

# OFFICER DECISION NOTICE



**Reading**  
Borough Council  
Working better with you

This notice is to be used for the following types of officer decisions. (Select one option).

- A.** Decisions taken by officers under a specific express delegation from Council or a Committee.
- B.** Decisions taken by officers under a general delegation from Council or a Committee, which relates to (i) a permission or a licence, or (ii) the rights of an individual, or (iii) a contract or expenditure **over £100,000**.

<b>1. Title of decision:</b>	Support Wokingham Borough Council's (as joint sponsor) informal consultation to proposed changes on the A4 London Road Corridor.
<b>2. Date of the decision:</b>	03 February 2026
<b>3. The decision maker:</b>	Acting Assistant Director Planning, Transport and Regulatory Services.

#### 4. Decision details:

To support and promote Wokingham Borough Council's informal consultation on proposals for the A4 London Road and Sutton Seeds roundabout, with the inclusion of elements within Reading Borough at the A4 London Road – Liverpool Road junction.

#### 5. Reasons for the decision:

Over the past 12 months Officers have been working on options with Wokingham Borough Council (WBC), and consultants WSP, to develop improvements to the A4 London Road corridor including the roundabout at Sutton Seeds. This follows the implementation within Reading borough of the new bus lane on London Road between Liverpool Road and Cemetery Junction in August 2024.

Following a series of meetings supported with traffic surveys, modelling and design work a preferred option has now been developed which offers overall improvements for both general vehicles and for bus movements through the corridor. This involves within Wokingham Borough the removal of the bus gate at the service road and the inclusion in its place of a bus lane on the A4 London Road easter approach to the roundabout with improved waiting area as well as a bus lane on the Sutton Seeds Roundabout for buses heading towards Reading. Within Reading borough, the proposals include shortening the existing bus lane and providing a right-turn only lane for the junction at Liverpool Road.

In order to meet the conditions of the funding awarded for the delivery of the scheme, as well as meeting the requirements to proceed with consultations prior to the pre-election period later in 2026, Wokingham Borough Council is planning to proceed with an informal consultation the week commencing from Monday 16 February 2026. This timeframe does not afford officers time to report to and seek authority from the relevant committee to proceed with supporting the consultation. In place of this, Transport Officers have briefed

both the Leader of the Council and the Lead Councillor for Climate Strategy and Transport, have agreed that Reading Borough Council will formally support the commencement of the consultation.

The authority to proceed is attained through this Officer Decision Notice.

This takes note that this is an informal consultation and, in order to proceed with the changes proposed within Reading Borough to shorten the bus lane, this would require a formal consultation, the authority to proceed with would be sought from the Council's Traffic Management Sub-Committee in due course.

**6. Alternative options considered (if any) and rejected:**

An alternative option would be for Wokingham Borough Council to proceed with its consultation for the elements only within Wokingham Borough and for Reading Borough Council to do the same for the Liverpool Road junction section. However, since the introduction of the bus lane on London Road, the two Councils have been very open that they have been working together to deliver further improvements to this corridor for the benefit of both general traffic and buses. To proceed on the basis of two consultations would detract from this co-operation and joint working that we have been taking considerable care to promote.

**7. List of open Background Papers:**

**1. Strategic Transport Scheme Update Report - SEPT Committee June 2026**

<https://democracy.reading.gov.uk/documents/s36055/Strategic%20Transport%20Scheme%20Update%20-%20June%202025.pdf>

**2. BSIP Bus Lanes – Statutory Consultation Results - TM Sub Committee Jan 2024**

<https://democracy.reading.gov.uk/documents/s29712/09%20BSIP%20Bus%20Lanes%20-%20Report%20January%202024%20v3.pdf>

**3. BSIP Bus Lanes – Statutory Consultation - TM Sub Committee June 2023**

<https://democracy.reading.gov.uk/documents/s27465/09%20Bus%20Lanes%20-%20Statutory%20Consultation%20Report%20June%202023.pdf>

**8. List of confidential or exempt Background Papers:**

None

**9. Any other matters taken into consideration:**

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Legitimate expectation of consultation	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Procedural requirements
<input type="checkbox"/> Public Health implications	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Environmental or Climate Change
<input type="checkbox"/> Health and Safety	<input type="checkbox"/> Risk Management implications

<input type="checkbox"/> Transparency of Information (FOI etc)	<input type="checkbox"/> Privacy Impact Assessments
<input type="checkbox"/> Human Rights Act Duties	<input type="checkbox"/> Equality Impact Assessment
<input type="checkbox"/> Corporate Parenting	<input type="checkbox"/> Community Safety
<input type="checkbox"/> Regulatory duties	<input type="checkbox"/> EU withdrawal
<input type="checkbox"/> Armed Forces Covenant	<input type="checkbox"/> Other
<b>Details of the matters taken into account:</b>	

### 10. Legal considerations

The consultation being proposed is an informal consultation and, to proceed with the changes proposed within Reading Borough to shorten the bus lane, this would require a formal consultation and all associated legal processes the Council follows connected with making an amendment to a Traffic Regulation Order.

Should the decision be to continue to proceed with the proposals the authority to deliver the changes would be sought from the Council's Traffic Management Sub-Committee in due course.

### 11. Financial considerations

The Council has jointly funded with Wokingham Borough Council the work undertaken by WSP consultants over the past 12 months in terms of traffic survey, modelling and design. The Council has allocated funding through its Bus Service Improvement Plan for the delivery of the elements within Reading Borough on the A4 London Road at Liverpool Road which largely consist of lining and signing works.

### 12. Internal consultations

None

Sections 13-18: To be completed only for Decision A (express delegation from a Committee)

<b>13. The name of the Committee:</b>	
<b>14. Date of the meeting:</b>	Click or tap to enter a date.
<b>15. Minute number:</b>	
<b>16. The delegation given by the Committee:</b>	
<b>17. The name of any member of the committee who declared a conflict of interest in relation to the decision:</b>	

<b>18. Any councillor or officer required to be consulted prior to the exercise of this delegation and details of their response.</b>	
---	--