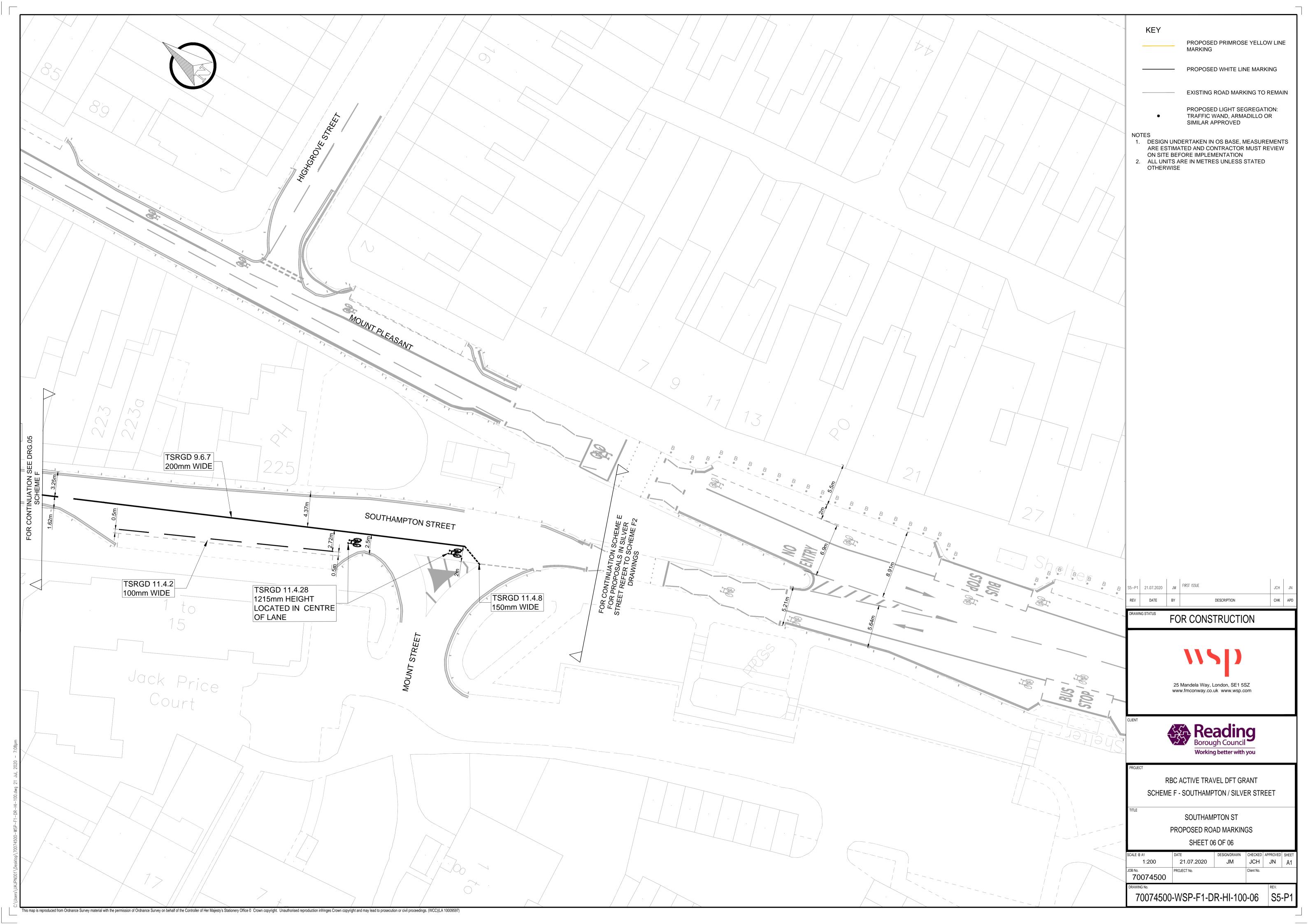
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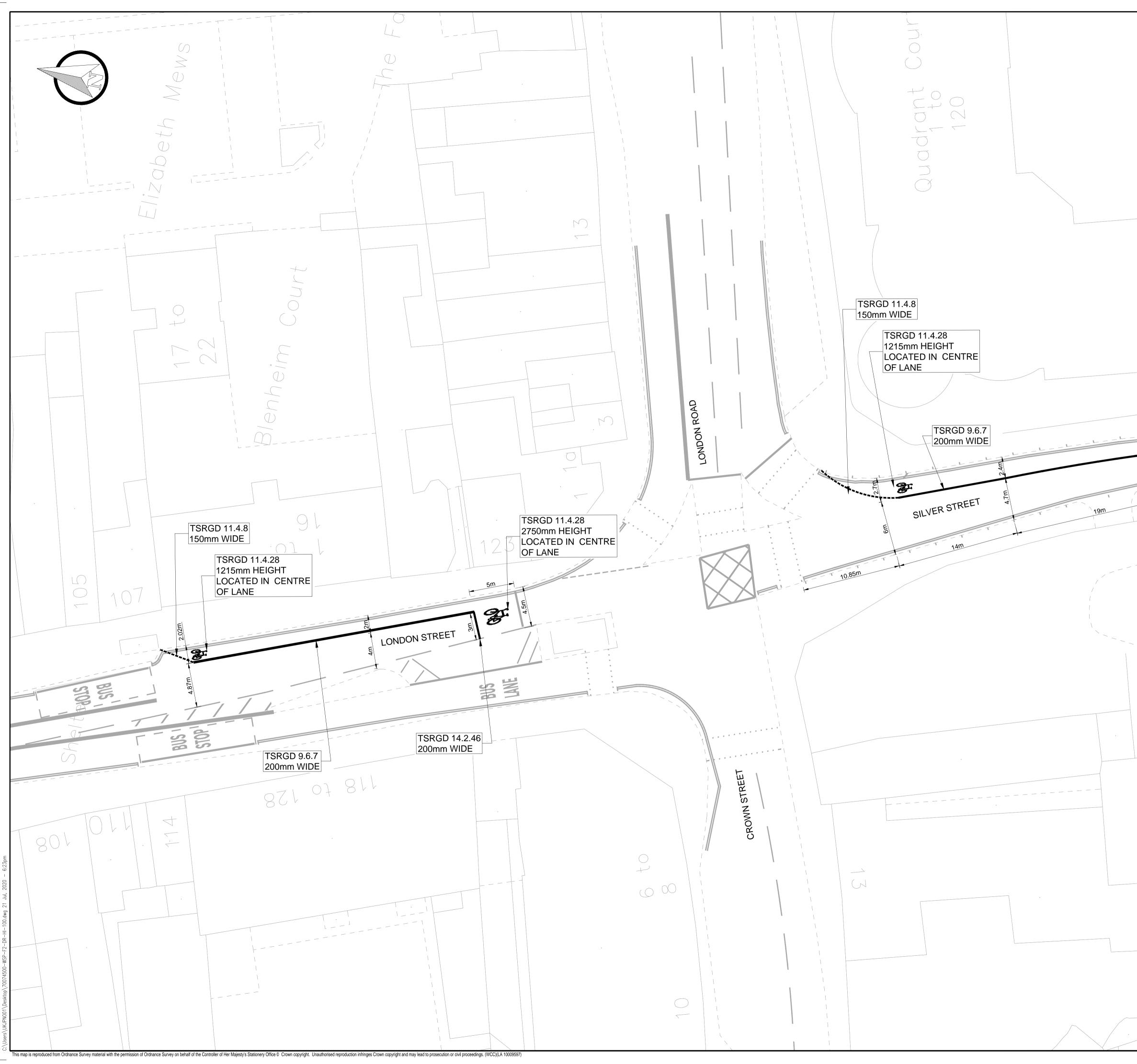
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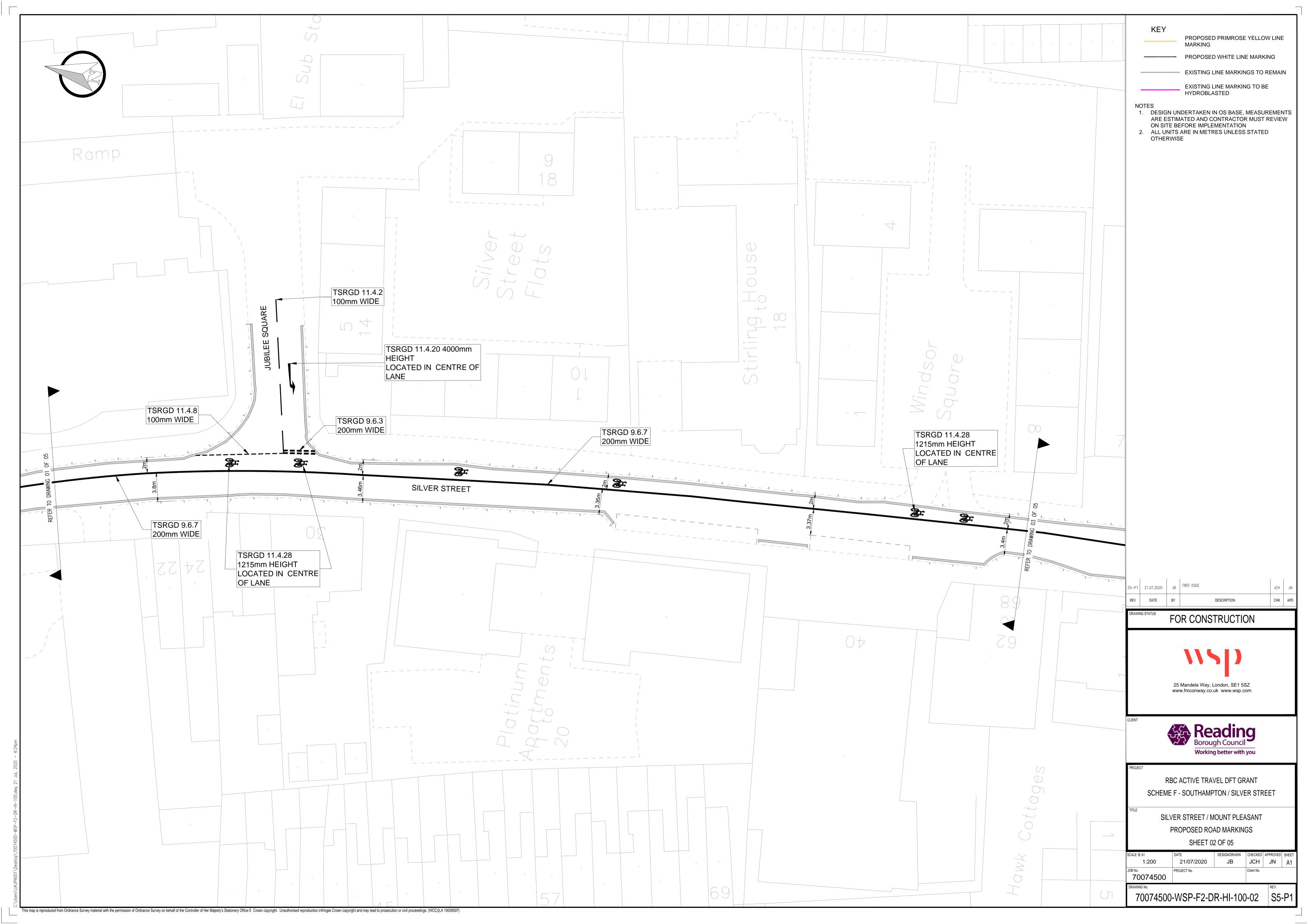


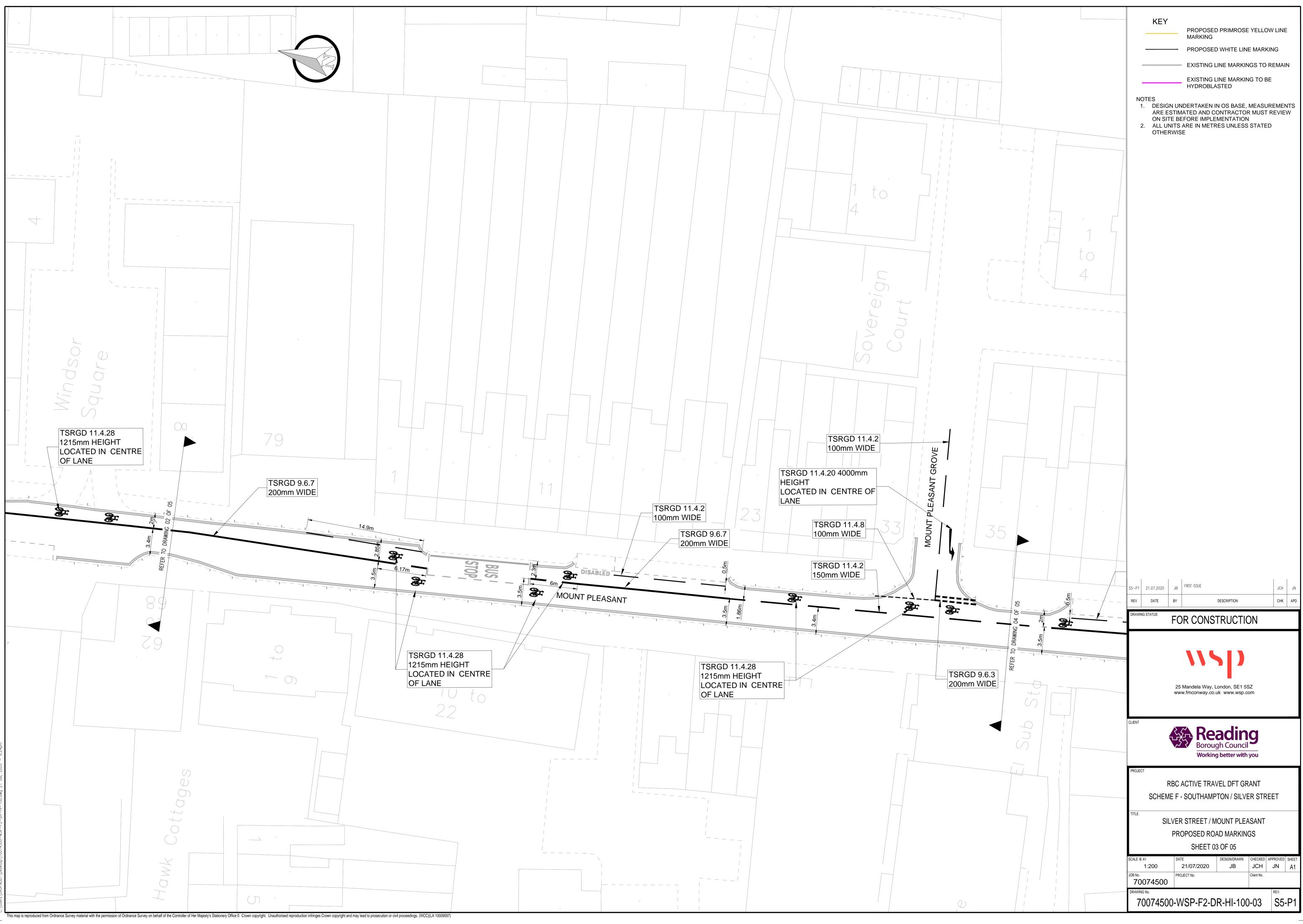




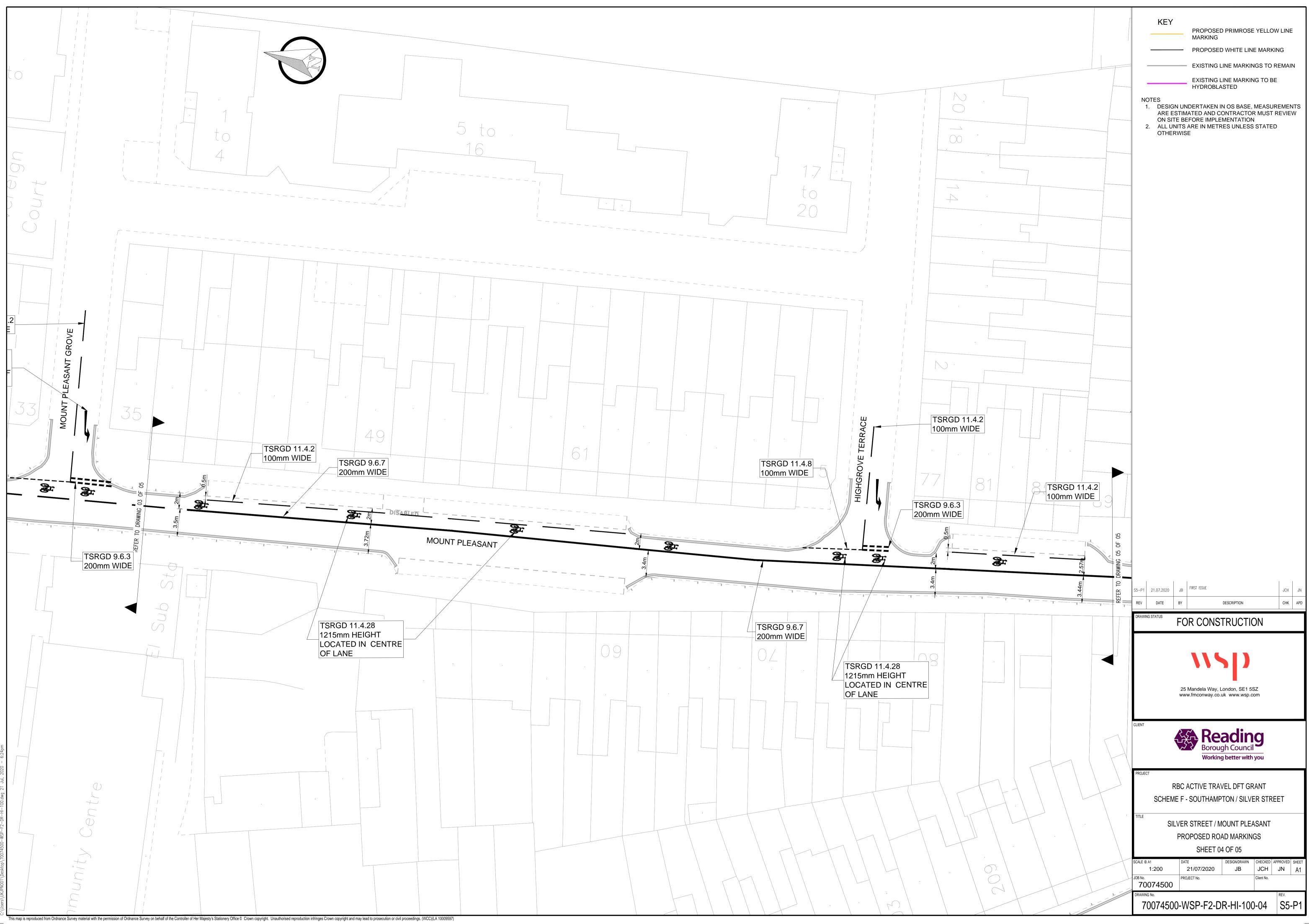


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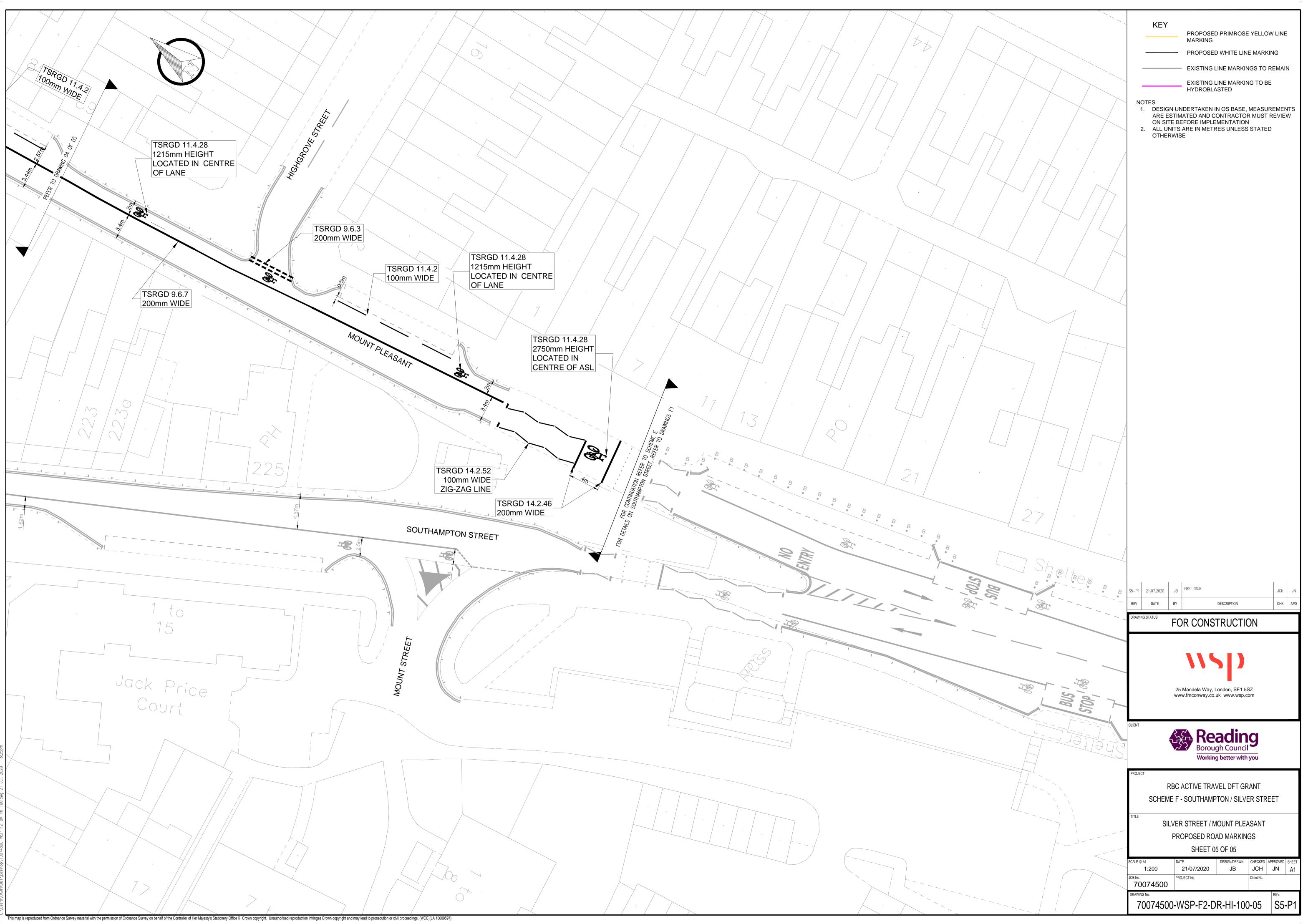




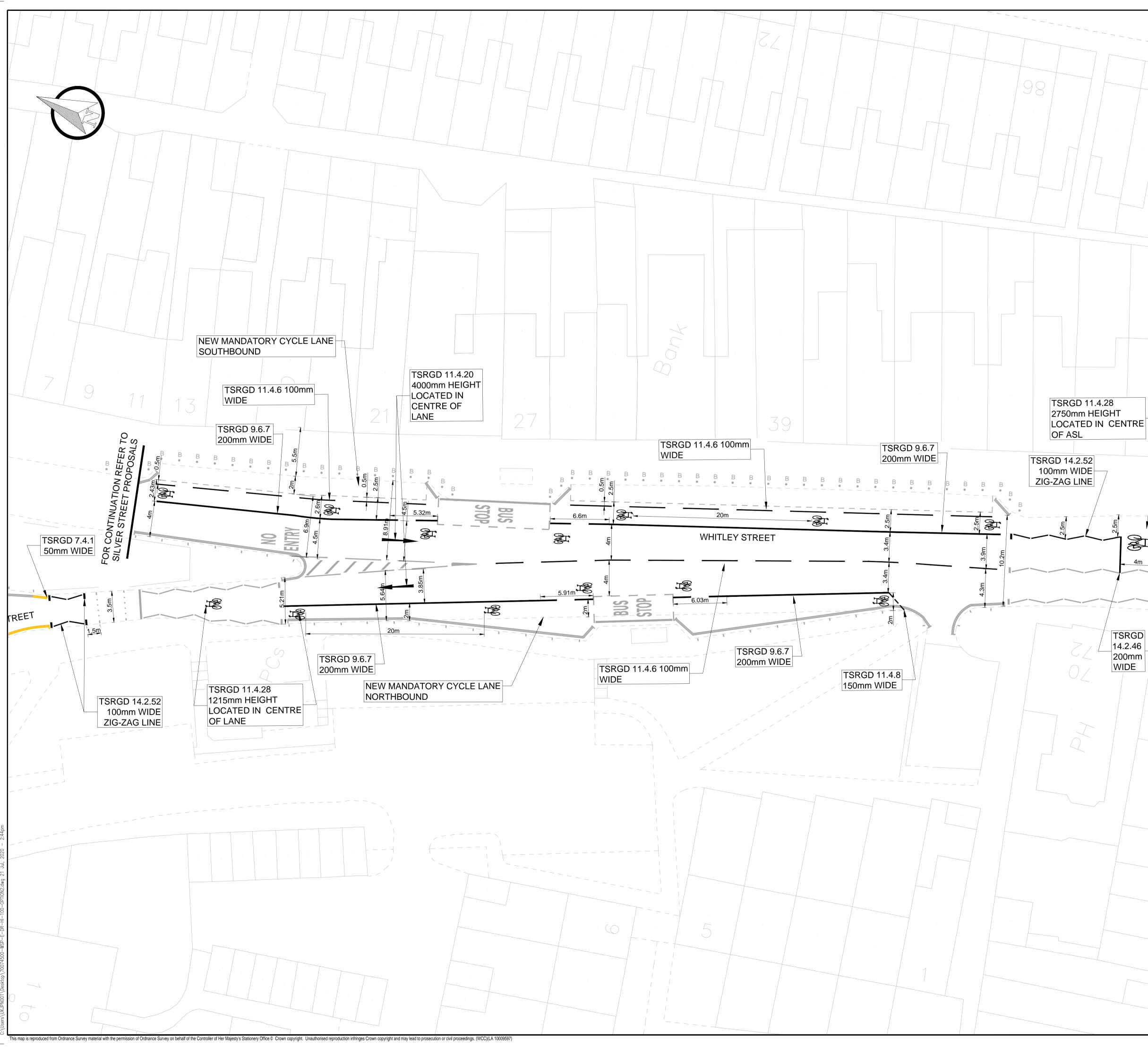
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Scheme

3: Oxford Road

Scheme Summary

Reallocation of road space to create new advisory cycle lanes (predominantly in Tilehurst) and the addition of cycle symbols (lining) along this route.

Necessary / Desirable Alterations (scheme-specific)

Shorter-term

- There is a desire to widen the existing 'buffer zones' where the lanes pass parking bays. This may not be possible in all locations, due to the space constrains.
- Consider treatments to narrow the available carriageway around the roundabouts at Overdown Road and Cranbourne Gardens/Waitrose to reduce vehicle speeds.
- Consider treatments around the pedestrian refuge island to the east of the roundabout at Cranbourne Gardens to narrow the useable carriageway and discourage motorist attempts at overtaking cyclists.

Longer-term

- It would be desirable to implement some enhancements to the carriageway edge, which would not typically fall within 'maintenance' of the carriageway. These include investigating gully covers and other elements that would improve the experience for cyclists.
- Other elements raised in the cover report, applying to all schemes and the ambition for upgrades as part of larger, strategic schemes.

Additional Comments/Background

Usage counts over 12-hour daytime period in June 2021:

- o 85 westbound, taken by Constitution Road
- o 31 eastbound and 28 westbound, near to Waitrose roundabout
- o 46 eastbound and 36 westbound, in Tilehurst section

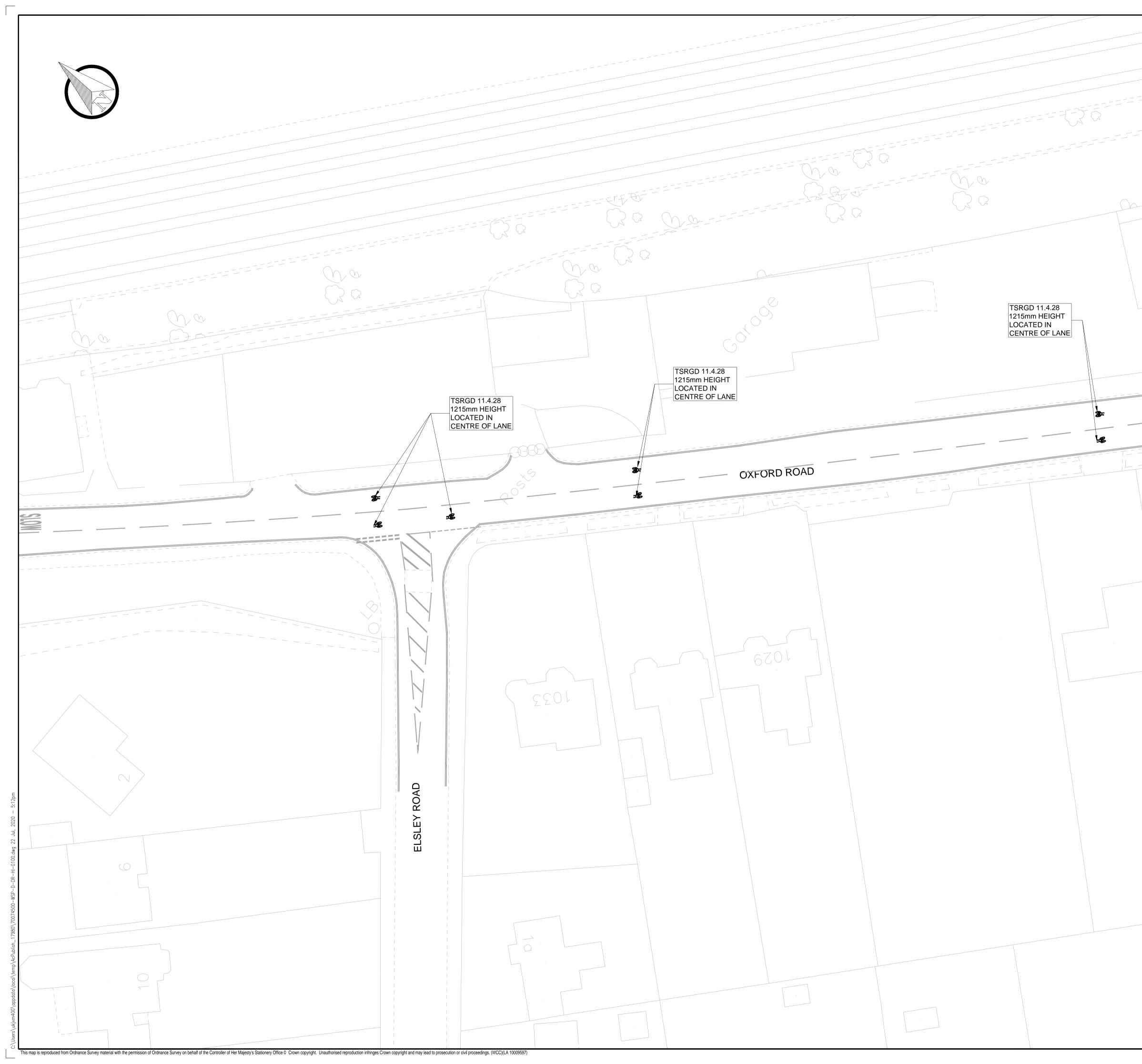
It is expected that strategic projects, such as the Oxford Road Coridor Study, could support further desirable improvements, including whether the westbound approach to the traffic signals at Grovelands Road could be reduced to a single lane for general traffic and enabling a cycle facility (or shared bus/cycle) to be integrated. The Council's recent indicative successful funding toward its Bus Service Improvement Plan also highlights priority bus links on the Oxford Road corridor, which are likely to enable cycle access to these lesser-trafficked facilities.

The recently-installed controlled crossing on Oxford Road, to the east of the roundabout with Overdown Road, was future-proofed to include cycle crossing facilities, as there is a shared-use cycle/pedestrian facility on the north side. Future strategies can consider options to continue/link other facilities from the southern side, where this shared-use facility currently ends.

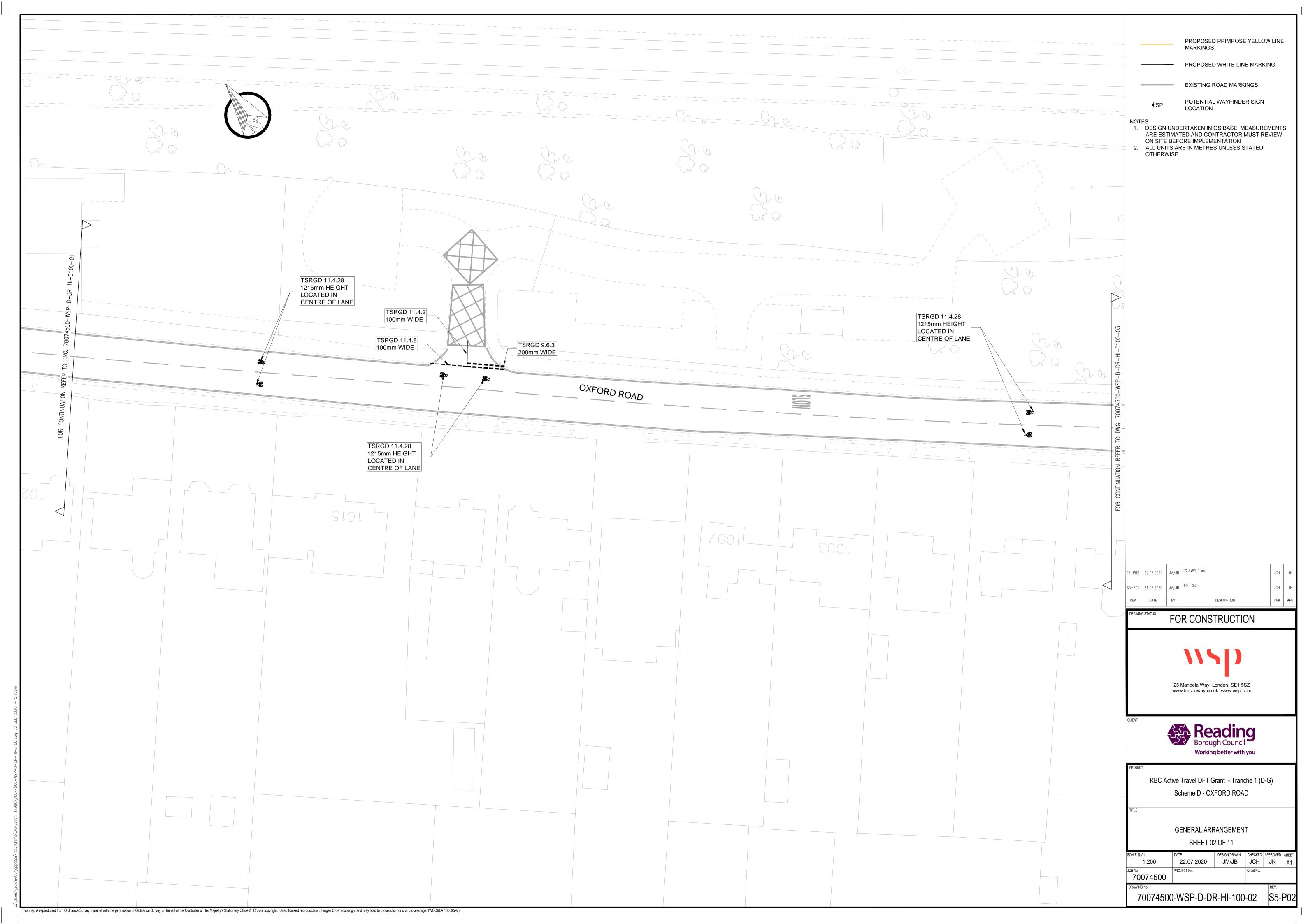
Other general points are raised in the main report.

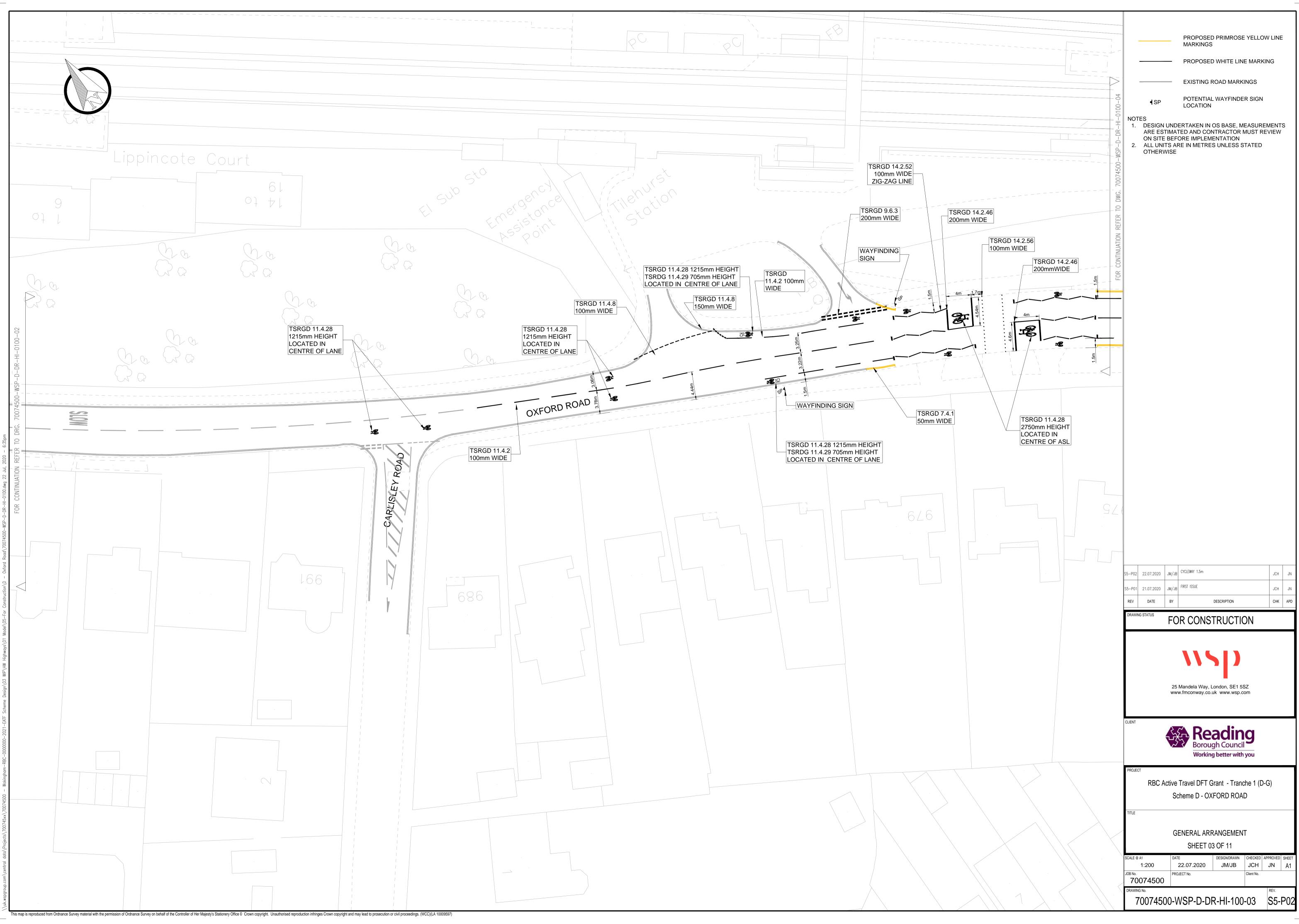
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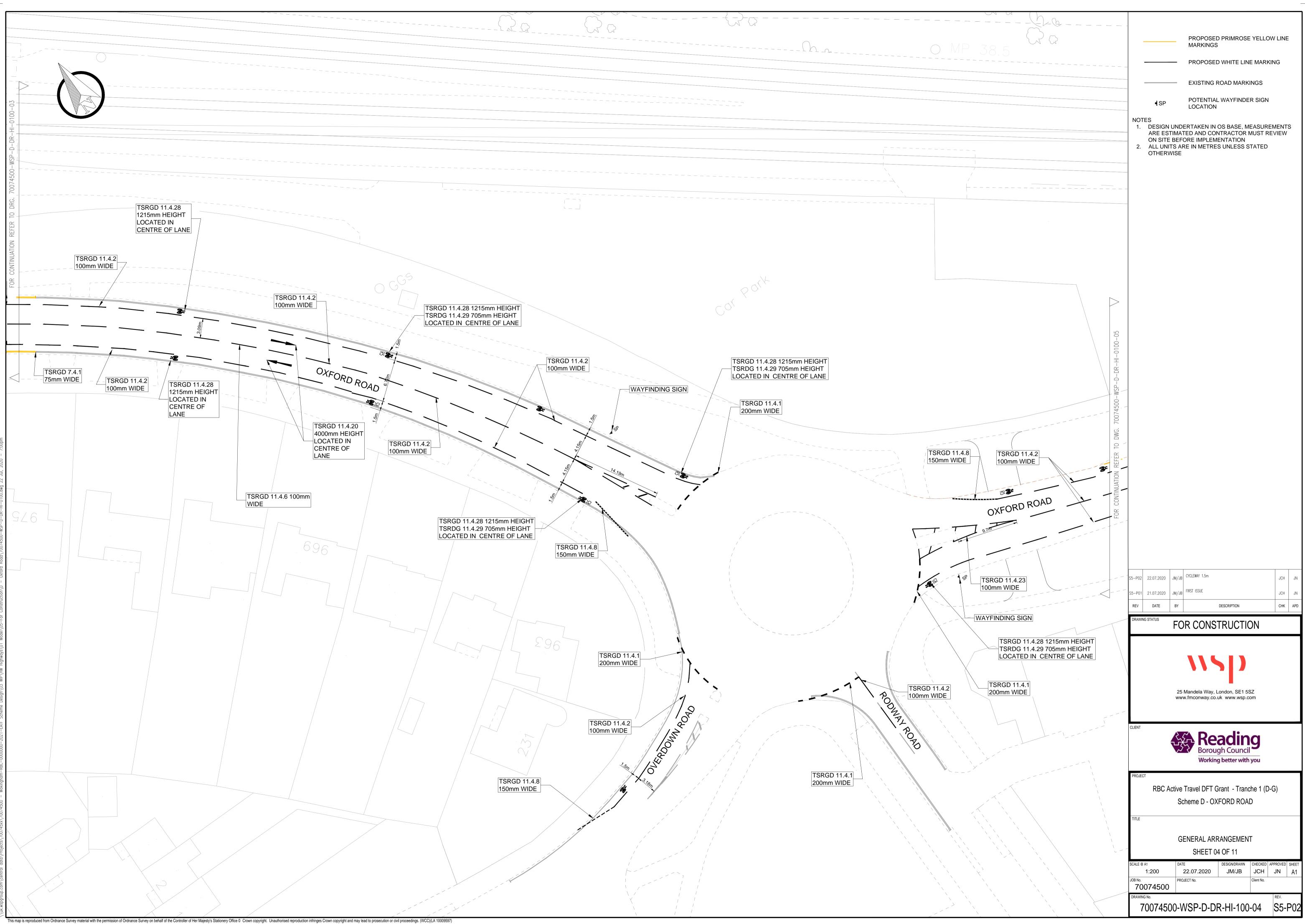
To be retained as a permanent scheme.

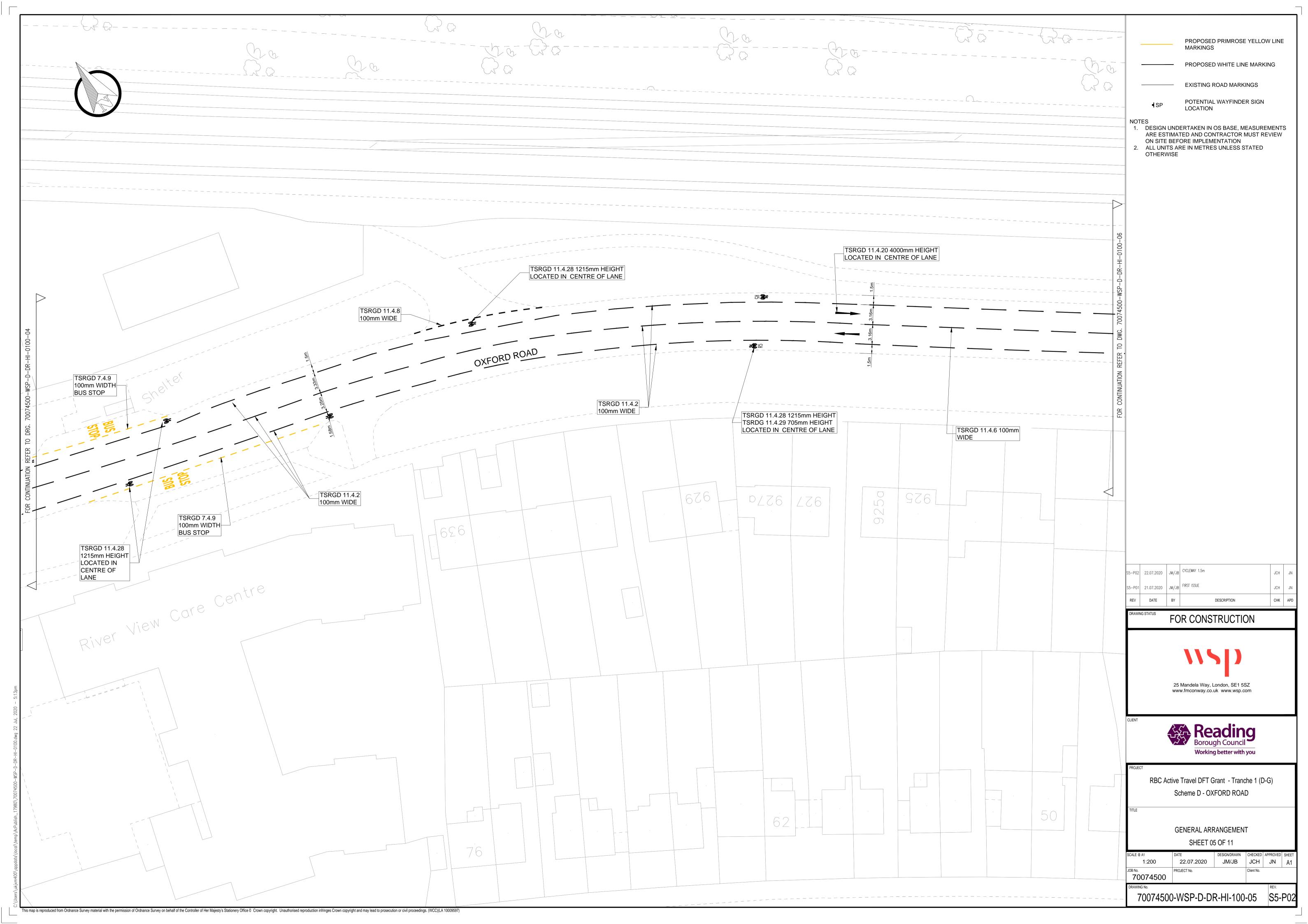


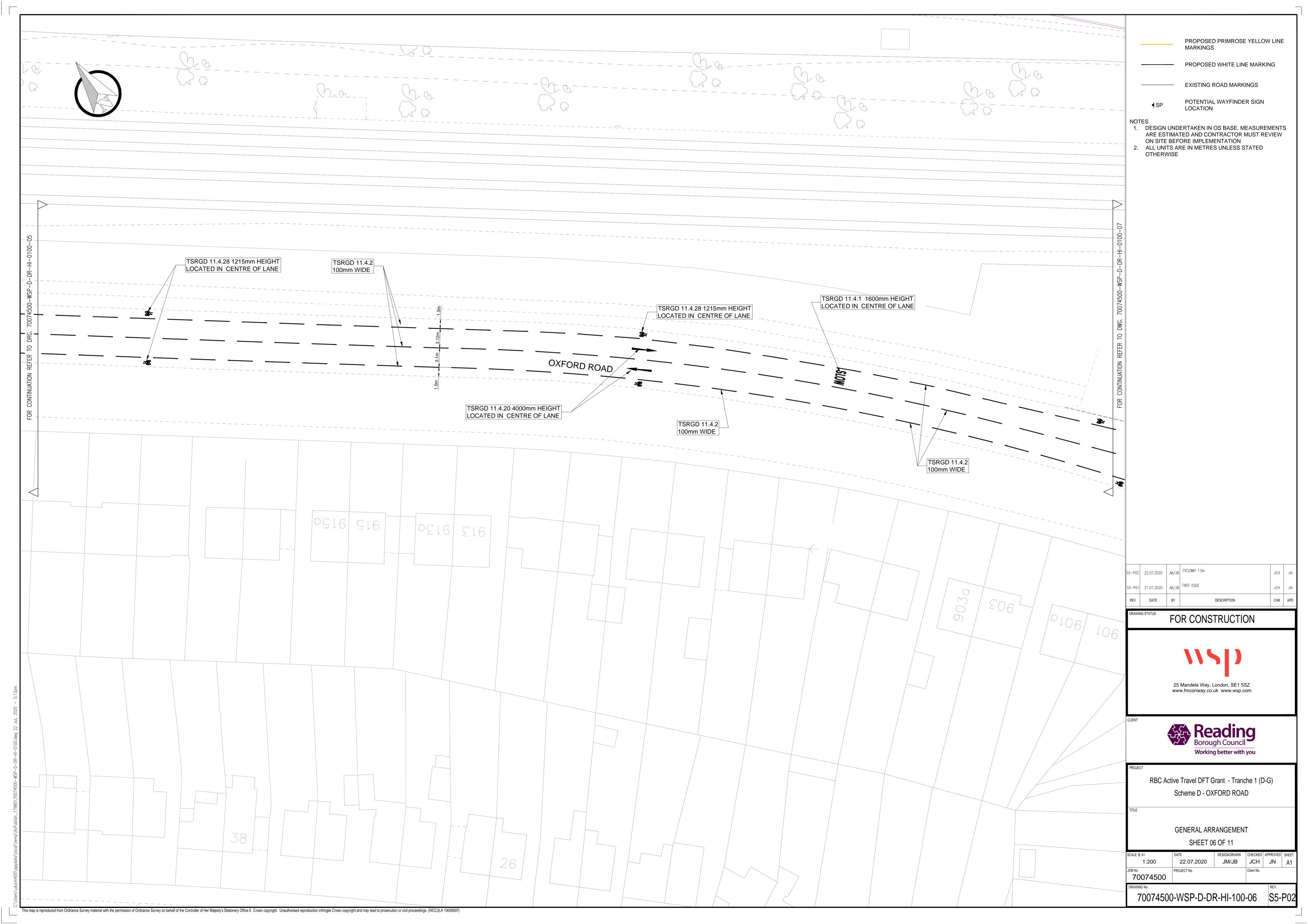
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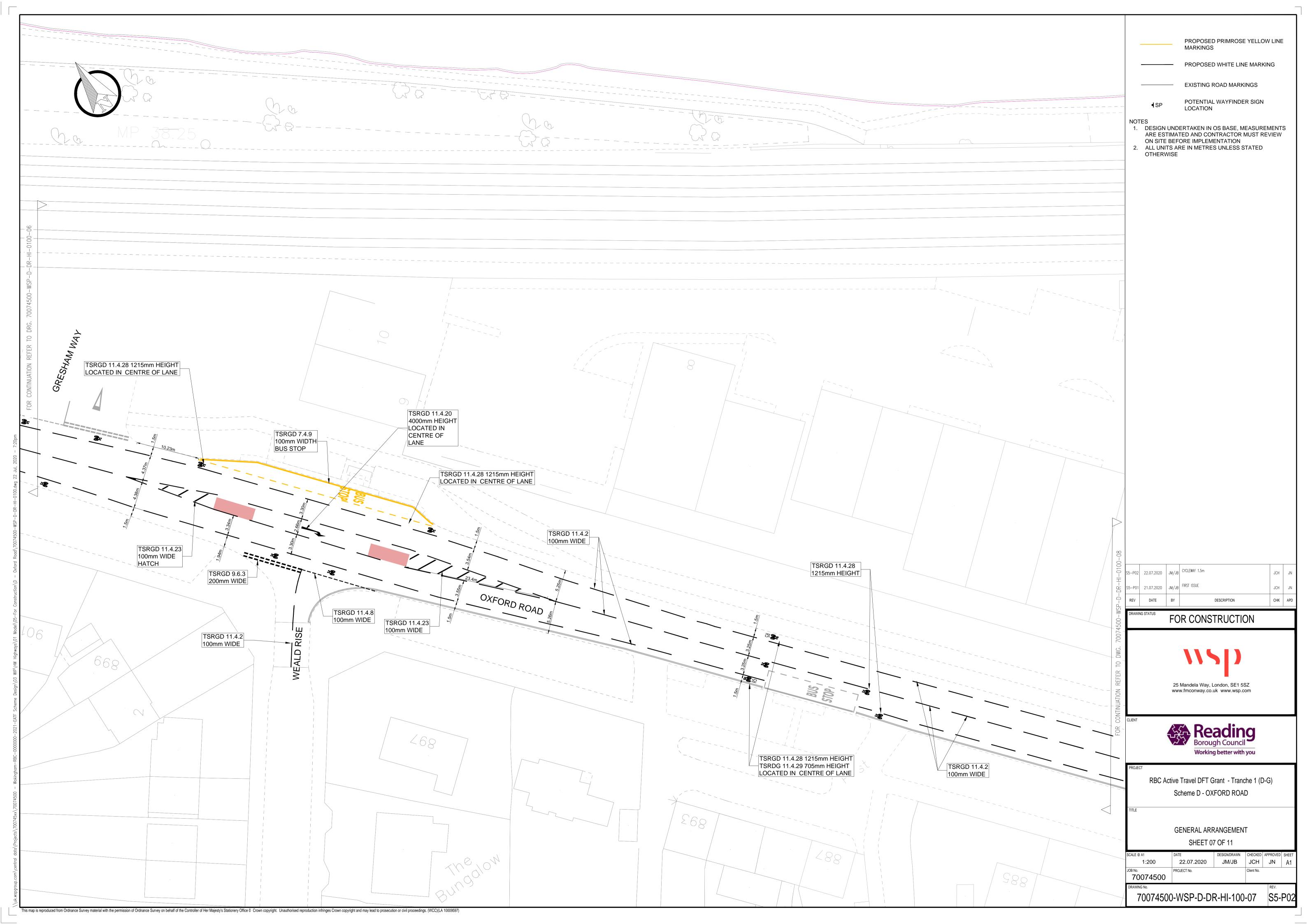


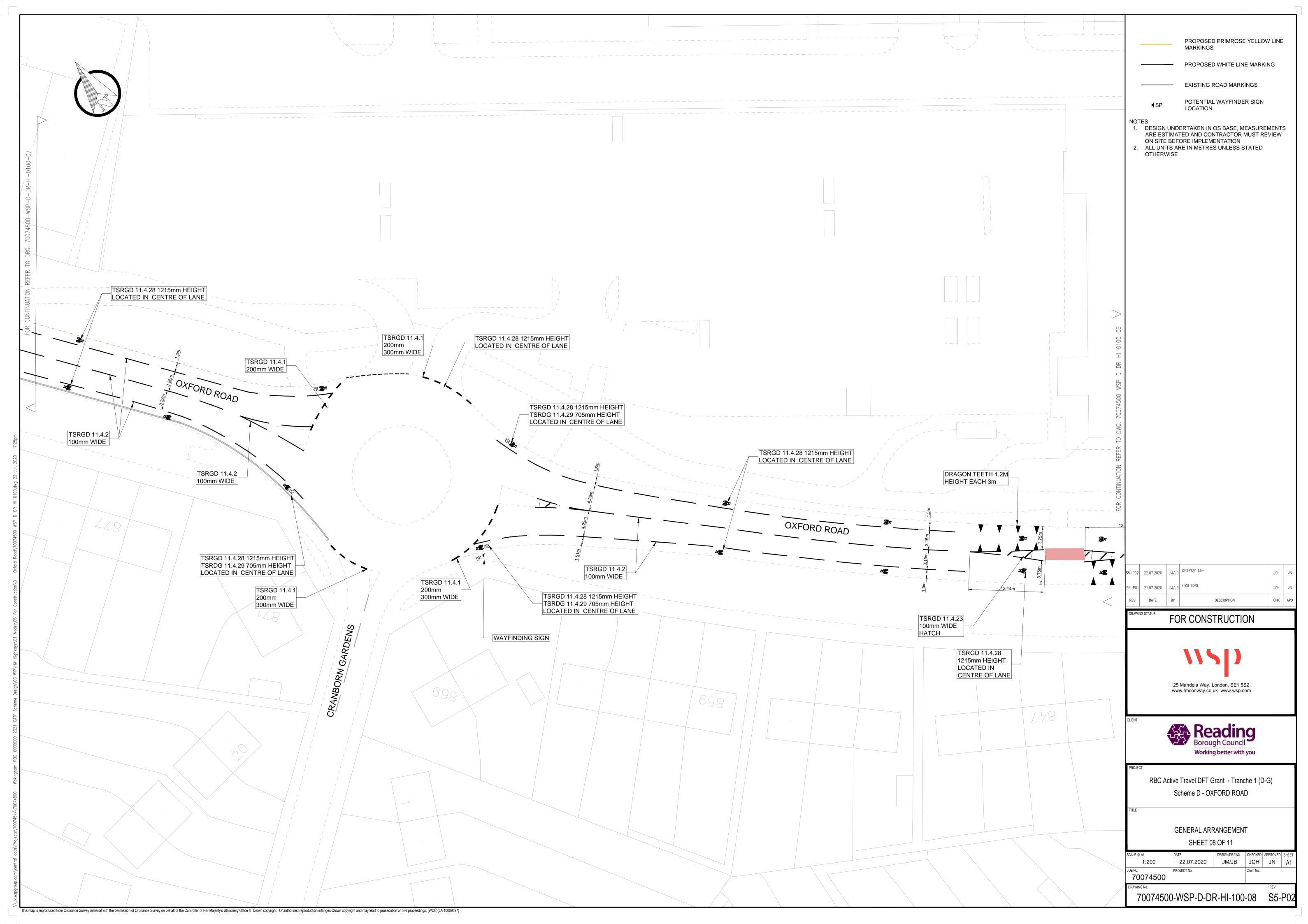


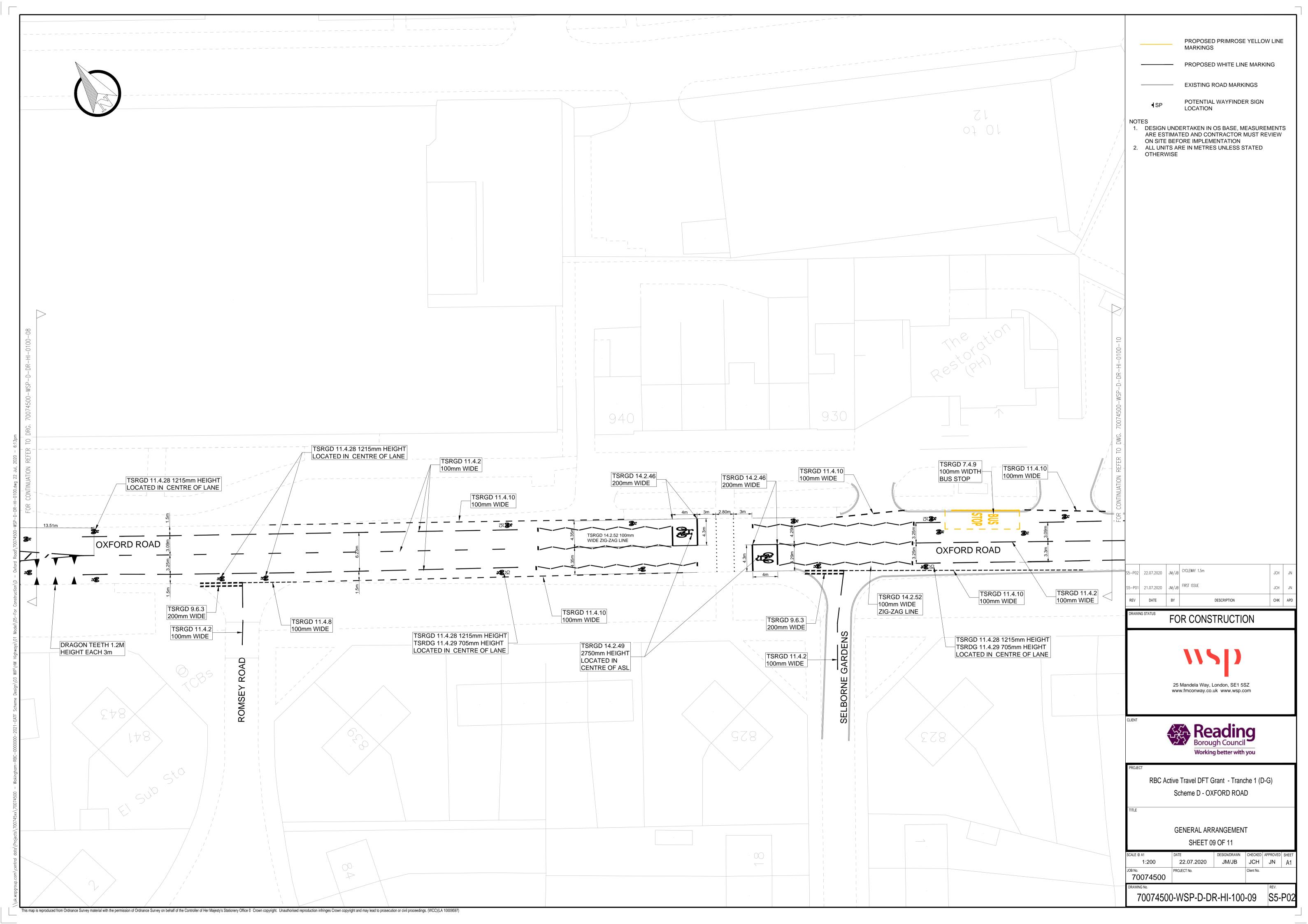


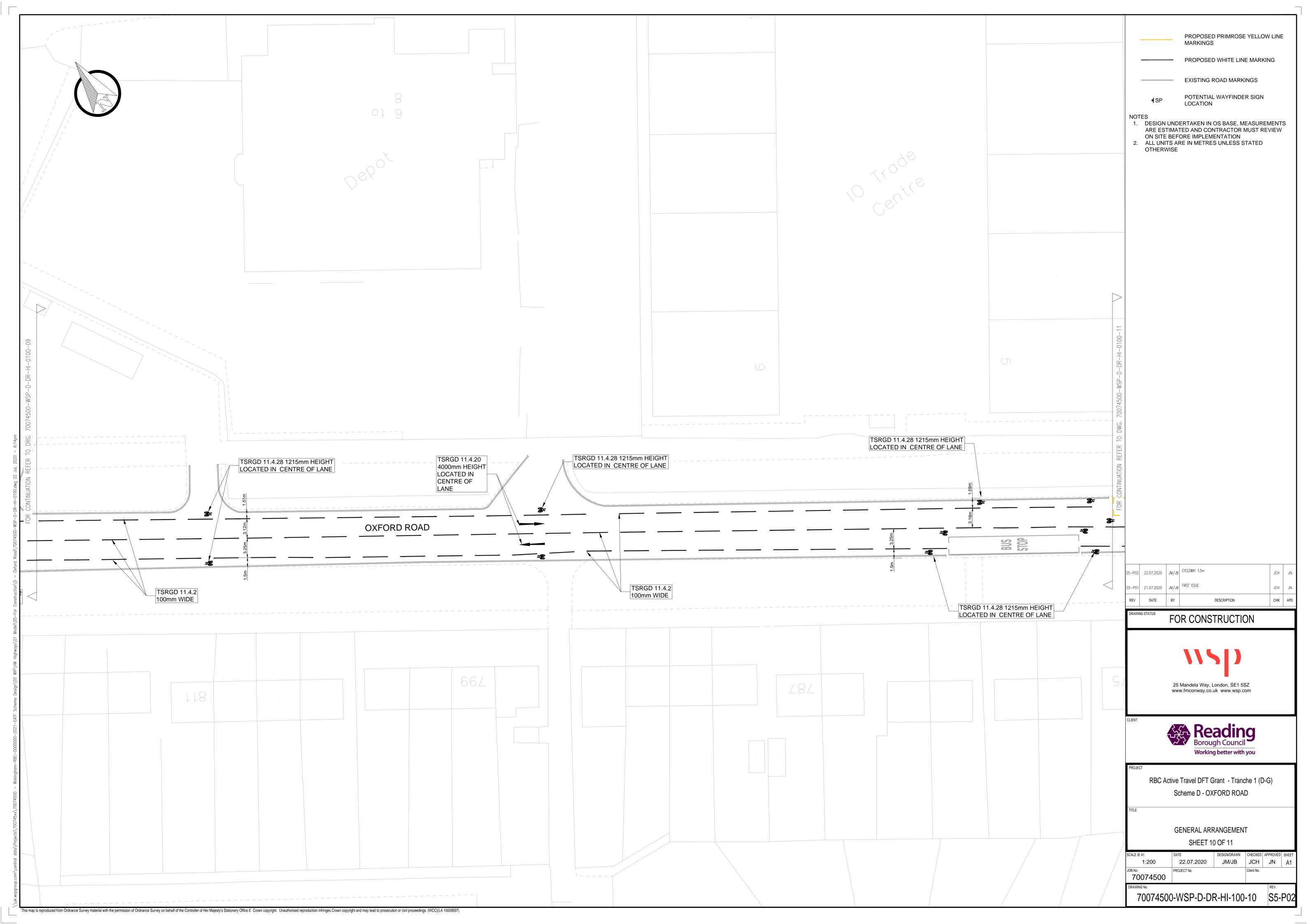


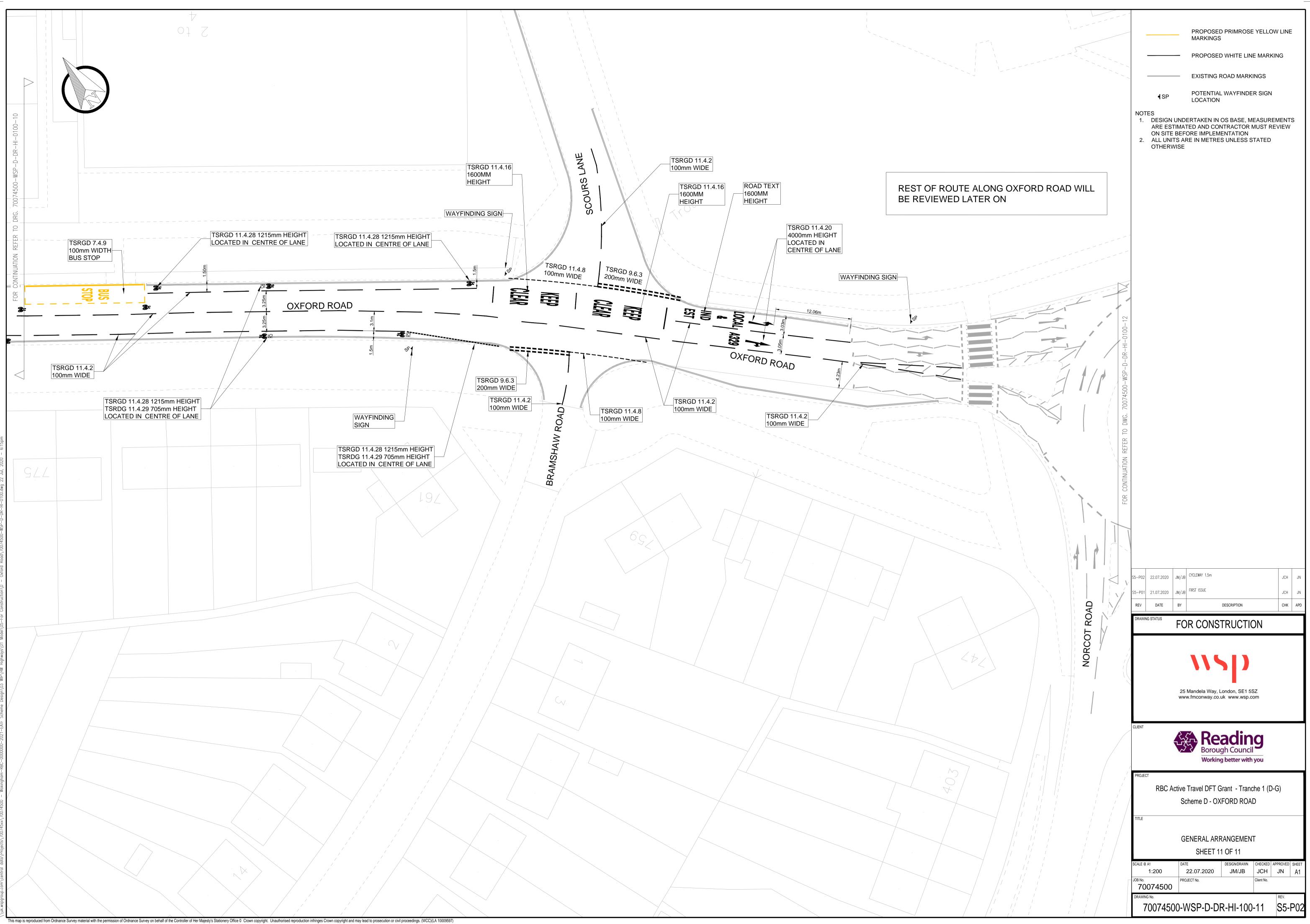


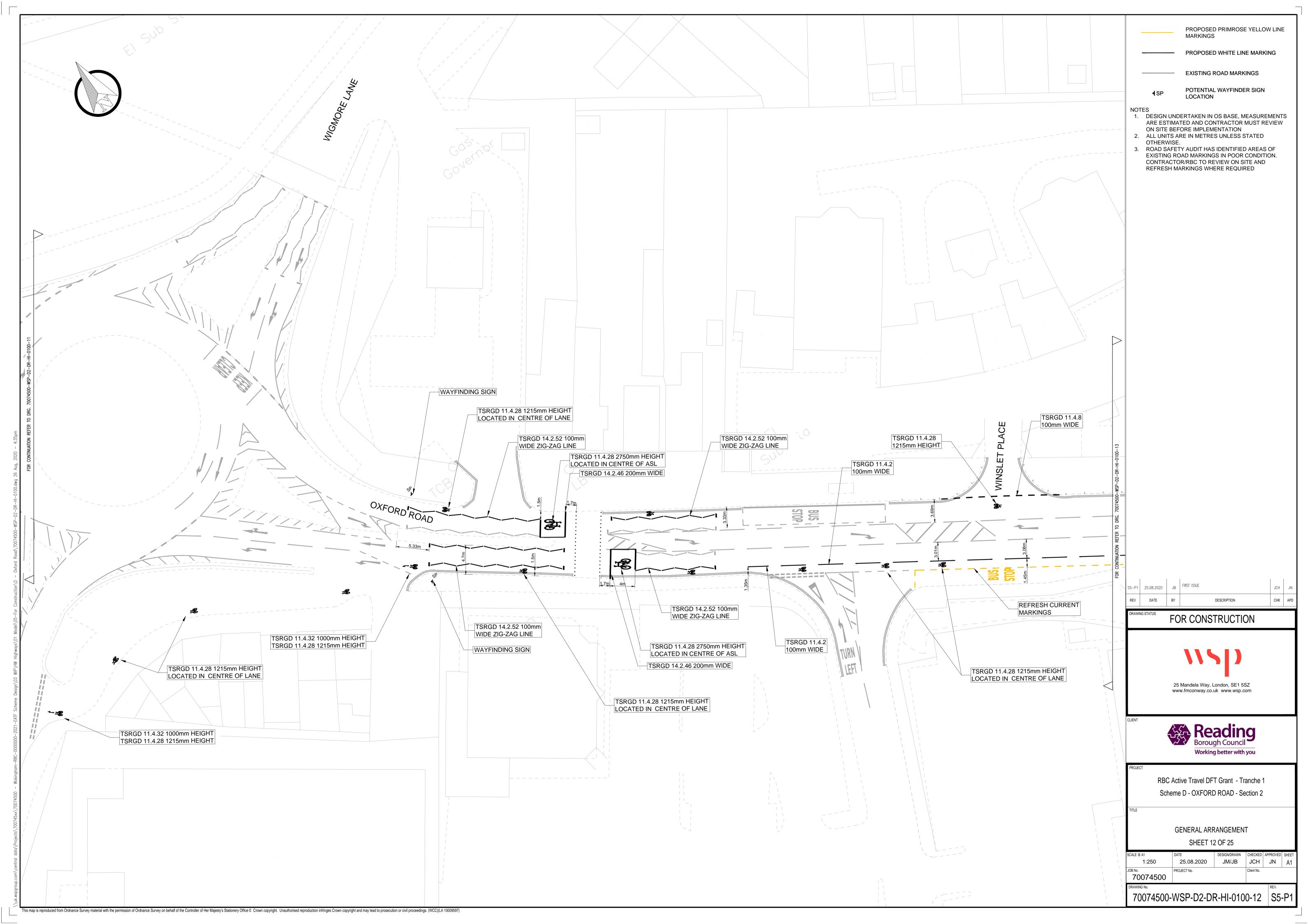




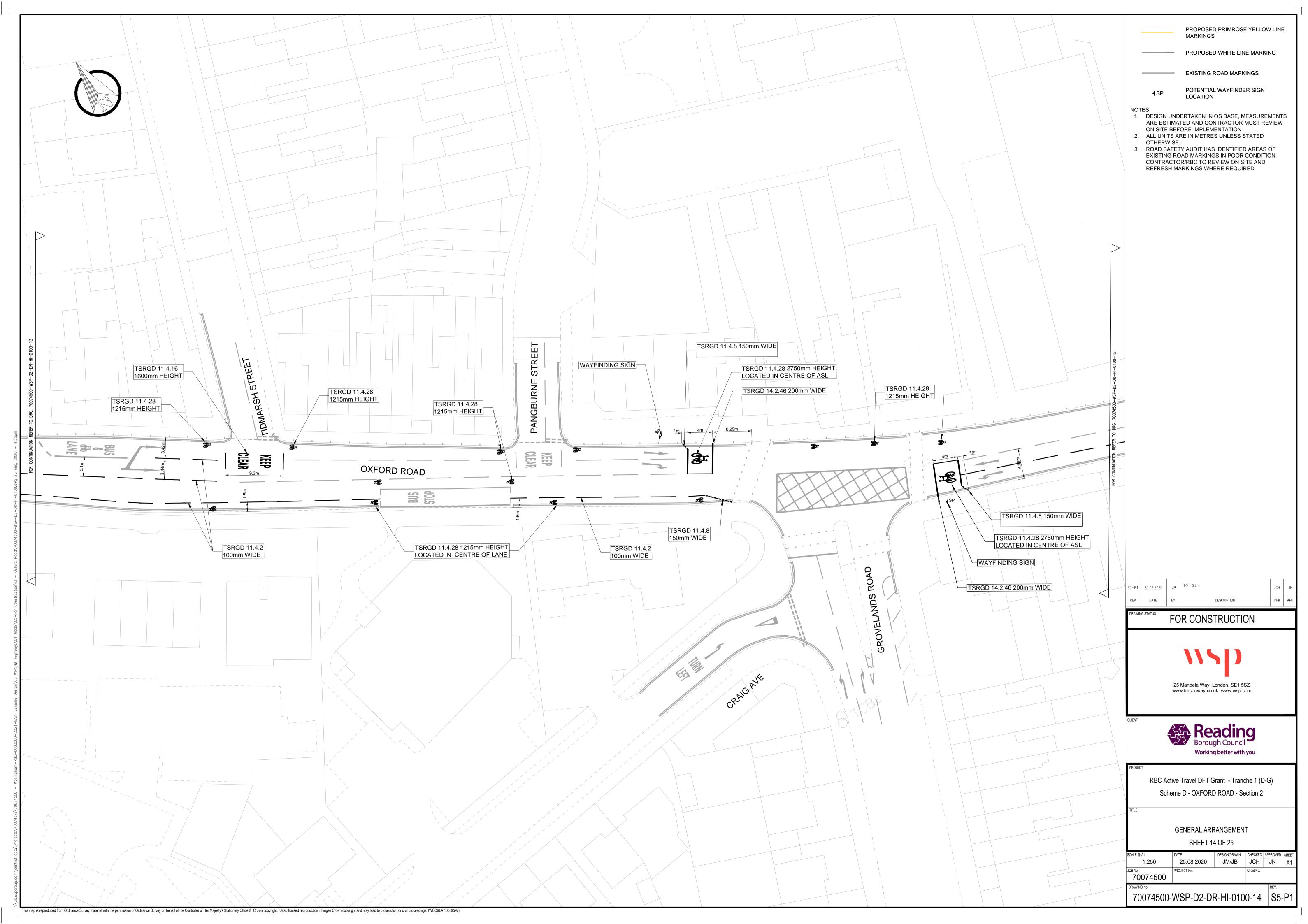


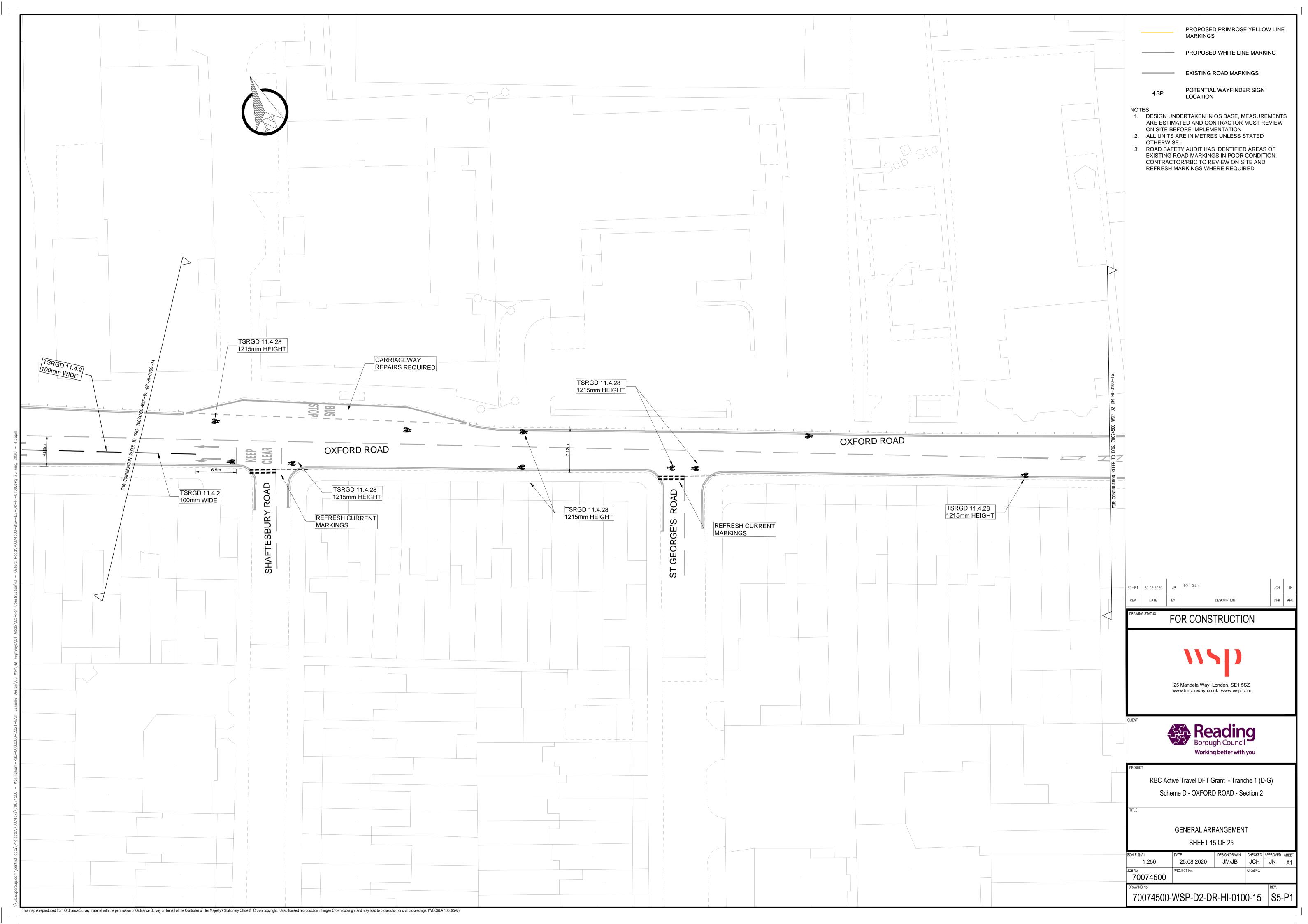


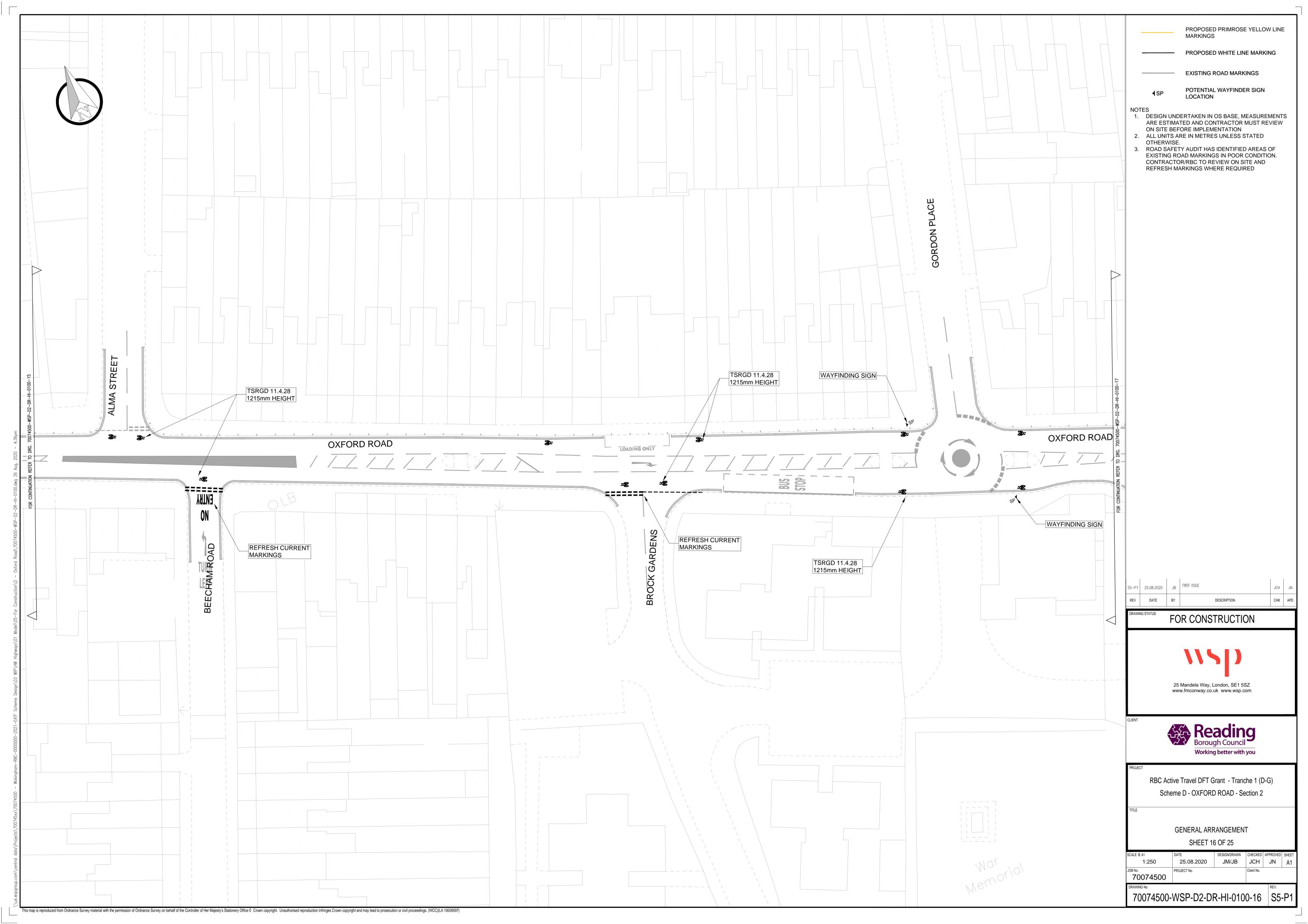


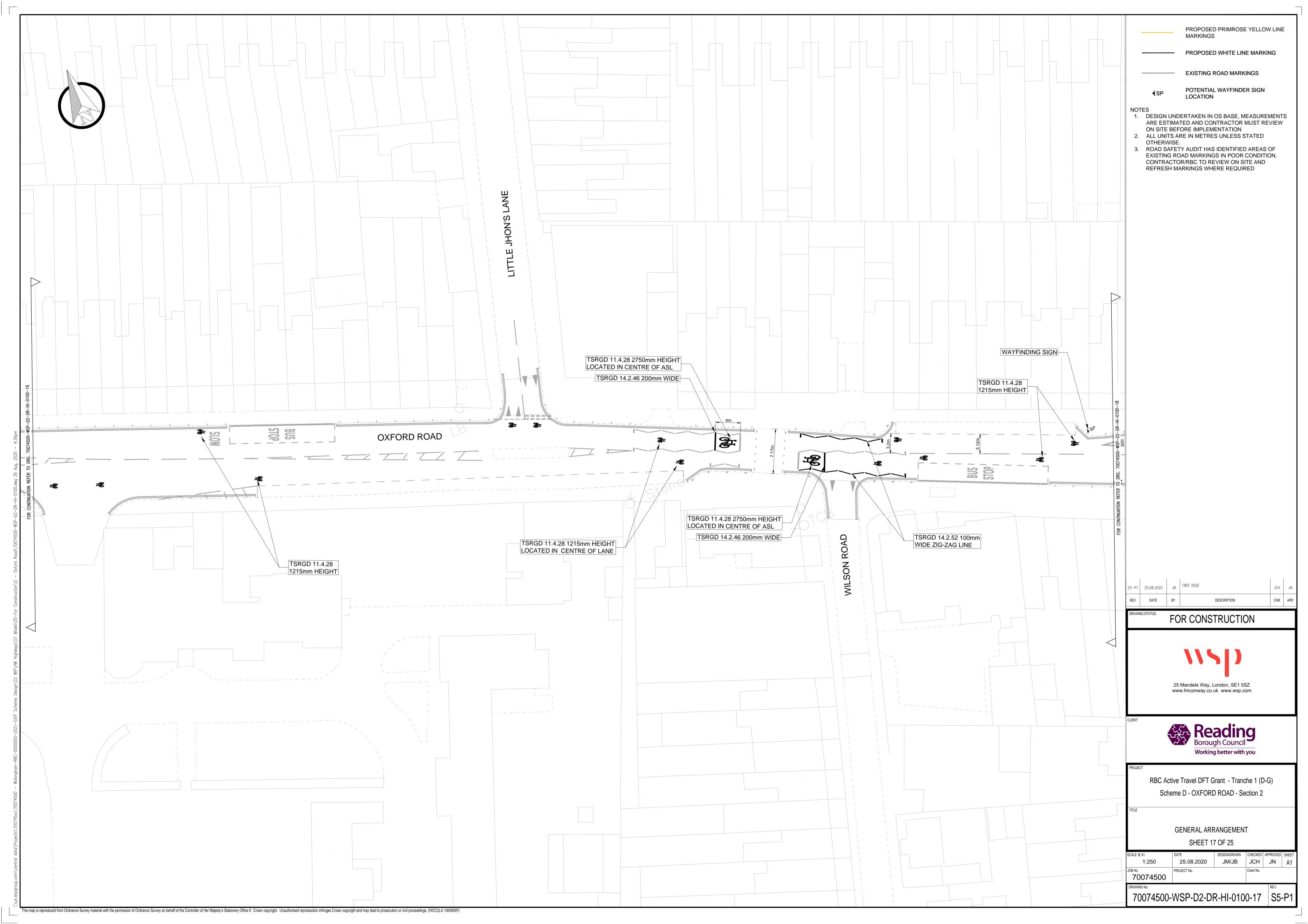


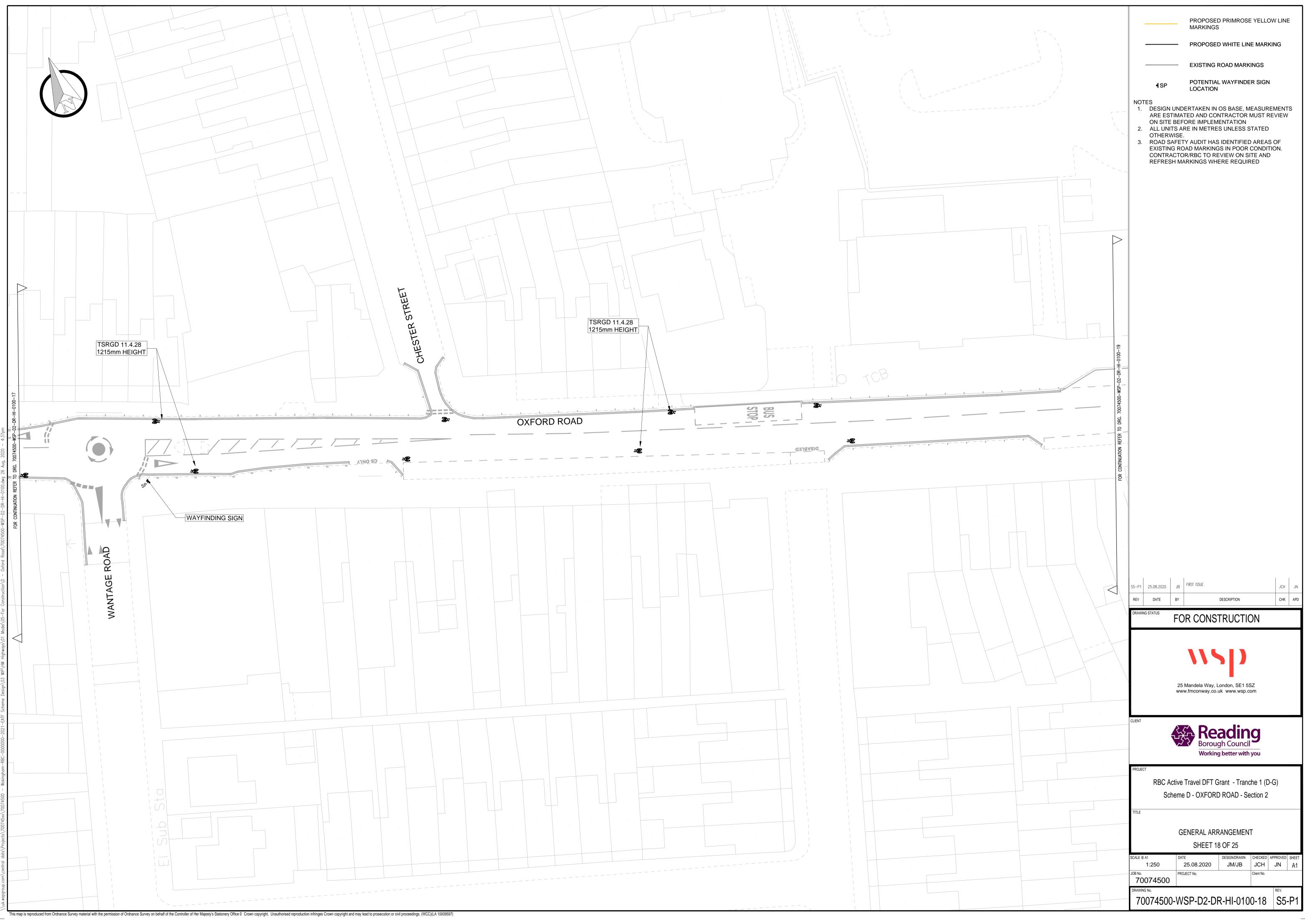


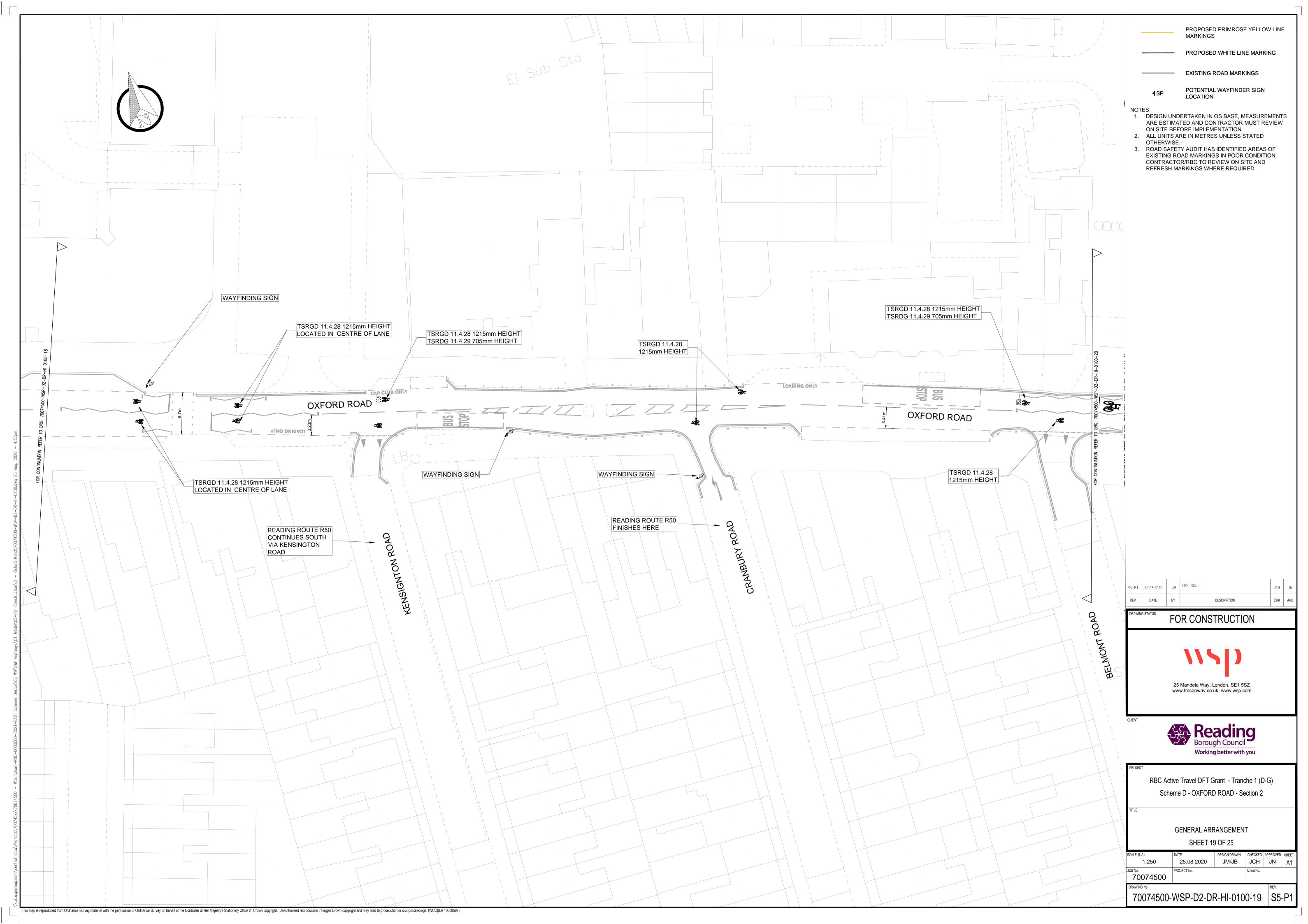


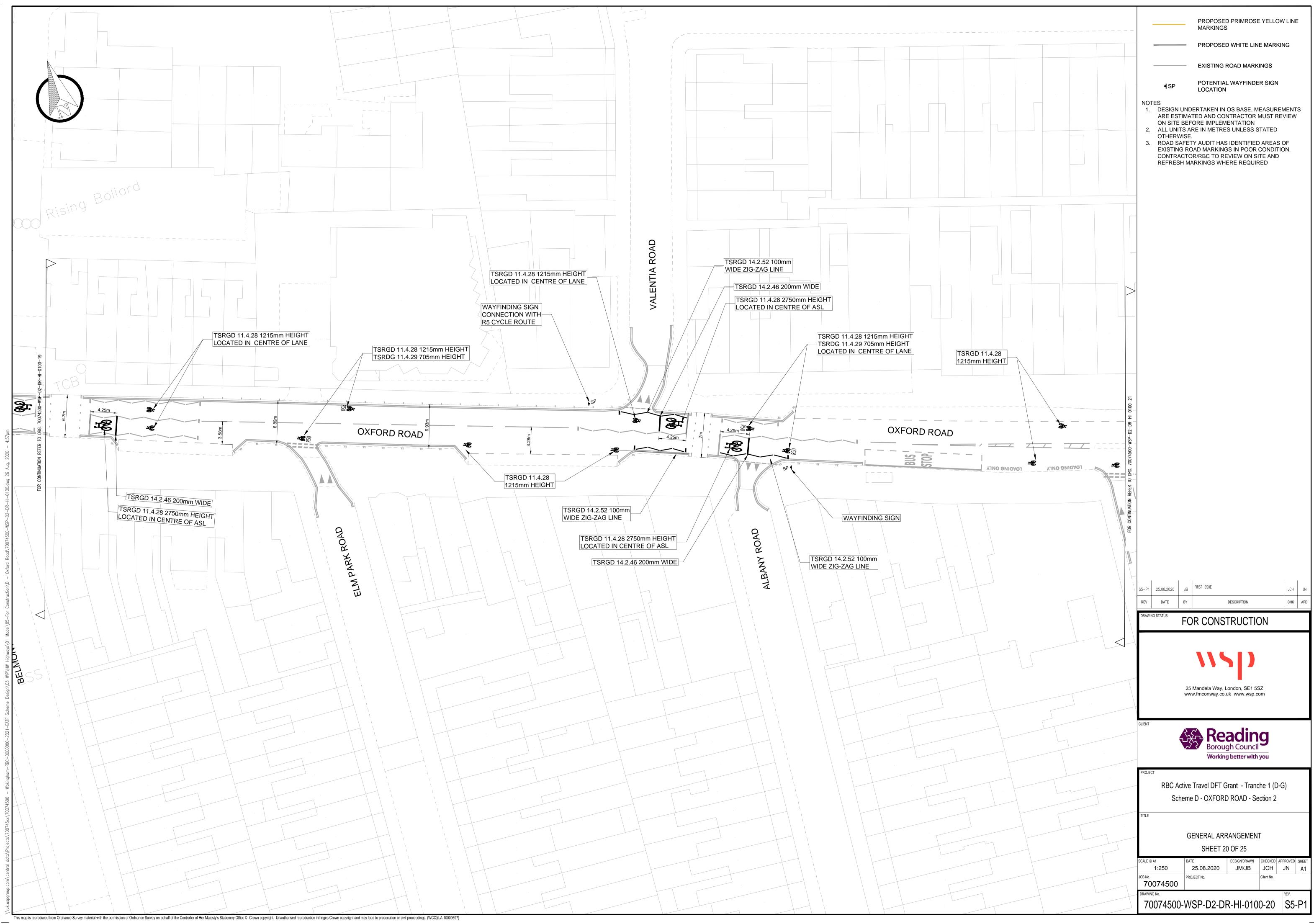


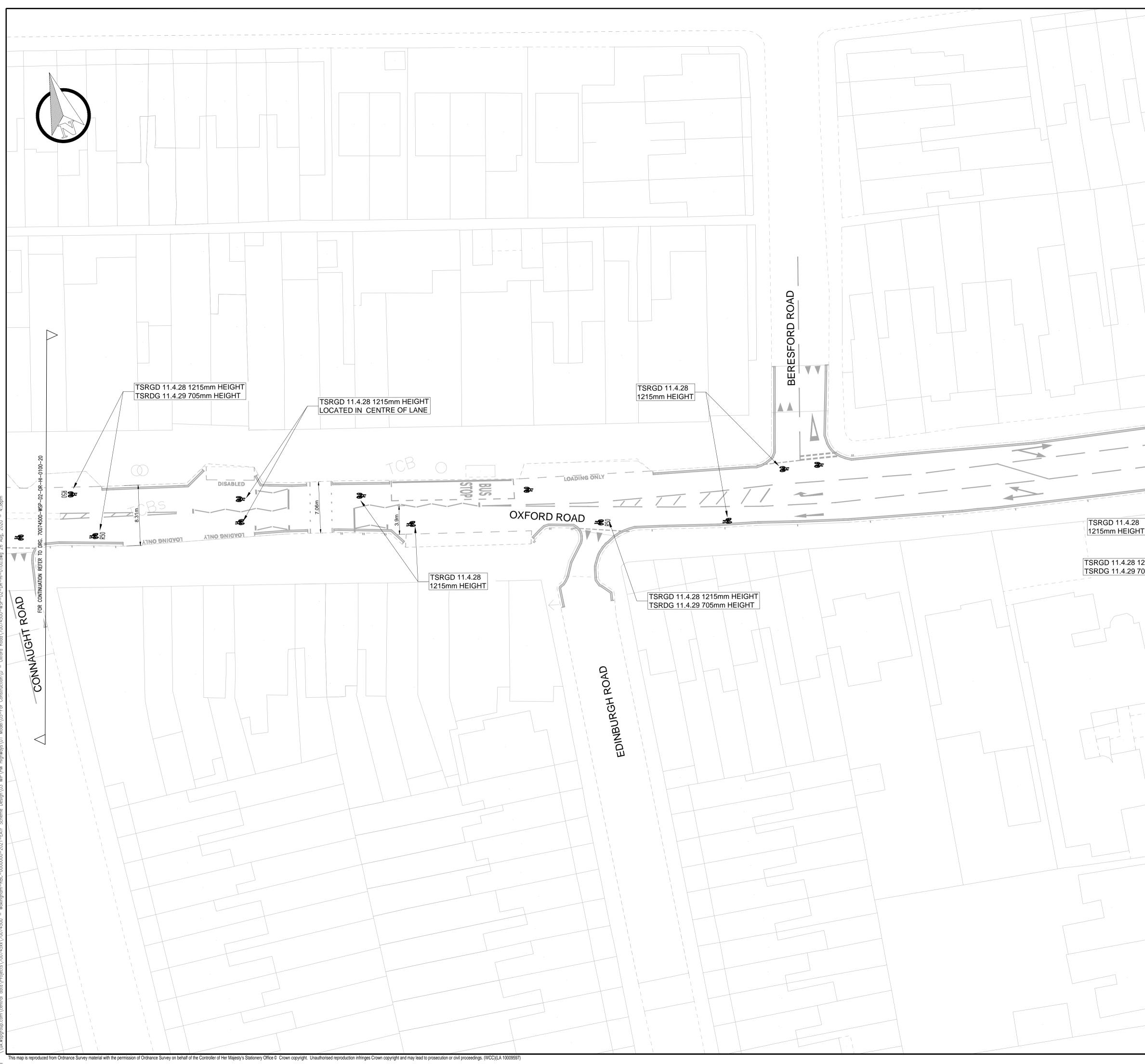




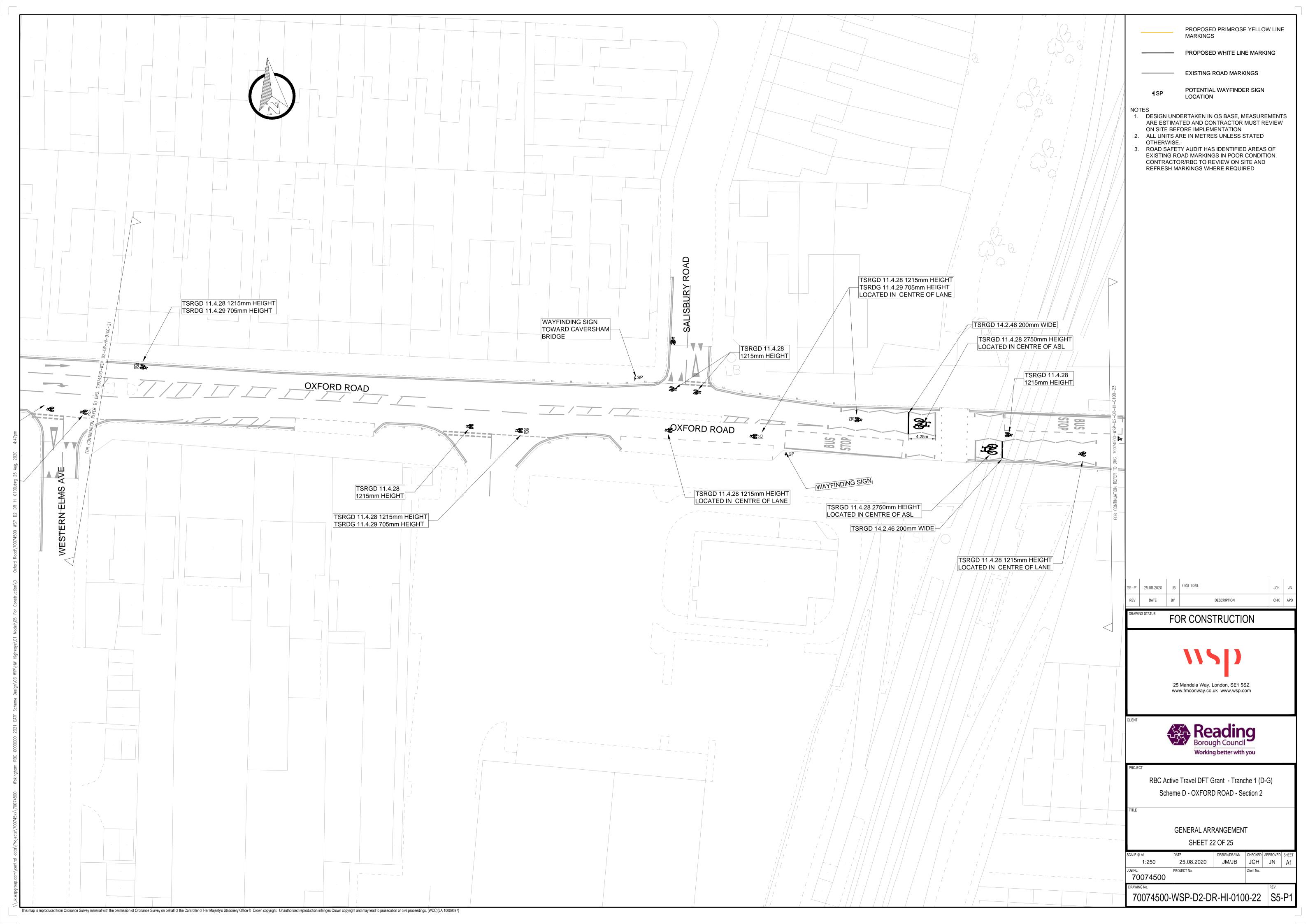


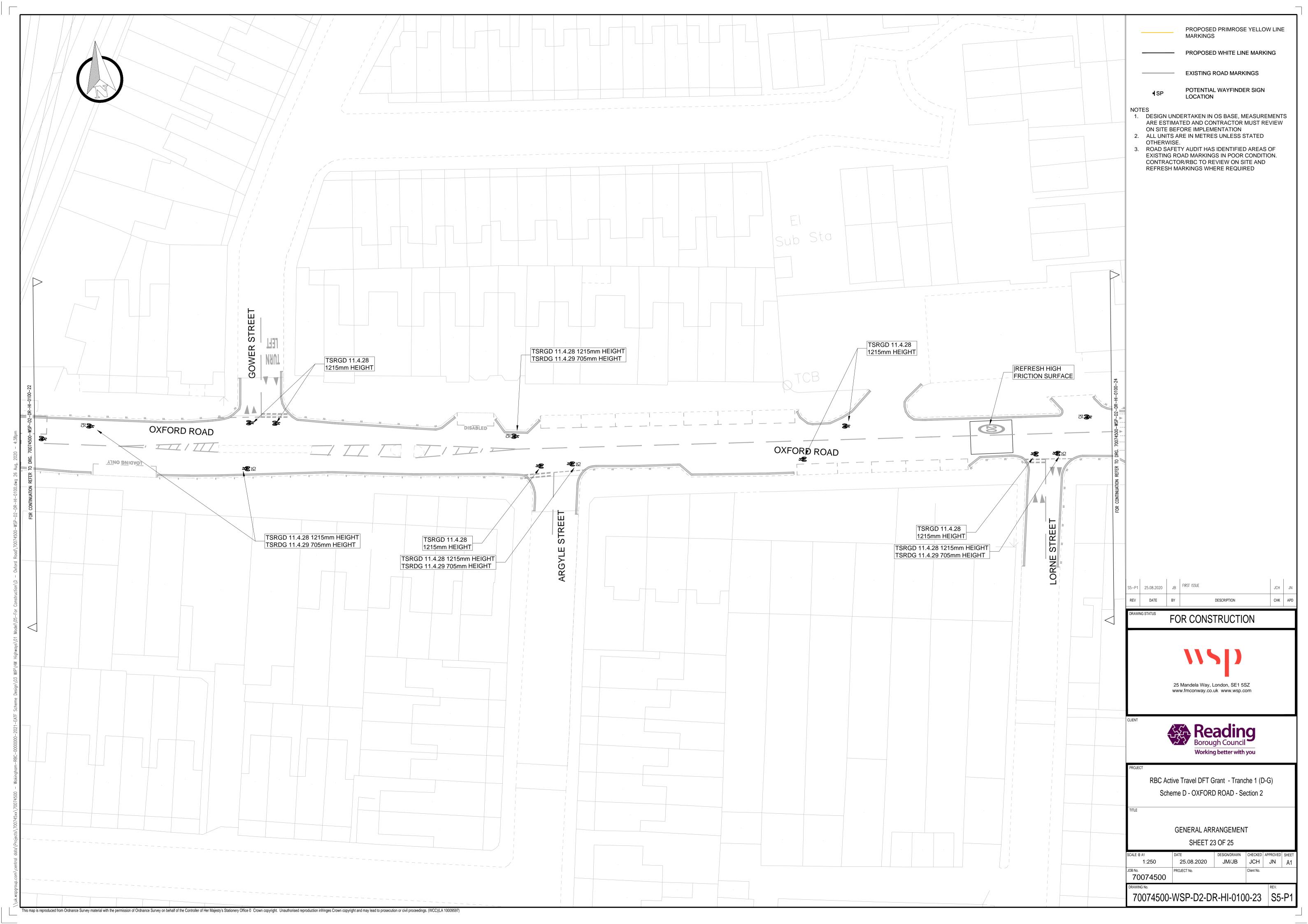


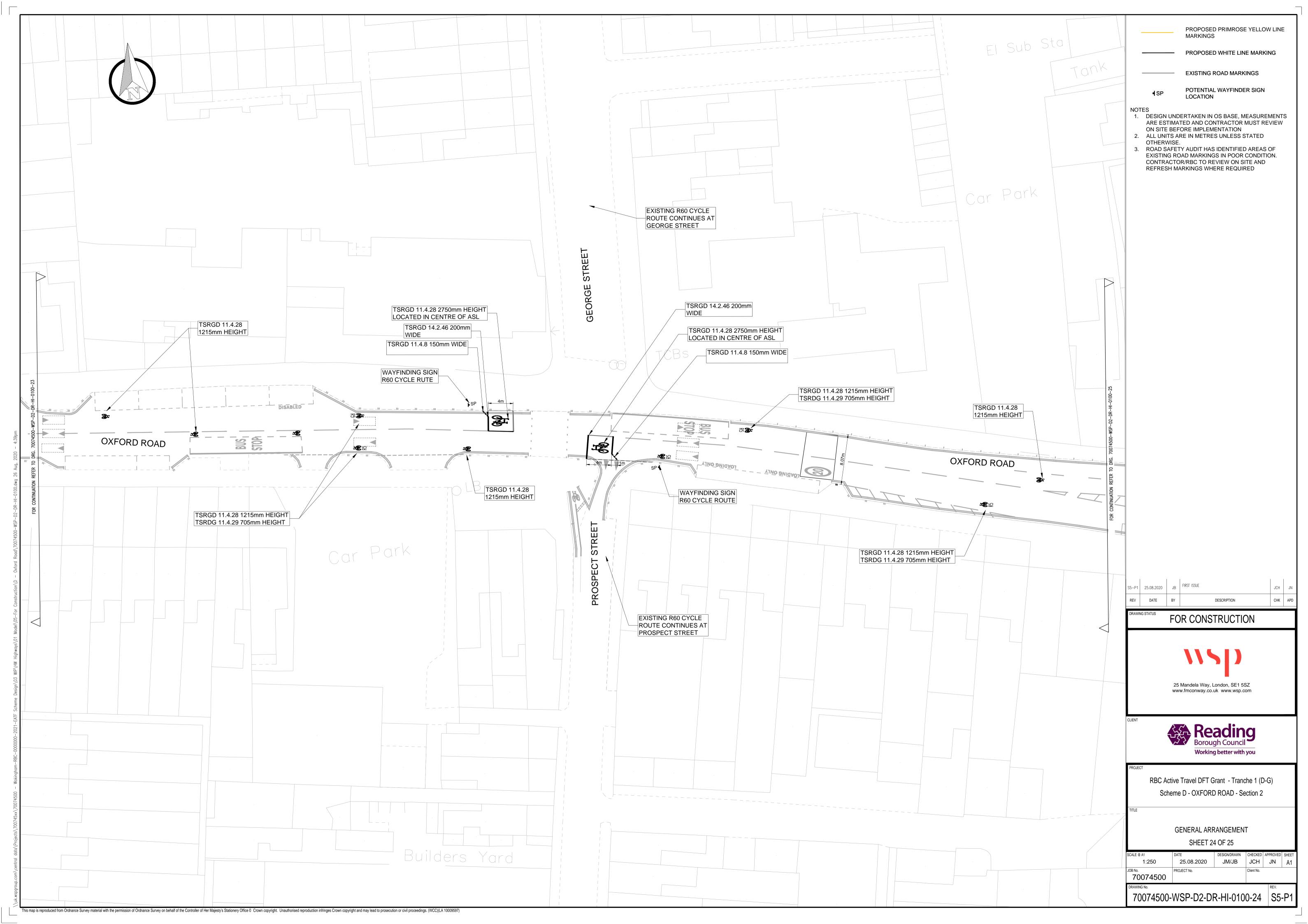


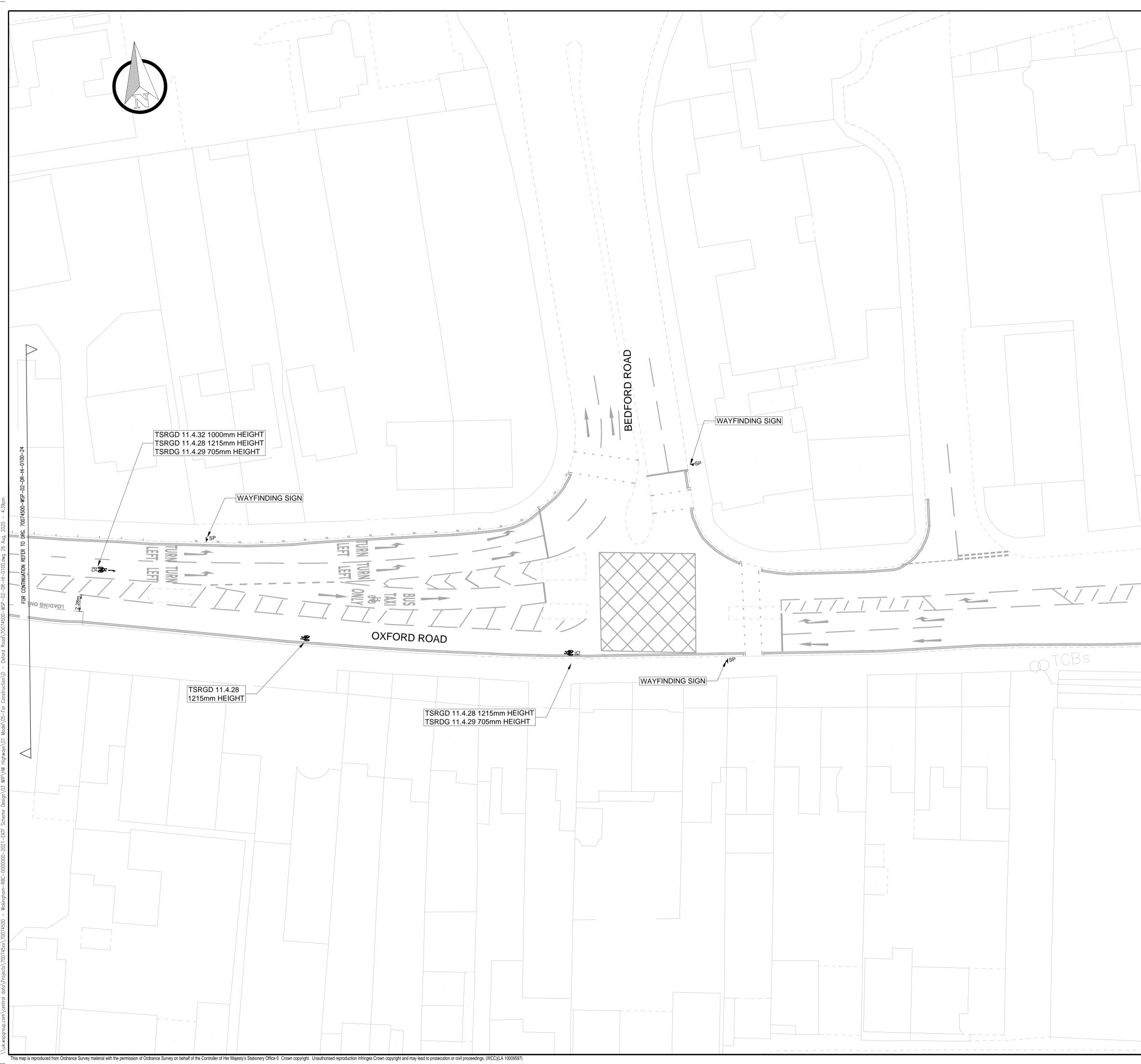


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Scheme

4: Christchurch Road

Scheme Summary

Reallocation of road space to create new advisory cycle lanes.

Necessary / Desirable Alterations (scheme-specific)

Short-term

 There is a desire to review the parking bays outside the shops, near to the junction with Northcourt Avenue. Vehicles are not parking parallel to the kerb, so they are protruding into the carriageway and their visibility is compromised when leaving the bays, leading to risks of collision. The implementation of parallel bay markings should resolve the issue and could be considered in a future Waiting Restriction Review programme with 'informal' consultation.

Longer-term

- It would be desirable to implement some enhancements to the carriageway edge, which would not typically fall within 'maintenance' of the carriageway. These include investigating gully covers and other elements that would improve the experience for cyclists.
- Consider options for enhancing this scheme as part of future funding bids and strategies. There are significant space constraints and the limited funding available for this initial implementation only enabled limited facilities to be provided, predominantly in an eastbound direction.
- Other elements raised in the cover report, applying to all schemes and the ambition for upgrades as part of larger, strategic schemes.

Additional Comments/Background

Usage count over 12hour daytime period in July 2021:

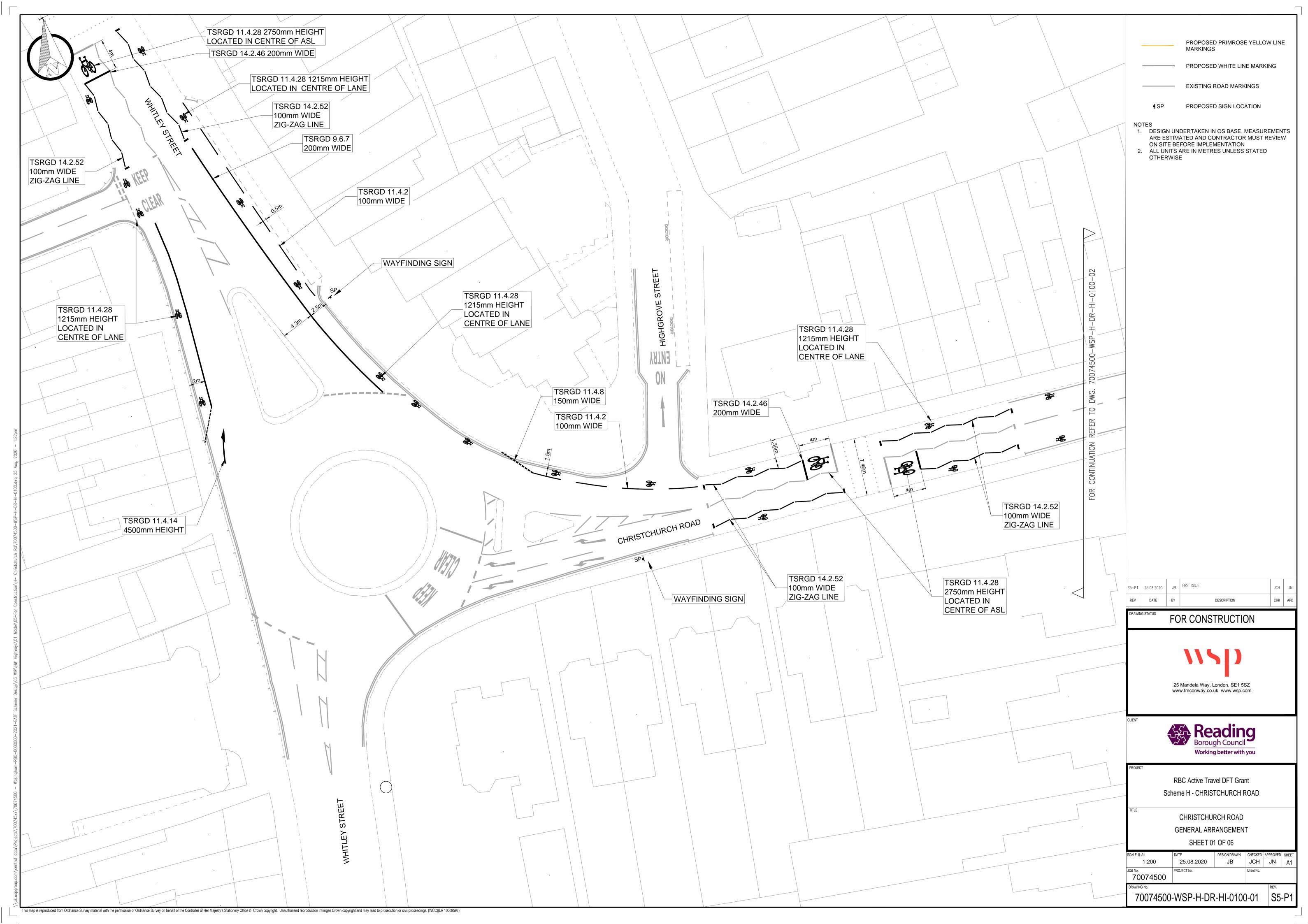
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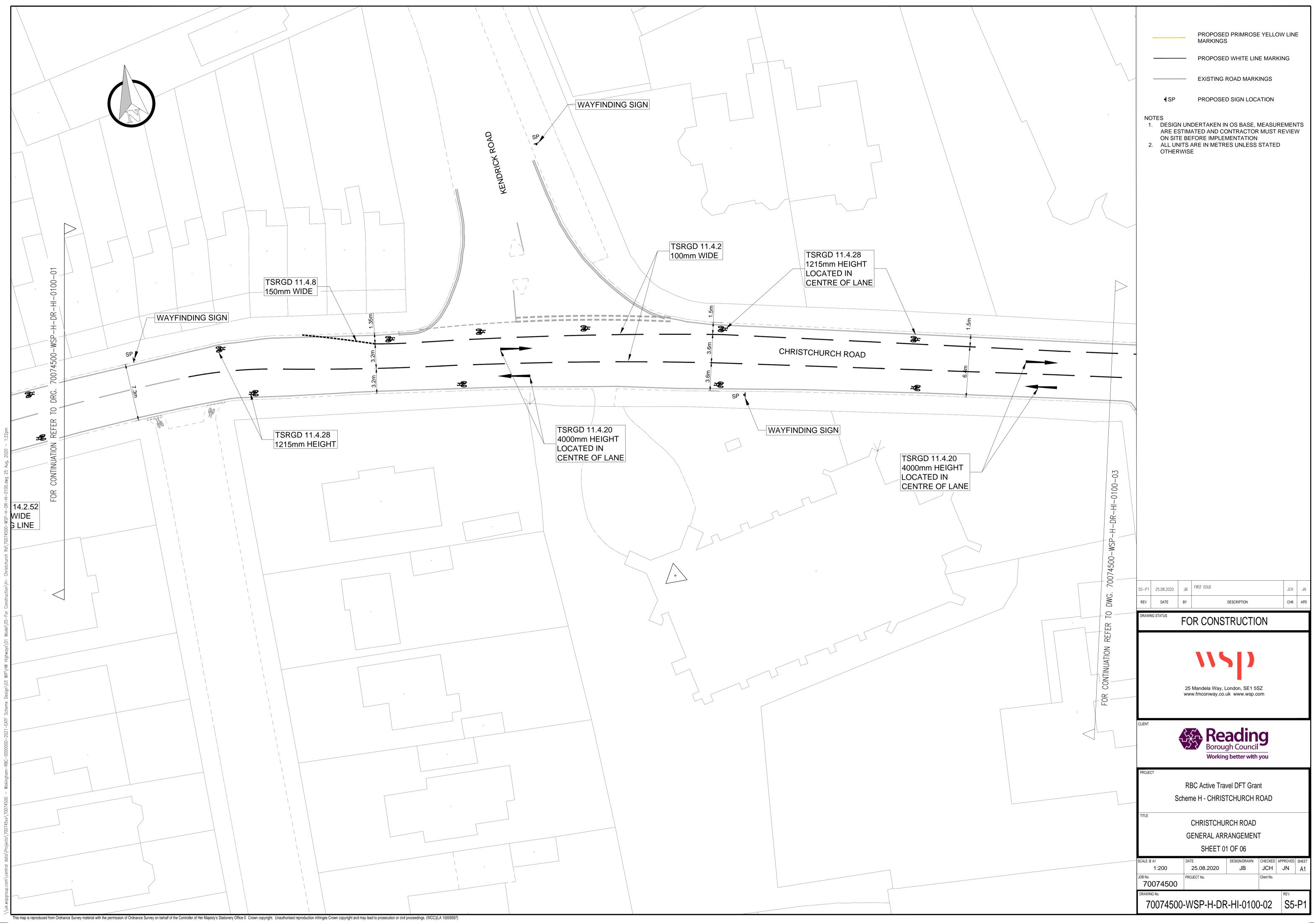
Christchurch Road will provide an important link to/from the forthcoming Tranche 2 scheme on Shinfield Road, in addition to linking with the town centre and the retail area.

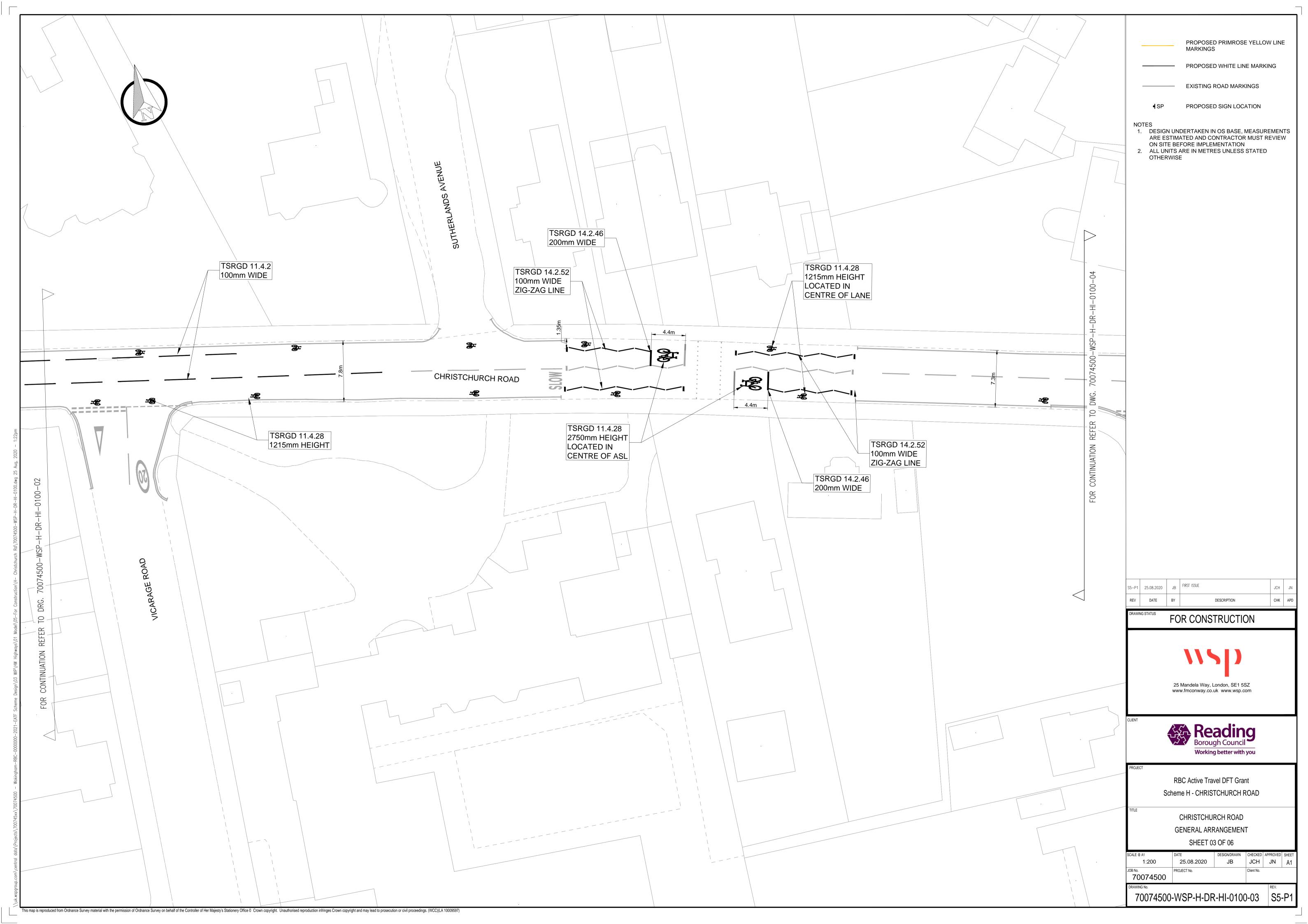
Other general points are raised in the main report.

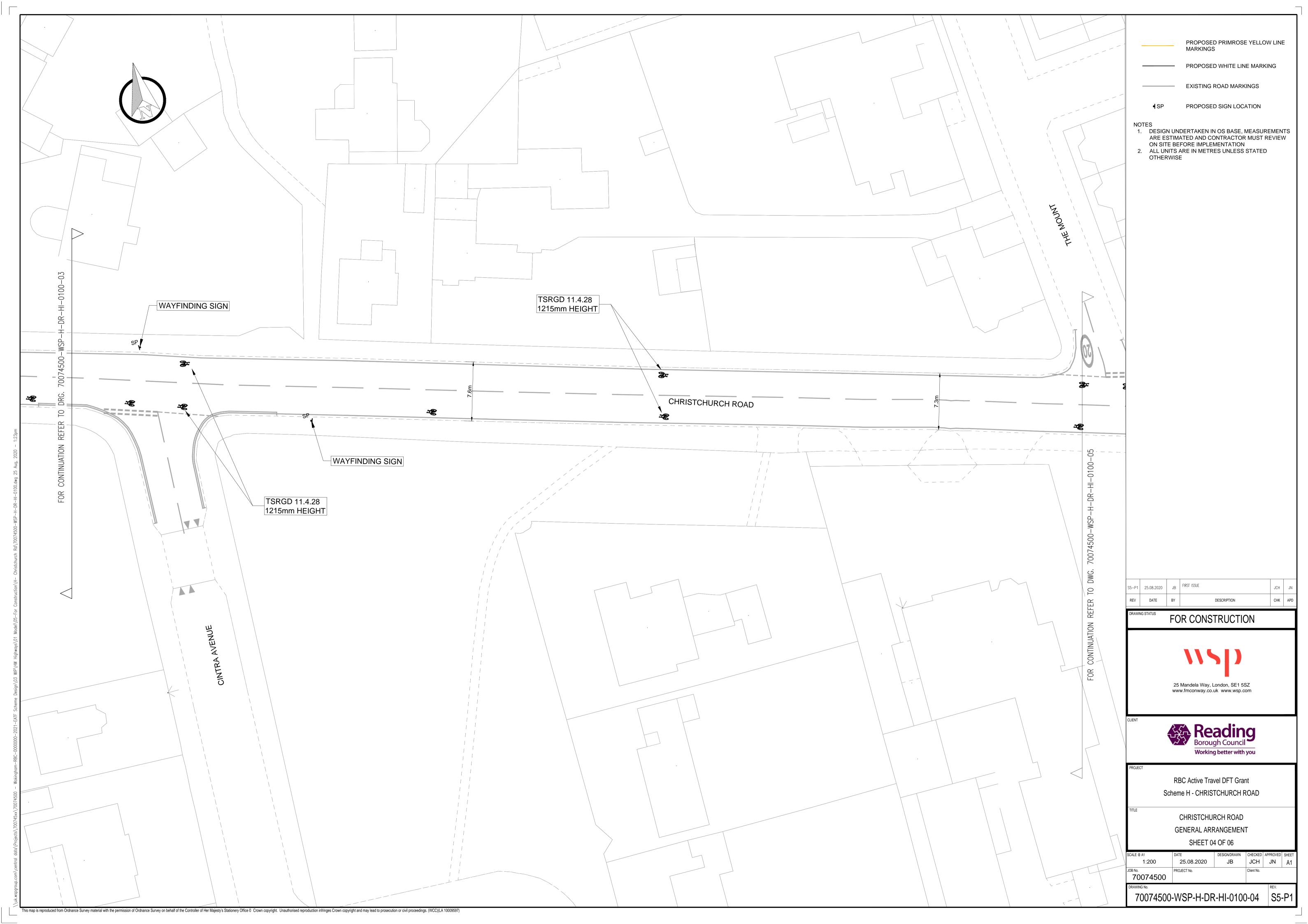
Officer Recommendation

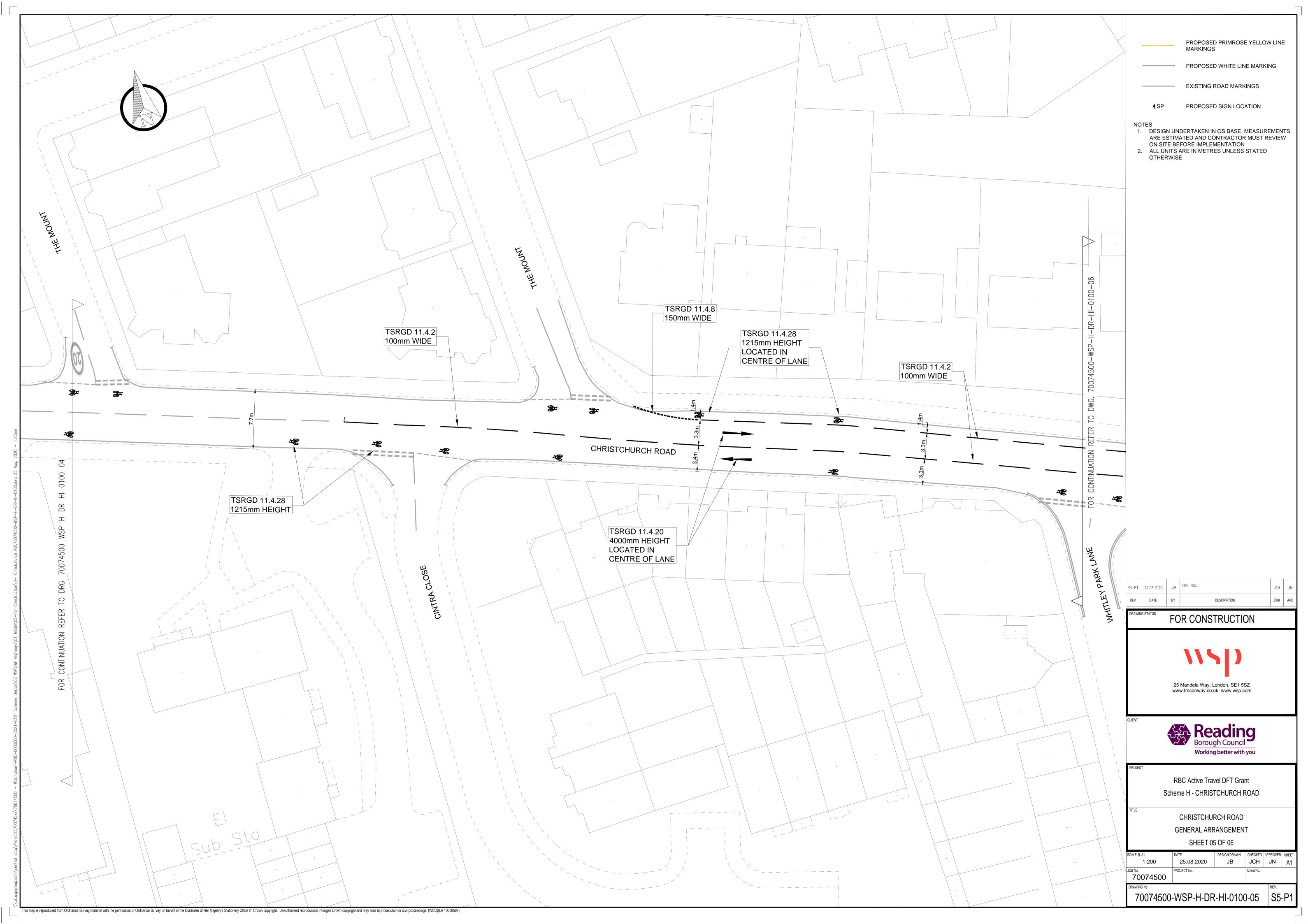
To be retained as a permanent scheme.

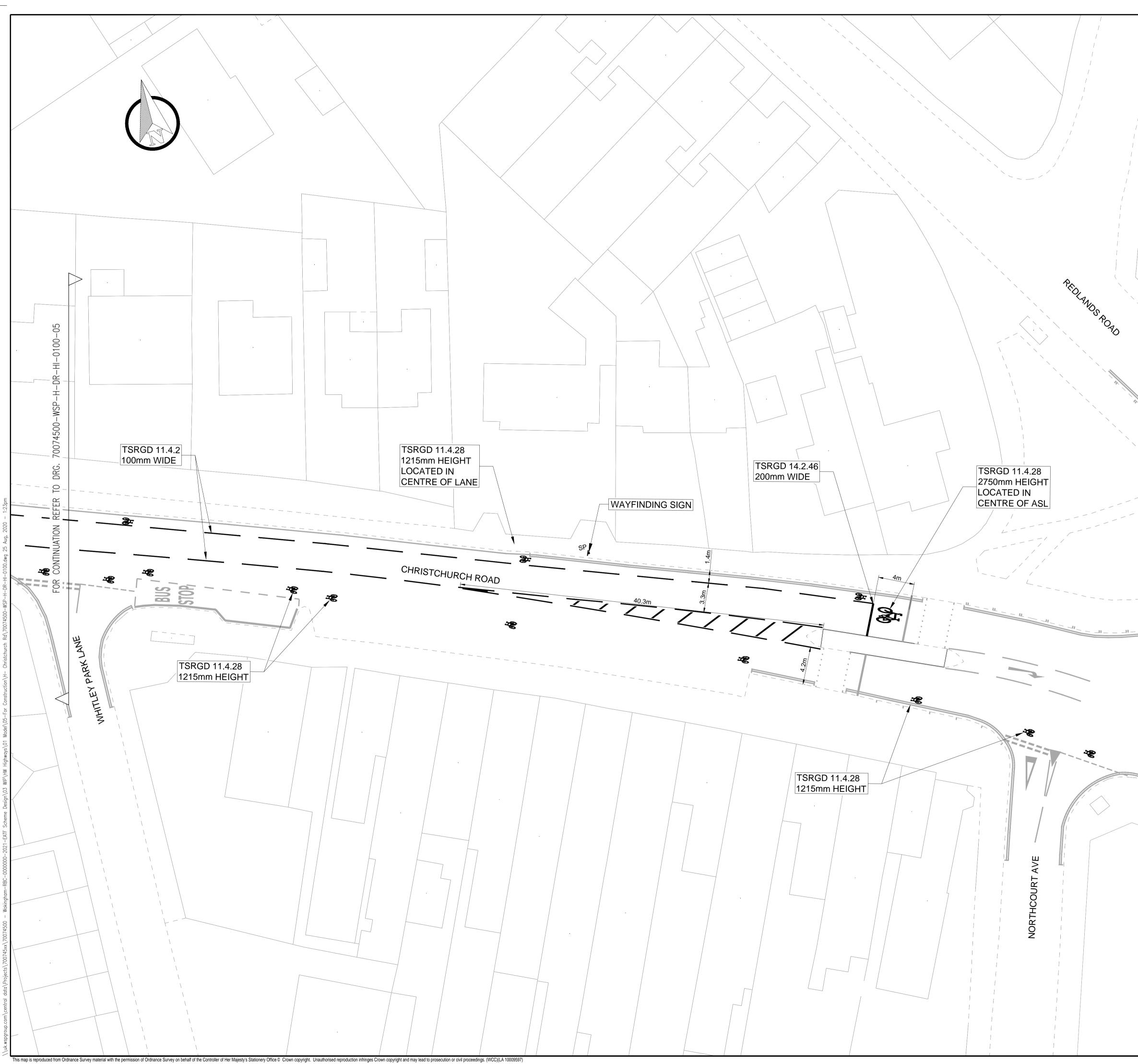












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Scheme

5: Redlands Road

Scheme Summary

Introducing cycle logos alongside a separate major scheme that introduced enhancements to the area 20mph scheme that were intended to improve motorist compliance with the speed limit.

Necessary / Desirable Alterations

Longer-term

• Other elements raised in the cover report, applying to all schemes and the ambition for upgrades as part of larger, strategic schemes.

Additional Comments/Background

Please note that there is no specific drawing for the cycle logos. They have, however, been installed along the road at regular intervals and in both directions.

Other general points are raised in the main report.

Officer Recommendation

To be retained as a permanent scheme.

Scheme

6: Sidmouth Street

Scheme Summary

Temporary Traffic Regulation Order to create a one-way restriction and removal of one general traffic lane to provide a segregated two-way cycle lane.

Necessary / Desirable Alterations

Subject to agreement for permanent implementation:

Short-term

- Installing a permanent feature that replaces the temporary barriered traffic island on the northern end of the street. This will need to ensure compatibility with longer-term linking improvements.
- Changing traffic signal aspects to reflect the permanent changes (e.g. change of arrows and use of cycle symbols as necessary).

Longer-term

- It is highly desirable to deliver a range of improvements to realise greater linking to the surrounding cycle network. These include:
 - o Improved access onto the share-use facilities along London Road
 - A linking route from the Kennet cycle route to the north, across Queens Road and onto the lane (and by reverse). This will necessitate significant alterations to the signalised junction and feasibility within the space constraints between the Kennet cycle route and Queens Road.
- Potential improvements pedestrian refuge island (positioning and design) that forms part of the signalised crossing at the southern end of the street.
- It would be desirable to implement some enhancements to the carriageway edge, which would not typically fall within 'maintenance' of the carriageway. These include investigating gully covers and other elements that would improve the experience for cyclists.

Additional Comments/Background

Usage counts over 12hour daytime period in June 2021:

- At the southern end of the street: 18 northbound and 24 southbound
- At the northern end of the street: 14 northbound and 20 southbound

Unlike other schemes referenced in this report, this scheme in Sidmouth Street requires a Traffic Regulation Order (TRO) to implement. It is currently in place using a Temporary TRO that will end in October 2022. To retain the facility, a statutory consultation on the draft TRO will need to be conducted, feedback considered and, if agreed for implementation, the resultant TRO sealed.

• Feedback

A petition was received by the Sub-Committee in March 2021, seeking the removal of the cycle lane. The petition claimed that the facility was unused, unsuitable, increased congestion (also impacting on emergency service vehicle response times) and also noted that it was installed without public consultation. The Council has received similar feedback from other effected persons, adding concerns with the vehicle crossing movements that need to be undertaken at certain locations in order to access of-street parking places and reporting additional traffic congestion on Eldon Road.

The Council received early comments regarding a perceived lack of linking between this facility and other elements of Reading's cycle network. The previous section indicates some of the alterations that are desirable in order to improve cycle network linking, which would also lead to an increase in use.

Strategic importance

Since the delivery of this temporary scheme, it is becoming an increasingly strategically-significant facility. The Council will soon commence delivery of its Tranche 2 scheme on Shinfield Road. Other options considered and consulted (and still strategically desirable) included a segregated cycle facility along London Road, which could still become a reality as part of future funding bids. Additionally, the Council's recent successful indicative funding for its Bus Service Improvement Plan (BSIP) includes initiatives that will lead to signalised junction improvements and additional bus prioritisation measures (including bus lanes). The improvement plan specifically references sections of the A4 London Road, where new bus lanes are being considered, which would also likely permit cycling and provide a lower-trafficked lane for this use.

Officer Recommendation

That the required Traffic Regulation Order be drafted and proceed to statutory consultation. Should any objections be received, these will be reported to the Sub-Committee in September 2022 for a decision on whether the scheme be permanently implemented, or removed.

Should the scheme be agreed for permanent implementation, following the Sub-Committee meeting in September 2022, investigations will be commissioned for network linking opportunities (as above), subject to funding availability.

Active Travel Scheme: Sidmouth Street NO ENTRY Southbond lane to be closed to vehicles, allowing cycles to travel between Queens Road and London Street (two way) Only cycles can turn left into Sidmouth St from Queens Road. Barrier in place to prevent vehicle access Two way cycle symbols and solid white line used along the route, along with physical segregation measures Ho H Additional lining and bollards to be installed near car park entrances KEEF (\mathcal{A})

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Cyclists have priority over the junction with south street (no change to priority at this junction)

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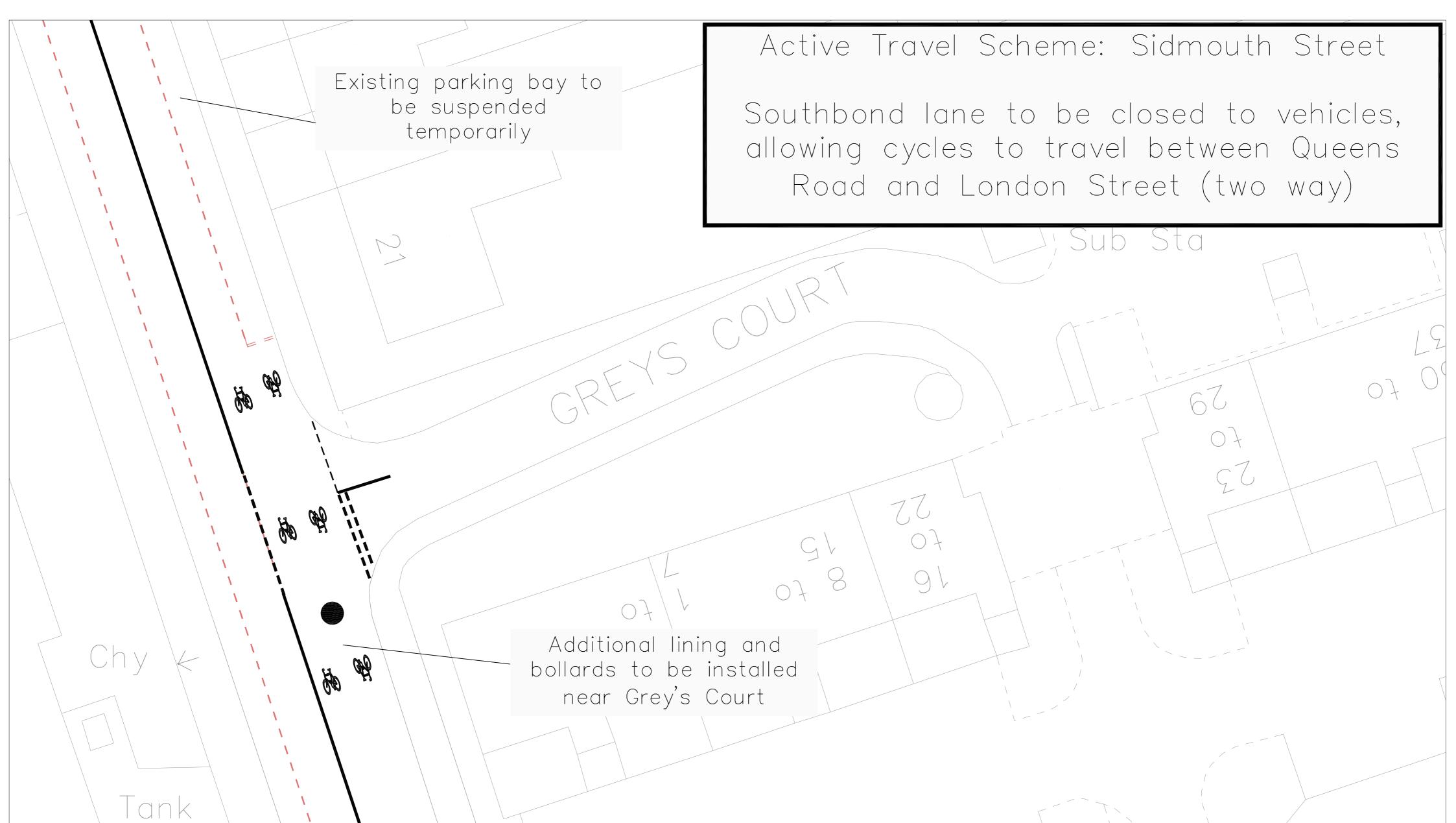
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		Additional lining and bollards to be installed near car park entrance	d es	

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	Reading Borough Council	Transport Civic Centre Bridge Street Reading RG1 2LU	Project Active travel schemes — Sidmouth Street	Scale NTS	Drawn JT Checked JC Approved JP Date July 2020
	Borough Council Working better with you		Drawing Active travel schemes — Sidmouth Street	Drawing no. Sidmouth St — cycle fo	acility



End of route: cyclists may continue on road or join the existing shared space on the footway (London Road)

> Traffic signals will remain in operation (cyclists

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