Cycling feedback

We asked you to have your say about plans to make cycling easier and safer on routes in and around Wigan town centre.

We value your opinions and took into consideration any suggestions. We are now working with Transport for Greater Manchester to make improvements to the plans. Here are the most popular questions and suggestions we had about the scheme and how we're planning to improve it.

Your questions

Q: How is the scheme funded when the council is making financial savings?
A: The Department for Transport (DfT) awarded £22m of funding for the second phase of the 'Cycle City Ambition Grant Fund' in Greater Manchester. Of this, the council has secured £2.1m, which is specifically for cycling improvements as we demonstrated that Wigan needed extra cycle facilities. If we don't utilise this money, another authority would get the money. It can only be spent on cycling.

Q: Will any trees be removed from Robin Park Road to make way for the cycle facility?

A: We are aiming to avoid the removal of any trees along Robin Park Road. We will do this by raising the ground level using a root protection system, which can then be paved to carry pedestrians and cyclists. Although unlikely, if any trees do need to be removed, we will replace them in suitable locations.

Q: Can we have cycle facilities in other parts of the borough?

A: We are always looking at how we can improve cycle links in areas across the borough. A lot of this depends on funding from external sources. However, if you have ideas for cycle routes we would like to hear from you. You can email us majorprojects@wigan.gov.uk. We will then consider options if we get any external funding in the future.

Q: It would be good to see cycle improvements where the roads are really congested?

A: We agree and this is one of the reasons for introducing these schemes, as well as the added health benefits if more people cycle.

Your suggestions

You said:

It would be good to have coloured cycle paths.

We did:

We will be using green surfacing or chippings in the tarmac for the cycle routes so that cyclists, pedestrians and motorists can easily identify the facilities.

You said:

The existing scheme on Ormskirk Road isn't working as well as it could be due to parked cars and lack of clear signage.

We did:

The Ormskirk Road cycle facility is not part of the planned cycle schemes as we don't currently have funding available to make enhancements. We will however discuss parking enforcement with colleagues in the council. We will also explore signage / painted signs as part of a long term plan to make improvements, as well as reviewing the current crossing facilities.

You said:

I can't see how I can access the route on Warrington Road travelling Northbound. **We did:**

We have made design changes so that cyclists travelling on the carriageway can access the route at the junction of Arundel Street or via the entrance to Alexandra Park.

You Said:

Can you provide cyclists right of way when crossing Norfolk Street as per Argyll, Arundel, Westminster and Stanley Street?

We said:

Yes, provision will be made so that cyclists will have right of way when crossing all the above streets.

You said

Why does the cycle track stagger and merge when leaving Ormskirk Road to get to Warrington Road?

We said

We agree that the merging is confusing and we will therefore factor this in to the designs for the new cycling route along this section of the road and we will have clearly marked cycle lanes.

You said:

You would cycle more into the town centre but not sure there is enough cycle parking facilities.

We did:

We agreed with you and although we have some facilities already, we are investing (through external TfGM funding) in more cycle parking in Wigan town centre. If there are specific areas you think there is a need, please email us majorprojects@wigan.gov.uk