

Riverway cycling and walking improvements FAQ's

Where is the money coming from to pay for these cycling, walking and traffic improvements?

Wigan Council has been allocated funding through Greater Manchester's Growth Deal Minor Works (GDMW) fund.

£1.4m has been allocated for this scheme, with an additional £1m from Integrated Transport Block funding.

Why can't the money be spent on other things?

GDMW funding is specifically designated for infrastructure and connectivity projects including cycling and walking improvements. If this allocation wasn't spent in Wigan for this purpose the money would be spent elsewhere in Greater Manchester.

Why do you want to increase the number of people cycling and walking?

Cycling and walking can be a great way to be active and stay healthy. Cycling is a comparatively cheap, quick, environmentally friendly and healthy way to get around. With increasing air pollution, we need to look at alternative, more sustainable forms of transport to the private car. Improving air quality, reducing congestion and traffic and encouraging people to live healthier and longer is our priority.

- [Find out more check out Made to Move \(external link\)](#)

People don't cycle in Wigan so why spend money on facilities that wouldn't be used?

Research shows that if safe, convenient and direct cycle facilities are provided then cycling numbers increase.

A lot of people are also put off cycling because they don't feel safe cycling on the road. By providing segregated cycle facilities, cyclists can be separated from traffic and experience a much more secure and pleasant journey.

This encourages more would-be cyclists to get on their bike.

Why are you concentrating the cycling and walking facilities in this area rather than elsewhere in the borough?

We are developing a number of cycling and walking improvement schemes across the borough, not just this area of Wigan town centre.

For more details visit the [Growth Deal Minor Works page](#) and [Mayor's Challenge Fund page](#).

How will you make these junctions safer?

By introducing dedicated crossing points for cyclists and walkers and by upgrading the current crossing facilities. This is a vehicle dominated road with currently no cycle tracks.

When will the construction work take place?

The works are currently planned to start in Summer 2020, however there is still further work required to develop the scheme and so further details will be communicated via the council's website and in the media as the scheme develops.

Will the construction works affect traffic?

Inevitable with any construction works taking place on the highway there will be some disruption. This will be kept to a minimum and work will take place outside of peak hours where feasible. Any lane closures or diversions will be communicated in advance and clearly signposted. We recommend residents check the roadworks bulletin and follow the council's social media channels for up to date information.