

Please ask for: **The Major Projects Team**

Date: 7th December 2020

Dear residents and businesses

Plans for 'The Road to Wigan Pier'

We are currently developing proposals to improve the opportunities for walking and cycling, whilst improving public realm and landscaping, in the Wallgate area. The aim is to improve links with Wigan Town Centre, for those travelling by foot or cycle, and to complement the regeneration of Wigan Pier.

Work has started on a Greater Manchester-wide programme to make journeys on foot or by bike much easier and more attractive.

Chris Boardman, Greater Manchester's Cycling and Walking Commissioner, is working with all ten boroughs to improve the cycling and walking experience across the region and provide a real alternative to the car.

In Wigan Borough we have successfully secured investment to implement such schemes including Robin Park Road, Bridgewater Canal Towpath, Saddle Junction and Standish Mineral Line. We are now in the process of preparing plans for other schemes. This includes drafting proposals for walking and cycling improvements on Wallgate, which will form a scheme called the 'Road to Wigan Pier'. We would like to seek your views on the proposals before we develop our ideas any further.

What are the draft proposals?

To better connect the town centre with the Wigan Pier Quarter and Robin Park area, we plan to improve the environment for people wanting to travel by foot or bike along this route.



Visualisation of the proposals for 'the Road to Wigan Pier'

We propose to upgrade the current shared footway into a segregated facility, so pedestrians and cyclists have their own dedicated space. This would be from the junction of Wallgate with Great George Street all the way to Haig Street.

New pedestrian and cycle crossings are proposed at the following locations:

- Across Wallgate, near Haig Street, at the main entrance to the Wigan Pier Development
- Across the in- and outbound carriageways of Wallgate at the junction with Miry Lane

The crossings proposed above will replace some of the existing crossings, which will be removed from:

- The in- and outbound carriageway of Wallgate, near Bridgewater Street
- Southgate, near Swan Meadow Road
- Wallgate, near Haig Street

Other proposals include:

- Improvements to the junction of Wallgate with Caroline Street to include cycle crossing facilities. A traffic lane will be removed between Queen Street and Caroline Street for vehicles travelling away from the town centre to provide space for the cycling facility. Traffic modelling shows this will not have a significant impact on traffic flows.
- Improved street lighting and new tree lights to enhance the environment
- More benches along Wallgate to provide resting points
- More trees and planting to improve the environment and provide shade
- Pedestrian and cycle priority across Clayton Street at the junction with Wallgate.

To improve road safety and reduce conflict between vehicles, pedestrians and cyclists, we propose to close Miry Lane at its junction with Wallgate. This will also enable the new pedestrian and cycle crossing on Wallgate for accessing the Wigan Pier Development.

There is a plan overleaf of the proposed design.

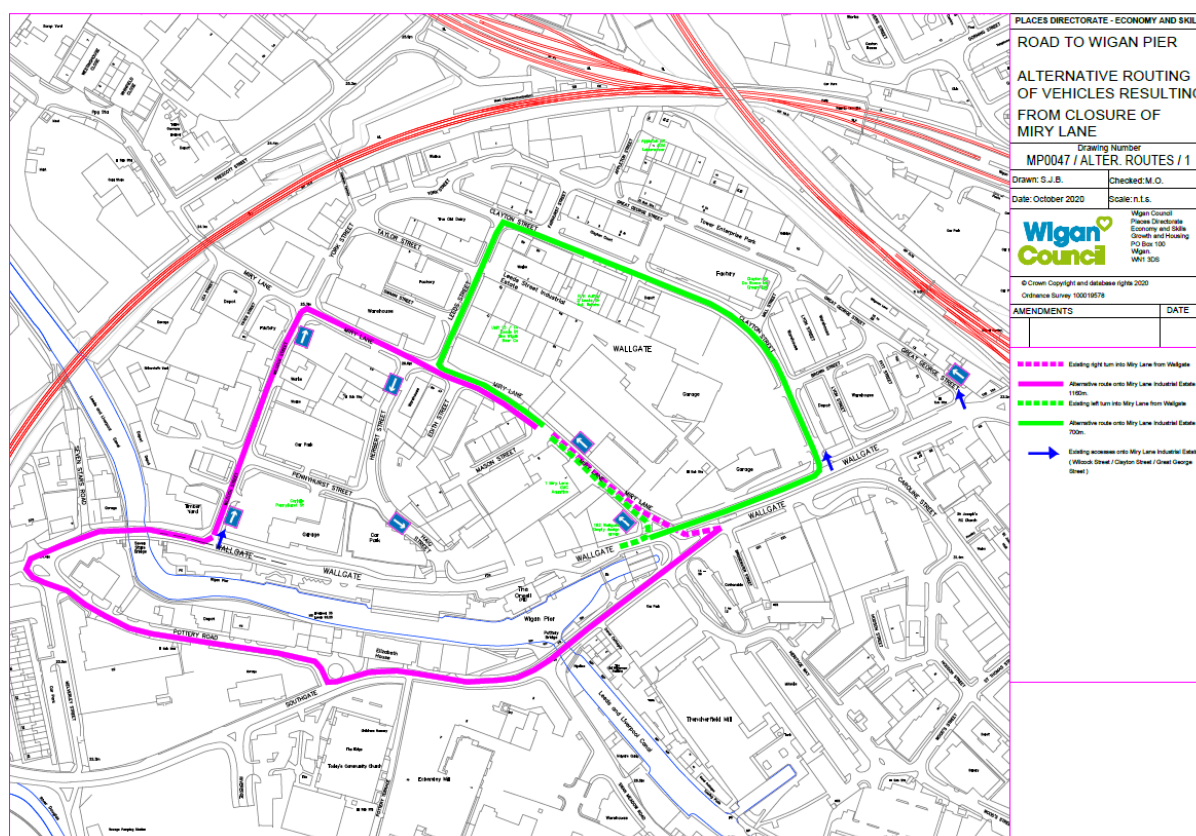
How will vehicles access the business estate if Miry Lane is closed at the junction with Wallgate?

Currently, Miry Lane is a one-way access to the business estate from Wallgate. Should this junction be closed, Miry Lane would be changed to two-way operation to maintain access to all businesses from the remaining alternative routes.

Vehicles that currently turn left from Wallgate into Miry Lane will be able to access the business estate via Wilcock Street, Clayton Street or Great George Street.

Vehicles that currently turn right from Wallgate into Miry Lane will be able to reroute via Southgate, Pottery Road and Wallgate and use either Wilcock Street, Clayton Street or Great George Street for access.

The plan below shows the available alternative routes:



If you have any comments on the proposals please email majorprojects@wigan.gov.uk with your feedback by Friday 8th January 2021.

More information can be found on our website www.wigan.gov.uk/majorprojects

Yours faithfully

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