

TABLE 3: PEDESTRIAN AND CYCLE MOVEMENTS

	Project	Action	Lead Agency	Partners	Resources	Timescale
6.3.1a	Access for all	Programme of drop kerbs/ access improved	Wigan Council	Access Committee	Wigan Council Local Transport Plan/ Atherton Building Communities	2002 onwards
6.3.1b	Safe Routes Network	Development of legible, well-lit network of safe pedestrian routes which link the town centre with adjacent estates, primarily Hag Fold	Wigan Council	Atherton Building Communities/ Hag Fold Residents	Local Transport Plan/ Atherton Building Communities	From Spring 2003
6.3.2a	Provision of cycle parking	Cycle stands to be erected within Pedestrian Priority Zone and at other key locations	Wigan Council	Cycle Forum	Atherton Building Communities/ Local Transport Plan	Autumn 2002 onwards
6.3.2b	Cycle Priority Measures	Provision of joint Bus and cycle lanes and traffic signal priority along Leigh - Bolton Quality Bus Corridor	Wigan Council	Bolton Council GMPTE GM Police	Local Transport Plan	2001/2002

6.3 Pedestrian and Cycle Movements

6.3.1 The principal objective is to enhance the pedestrian environment within the town centre and to encourage pedestrian movements in and around the centre.

In particular, there are a number of key routes which need to be strengthened to encourage safe, convenient movement by pedestrians and cyclists including people with disabilities. These include:

- various routes between the Hag Fold estate and the town centre shops;
- Bolton Road/Church Street between the Town Hall, Library and the shopping areas;
- routes across Central Park from the town centre leading to schools at Hamilton Street.

Enhancement works at the Market Place will create a new well lit pedestrian space with the provision of benches to encourage people to sit within this area.

Similarly, within the new Pedestrian Priority Zone, widened pavements, better lighting and the provision of benches will greatly assist pedestrians.

6.3.2 Within the plan area a number of measures will encourage and assist cycle users. As part of the Leigh- Bolton Quality Bus Corridor Scheme all with flow bus lanes can be utilised by cyclists. In addition, new cycle parking stands are to be provided within the Pedestrian Priority Zone on Market Street, and at other important destinations.

However, it is recognised that provision for cyclists within the area is lacking and further investigations will be carried out to determine where additional cycle parking and cycle paths can be included.

TABLE 4 ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

	Project	Action	Lead Agency	Partners	Resources	Timescale
6.4.1	Landscaping of Gateway Sites	Appropriate hard or soft landscaping	Wigan Council	Private landowners	to be investigated	2002 onwards
6.4.2	Upgrading of Key Buildings and Site boundaries	Grant Aided Improvements to Target Buildings within the Market Place and Victoria Mill – other buildings to be addressed if resources become available.	Wigan Council	English Heritage/ Atherton Building Communities/ Private building owners	English Heritage Other sources to be investigated	April 2002 onwards
6.4.3	Upgrading of older Private Sector Housing	Block improvements to Older Housing where necessary	Wigan Council	Private Householders	To be investigated	To be determined (subject to resources)
6.4.4	Central Park and Recreation Ground	Consultation with all interested parties and continued programme of improvements	Wigan Council (Leisure Services Department)	Park Users/ Local Residents	To be identified	2001 onwards

6.4 Environmental Quality

- 6.4.1 Whilst the pedestrian environment will be greatly improved within the Pedestrian Priority Zone, the overall quality of the built environment is uneven. A number of key buildings and sites within the area have suffered from a lack of investment or maintenance and currently detract from the attractiveness of the area.
- 6.4.2 Grant funding is available for a number of important historic buildings within the Market Place area and at Victoria Mill, Bolton Old Road and these will be upgraded with the agreement of the private owners. Elsewhere, the Council will continue to seek alternative sources of funding to upgrade buildings and sites requiring improvement (as identified within Plans 3-5.)
- The main objective is to retain and upgrade the best features of the built environment in terms of buildings and spaces, and to encourage sensitive alterations and adaptations to buildings which respect their local context.
- 6.4.3 Generally, the private sector housing close to the town centre is in reasonable condition. The Council's Department of Environmental Health and Consumer Protection will monitor the situation and will address any problems within the private housing stock should suitable funds become available.
- 6.4.4 Central Park and the adjacent recreation ground is an under-utilised space with potential for improvements and more extensive use. The retention and phased improvement of this important space, in partnership with all users is an important part of the strategy for the central area.

TABLE 5 CRIME AND SECURITY

	Project	Action	Lead Agency	Partners	Resources	Timescale
6.5.1a	Upgrading of CCTV system	Installation of fibre optic cables to improve picture quality	Wigan Council – Director of Land and Property	GM Police / Atherton Business Partnership	Wigan Council	2001
6.5.1b	Extension of CCTV coverage	Provision of extra cameras to extend area covered by close circuit television	Wigan Council	GM Police / Atherton Business Partnership	To be investigated – potential future Home Office funding	2002 onwards
6.5.2a	Upgrading street lighting in Market Place /Market Street and adjacent streets	Provision of better lighting within these areas as part of of enhancement schemes	Wigan Council	Atherton Building Communities / English Heritage	Atherton Building Communities / Local Transport Plan	2001 onwards
6.5.2b	Further improvements to street lighting	Identification of Priority areas Design and implementation of schemes	Wigan Council	GM Police / Local community	Atherton Building Communities / Local Transport Plan	2002 onwards
6.5.4	Development of Pubwatch Scheme	Extension and promotion of existing Town Centre Pubwatch scheme	Wigan Borough Partnership	Wigan Borough Partnership / Atherton Business Partnership / GM Police	To be identified	2001 onwards

6.5 Crime Prevention and Security

6.5.1 The existing Close Circuit Television System within the town centre has been upgraded with new fibre optic cables being installed to transfer higher quality pictures from the cameras to a monitoring station.

There is a need to extend the existing CCTV coverage to provide greater coverage of the car parks and the Market Place area. Additional funding opportunities for an extension of the system will be investigated.

6.5.2 The works within the Pedestrian Priority Zone, the Market Place and the amendments to Mealhouse Lane will include an upgrading of existing street lighting which will improve building and personal security. However, it is recognised that other areas, including the main car parks, Central Park and streets around the Chowbent Chapel, could be better lit, subject to resources being made available.

6.5.3 The main town centre car park at Alma Street is being considered for a Crime Prevention Scheme, which will involve introducing a separate in and out system with security fencing to control access and egress.

6.5.4 The existing Pubwatch Scheme will be continued and expanded with support from the towns publicans and GM Police.

APPENDIX I

STATEMENT OF CONSULTATION AND REPRESENTATIONS

- I.1 A staffed exhibition illustrating the proposals within the consultation Draft Plan was held at Atherton Library on 29-30 October 2002. The exhibition was attended by over 40 people and had been advertised through the local media.
- I.2 The following individuals, bodies and agencies were also formally consulted on the draft plan:-
- Greater Manchester Police
 - Wigan and Chorley Groundwork Trust
 - Wigan Access Committee
 - Greater Manchester Ecology Unit
 - Environment Agency
 - North West Arts Board
 - English Nature
 - Greater Manchester Archaeological Unit
 - Norweb Energi
 - Atherton Heritage Society
 - Wigan and Bolton Health Authority
 - Wigan Chamber of Commerce
 - Greater Manchester Passenger Transport Executive
 - Transco
 - English Heritage
 - North West Development Agency
 - Government Office North West
 - Tesco
 - North West Water
 - Andy Burnham MP
 - Local Councillors
- I.3 The Draft Plan was presented to the Atherton Business Partnership at its meeting of 5 August 2002 and comments invited.
- I.4 A total of 10 written representations were received as part of the consultation exercise. All representations were considered in detail and a number of modifications made to the Draft Plan.
- I.5 Details of the consultation, written responses received and proposed modifications were reported to the Council's Development Control Committee, Environment Panel and Cabinet on 8, 14 and 16 January 2003 respectively.

APPENDIX 2

GLOSSARY OF TERMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

LTP	–	Investing in Excellence – Greater Manchester Local Transport Plan 2000/02 –2005/06
GMPTA	–	Greater Manchester Passenger Transport Executive
ABC	–	Atherton Building Communities (Single Regeneration Budget Round 5) Programme
UDP	–	Unitary Development Plan
Blister Paving	–	Tactile Paving blocks with ‘dimples’ to assist partially sighted people
Pedestrian Priority Zone	–	Area of Market Street between Crabtree Lane and Hampson Street from which through traffic (excluding buses) will be restricted between 10.30am – 4.00pm from Monday to Saturday.
Pubwatch	–	A partnership crime prevention scheme involving the police and local publicans