



13 February - 12 March 2023

Have your Say on St Helens Road,
Leigh Walking and Cycling Scheme

Greater Manchester's cycling and walking network



How can I give my views on the proposed changes?

Wigan Council is working with Transport for Greater Manchester (TFGM) 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 from 13 February - 12 March 2023. Wigan Council welcome your feedback on these proposals. If you have any views and opinions on the St Helens Road scheme, get involved and help us shape the future of Leigh.

Our ambition for Wigan Borough is to connect our neighbourhoods, schools, high streets, and public transport hubs, making it easy, safe, and attractive for people to walk, wheel or cycle for everyday trips. This plan will help to grow the economy, create jobs, attract investment, and build strong healthy communities.

Online

www.wigan.gov.uk/majorprojects

www.beeactive.tfgm.com

By email

majorprojects@wigan.gov.uk

By post

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

St Helens Road, Leigh walking and cycling scheme

Background

St Helens Road provides a key connection into and out of Leigh town centre, but this means it is very busy, and at peak times of the day more than 1,000 cars an hour have been recorded using the road.

At present, there are very few pedestrian and cycle crossing points on this road and the existing cycling facilities are poor. This can act as a barrier to people who may wish to walk, wheel or cycle in the area.

On busy roads, which are usually the most direct routes between places, it is necessary to provide dedicated space for cycling and the facilities should provide physical protection rather than the current advisory painted cycle lanes.

Scheme proposals

This scheme will provide people with the option to walk, wheel or cycle safely up towards Leigh Town centre. The scheme includes:

- Segregated two-way cycle lane on the west side of St Helens Road in Leigh
- The facility will extend from Bonnywell Road northwards to the canal
- The cycle track will be protected from motor traffic using raised kerbs
- The cycle track will sit between the highway and the footway

It will be necessary to reallocate some road space from moving and/or parked motor vehicles to allow good quality cycle facilities to be installed. Wigan Council are keen to work closely with residents, businesses, and disability groups to ensure accessibility is maintained where possible.

Crossing this busy road isn't very easy and there are lots of people travelling on foot using this route. Two toucan crossing facilities for pedestrians and cyclist are proposed:

- A new crossing close to Bonnywell Road
- Upgrade of the existing crossing close to West Bridgewater Street

The bus stop on the west side of St Helens Road will stay in its current location and separation from the highway is achieved through the provision of a bus stop bypass.

- The cycle track will run behind the bus stop
- There will be space to wait for/get off a bus in between the stop and cycle lane
- Zebra crossings and tactile paving will allow pedestrians to cross the cycle track at either end of the bus stop

This scheme will connect St Helens Road to the completed walking and cycling route to improve the off-road paths around Leigh Sports Village and The Flash.

The future ambition is to continue the route over the canal, with an accessible bridge for pedestrians and cyclists, and segregated facilities to the town centre. These schemes are dependent on future funding opportunities.

- Key:**
-  New kerbline
 -  New controlled crossing paving
 -  New uncontrolled crossing paving
 -  New corduroy paving
 -  Shared use facility for pedestrians and cyclists
 -  Existing electrical cabinets
 -  Two-way segregated cycle-lane
 -  Footway
 -  Bo
 -  New bollard

