

Wigan<sup>©</sup> Council ANDY BURNHAM MAYOR OF GREATER MANCHESTER







# Proposals to revolutionise travel on foot or by bike in your area

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

This includes the Bee Network, which will be made up of more than 1,800 miles of routes and will be the largest joined-up system of walking and cycling routes in the UK.

A key part of the network will be Active Neighbourhoods (or low traffic neighbourhoods), places where the movement, health and safety of people is prioritised over cars. This means local neighbourhoods are primarily focused on the people who live there, giving them space to walk, cycle, scoot, play and chat, without through traffic.

During the Coronavirus pandemic, more people have been taking journeys by foot or by bike and the quick response of councils to create safe space for people to do so is playing a significant role in Greater Manchester's economic recovery, whilst also providing a safe travel option for the third of GM residents who do not have access to a car.

The government is supporting this with increased investment to local authorities through the Active Travel Fund to enable the provision of schemes that will allow people to make more active journeys and 'create a new era for cycling and walking'.

We are working to create an Active Neighbourhood in your area. No one knows this area quite like you do, so over the coming months we will be working collaboratively with local people on designs to improve local streets.

### **Worsley Mesnes Active Neighbourhood**

Active Neighbourhoods are simply about creating safe, attractive space for people to spend time chatting or for children to play, typically using planters or bollards on some streets to make it safer and easier to get around on foot, by wheelchair, with a buggy and by bike.

By purposefully removing 'rat running' through traffic on some routes in your local area, we can reduce any negative impact of this on the local neighbourhood and put residents back at the centre of their communities.

All these things can have dramatic positive effects on air pollution, congestion, residents' health and wellbeing, and safety on residential streets.

We think your area sees a lot of 'rat running' from through traffic, while a lot of residents don't have access to cars. This would make it the ideal place to introduce new measures to improve the space for local residents, make it easier and safer to cycle, walk, scoot and play and reduce through traffic.

#### Tell us what you think about your neighbourhood

This is the first phase of engagement to gather information to help the council look to develop proposals for Worsley Mesnes and we want to hear about any issues you think could be improved in your area. This could be anything from heavy traffic volumes to not enough seating, trees and green space or even not enough dropped kerbs to make it easy for you to move about the area. Don't forget to tell us what you like as well as any ideas that will make it feel easier and safer to travel by bike, foot or wheelchair and we will use this information to develop ideas of how the area could be improved.

## Wigan Worsley Mesnes Active Neighbourhoods proposals plan

The map below shows the area that we are considering introducing an Active Neighbourhood



# What could an active neighbourhood look like for Worsley Mesnes?

Here are some photos to show you what an active neighbourhood could look like. These are just ideas from other areas to get you thinking:



School street (no through traffic at school drop off and school pick up).

A quiet, closed off street to through traffic, this could be achieved with planters or bollards.





More cycle parking, safe and convenient parking facilities to keep your bike safe when not in use, perhaps whilst at school or visiting the shops.

A 'pocket park', a place to rest and socialise, easy movement on foot and bike and with tree planting.



#### A Bus Gate

This allows buses, taxis and emergency services to use a section of road but not for the majority of vehicles. It can be controlled with signals, cameras or bollards.



Signal controlled



Enforcement



Bollard

### How can I give my views on the proposed changes?

Transport for Greater Manchester (TfGM) is working with Wigan Council to ensure all residents, businesses and other stakeholders are kept up to date on all changes and plans for the scheme.

There will be a four week consultation consultation on these proposed changes, from Monday 21 June to Monday 19 July 2021 when you can give your views.

Anyone with views and opinions on the proposed changes to the Worsley Mesnes scheme should contact Wigan Council:

#### **Online**

worsleymesnes.commonplace.is

#### By email

majorprojects@wigan.gov.uk

#### By post

The Major Projects Team, Wigan Council, Places Directorate, PO Box 100, WN1 3DS

Find more about active travel across Greater Manchester at activetravel.tfgm.com

"More people travelling on foot or by bike is a by-product of creating better places to live, work and socialise. The improvements to Wigan will make life easier for people who want to be able to make local trips on foot or by bike, leaving the car at home."

#### **Chris Boardman**

Greater Manchester's Cycling and Walking Commissioner



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