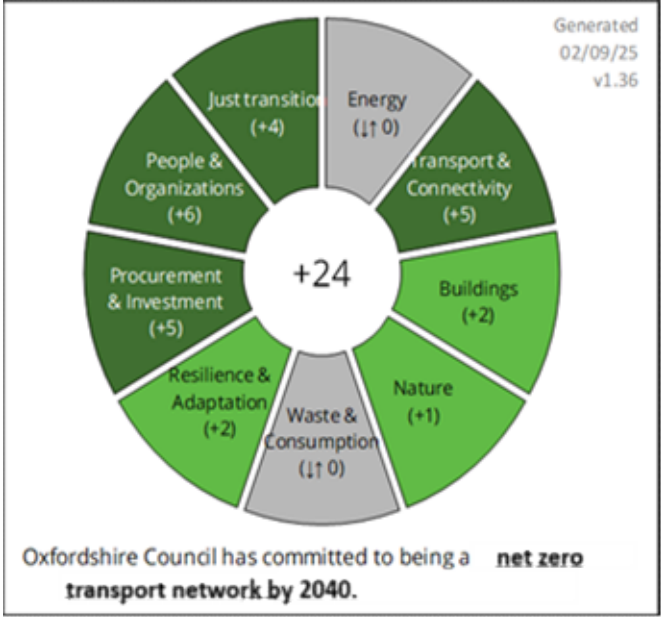


# Climate Impact Assessment

## Summary

Directorate and Service Area	Place Planning and Co-ordination, Place Shaping, Economy and Place
What is being assessed	Thame Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan (LCWIP)
Is this a new or existing function or policy?	This is a new local policy for Thame. It is supported by the existitng Local Transport and Connectivity Plan (LTCP) Policy 3 - Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plans
Summary of assessment	<p>Development and implementation of LCWIPs for all the main urban settlements in Oxfordshire (LTCP Policy 3a) is one of Oxfordshire County Council's commitments to move towards the vision set out in the LTCP for "an inclusive and safe net-zero Oxfordshire transport system that enables all parts of the county to thrive".</p> <p>The CIA assessment is therefore overwhelmingly positive, recognising the significant potential for improvements to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Transport and Connectivity</li><li>- Buildings (promoting sustainable development)</li><li>- Procurement and Investment (investing in climate action)</li><li>- People and Organization (driving behaviour change by providing enabling infrastructure)</li><li>- Just Transition (promoting health and wellbeing through active travel, promoting engagement and coproduction, and reducing inequality)</li></ul> <p>The Thame LCWIP identifies a network of walking and cycling routes in Thame and the surrounding area and makes proposals for investment in infrastructure changes to improve conditions for people walking and cycling in this area.</p> <p>LCWIPs are the Department for Transport's recommended strategic approach to identifying cycling and walking improvements required at the local level. The LCWIP approach is supported at a local level in the LTCP.</p>
Completed by	Jess Livesey
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Director sign off by	Paul Fermer
Assessment date	02/09/2025



Detail of proposal

Context / Background	<p>The Thame LCWIP is one of a number of LCWIPs under development for market towns across Oxfordshire (as required by LTCP Policy 3a). LCWIPs enable a long term approach to developing/improving local cycle and walking networks.</p> <p>This is the first version of the Thame LCWIP to be considered for approval.</p>
Proposal	<p>The LCWIP has audited current routes and will provide a prioritised list of improvements to the cycling, walking and wheeling network in Thame supporting people to take more trips by active travel modes. This has been chosen as the best course of action as the LCWIP will help will ensure that improvements to the active travel networks in the area are prioritised effectively as well as helping secure funding for these improvements which in turn will help facilitate model shift as per the LTCPs vision.</p> <p>LCWIP proposes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• New/upgraded crossings</li><li>• Junction improvements</li><li>• Removal/modification of barriers</li><li>• Widened footway</li><li>• New/upgraded shared footway/cycleway</li><li>• New footway</li><li>• New/upgraded segregated cycleway</li></ul>
Evidence / Intelligence	<p>Consultation Outcomes: Positive reception for Lets Talk Consultation, Steering Group Meetings and Draft LCWIP (TBC)</p> <p>Feedback from Services Users and Stakeholders:</p> <p>Support from Local Active Travel Groups, residents and councillors</p> <p>Constructive feedback received will be considered for inclusion in the LCWIP before it is approved.</p>
Alternatives considered / rejected	<p>As noted above, the adopted LTCP makes a clear commitment to develop an LCWIP for Thame. Policy 3a in the LTCP states that Oxfordshire County Council will:</p> <p>"Develop Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plans (LCWIPs) for all main urban settlements (over 10,000 inhabitants) across the county by 2025, according to national guidance and best practice with the aim of increasing walking and cycling activity."</p> <p>The LCWIP follows national guidance and is supported by both national and local policy. Using an alternative approach would mean deviating from the policies adopted in the LTCP and may reduce the likelihood of securing funding for active travel schemes in the Thame area.</p>

Category	Impact criteria	Score (-3 to +3)	Description of impact	Actions or mitigations to reduce negative impacts	Action owner	Timeline and monitoring arrangements
Energy	Increases energy efficiency	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Energy	Promotes a switch to low-carbon or renewable energy	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Energy	Promotes resilient, local, smart energy systems	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Transport & Connectivity	Reduces need to travel and/or the need for private car ownership	2	The LCWIP will reduce staff and residents' need for private car ownership by supporting investment in infrastrucutre for alternative modes (aiming to make walking and cycling the natural choice for short trips and for shorter sections of longer trips)	Reduction in the need for private car ownership and use by improving the infrastructure provided for other modes is a key function of LCWIPs. Action: develop, approve and implement the Thame LCWIP.	South and Vale Locality	10 years. Monitor impact through LTCP target monitoring and regular reviews of the LCWIP.
Transport & Connectivity	Supports active travel	3	<p>Prioritises routes for active travel to act as evidence base for improvements to cycle and walking infrastrucuture. The LCWIP will help to normalise walking and cycling and will help to make these modes more accessible. The LCWIP proposes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• New/upgraded crossings</li><li>• Junction improvements</li><li>• Removal/modification of barriers</li><li>• Widened footway</li><li>• New/upgraded shared footway/cycleway</li><li>• New footway</li><li>• New/upgraded segregated cycleway</li><li>• Traffic calming</li><li>• New/upgraded lighting</li><li>• School streets</li><li>• Surface improvements</li><li>• New traffic regulations</li><li>• Permission for cycling</li><li>• New/upgraded wayfinding</li><li>• On-carriageway cycling improvements</li></ul>	Supporting active travel is a key function of LCWIPs. Action: develop, approve and implement Thame LCWIP.	South and Vale Locality	10 years. Monitor impact through LTCP target monitoring and regular reviews of the LCWIP.

Transport & Connectivity	Increases use of public transport		1	The LCWIP will help to support an increase in the usage of public transport by improving access to public transport interchanges (bus stops and railway stations) and by encouraging modal shift from private car use to walking and cycling (thereby helping to reduce congestion and improve public transport journey time reliability).	Ensure that access to public transport interchanges is considered carefully when developing the LCWIP.	South and Vale Locality	10 years. Monitor impact through LTCP target monitoring and regular reviews of the LCWIP.
Transport & Connectivity	Accelerates electrification of transport	N/A		N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Buildings	Promotes net zero new builds and developments		1	The LCWIP will support the delivery of sustainable developments by helping to ensure that new developments in the area provide suitable infrastructure for active travel, in order to maximise uptake of active modes for travel to and from new developments and to minimise private car use associated with these developments.	Action: work with district councils, developers and Transport Development Management colleagues to ensure that new developments make suitable provision for active travel, both by providing improvements identified in the LCWIP, and by identifying and providing any additional relevant improvements which have not yet been included in the LCWIP.	South and Vale Locality	10 years. Monitor impact through LTCP target monitoring and regular reviews of the LCWIP.
Buildings	Accelerates retrofitting of existing buildings	N/A		N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Nature	Protects, restores or enhances biodiversity, landscape and ecosystems	N/A		N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Nature	Develops blue and green infrastructure	N/A					
Nature	Improves access to nature and green spaces		1	Increase accessibility to nature and green spaces via improved active travel provision	Implement proposals that improve access to nature and green space	N/A	N/A
Waste & Consumption	Reduces overall consumption	N/A					
Waste & Consumption	Supports waste prevention and drive reuse and recycling	N/A					
Resilience & Adaptation	Increases resilience to flooding	N/A		N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Resilience & Adaptation	Increases resilience to other extreme weather events (e.g., storms, cold snaps, heatwaves, droughts)	N/A		N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

Resilience & Adaptation	Increases resilience of council services, communities, energy systems, transport infrastructure and/or supply chains		2	The LCWIP will help to increase the resilience of local communities and local transport infrastructure by promoting sustainable modes of travel, thereby helping to reduce the negative impacts of Oxfordshire's transport network on the climate, and helping to reduce the dependence of people travelling in Oxfordshire on global fuel markets.	Adapting to respond to the climate emergency is a key function of LCWIPs. Action: develop, approve and implement the Thame LCWIP.	South and Vale Locality	10 years. Monitor impact through LTCP target monitoring and regular reviews of the LCWIP.
Procurement & Investment	Procurement practices prioritise low-carbon options, circular economy and sustainability	N/A		N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Procurement & Investment	Investment being considered supports climate action/ is consistent with path to net zero		3	Investment in alternatives to the use of the private car is a key action for Oxfordshire in response to the climate emergency. As set out in the adopted LTCP, the development and implementation of LCWIPs such as this one is a key part of delivering against this action.	Supporting climate action is a key function of LCWIPs. Action: develop, approve and implement the Thame LCWIP.	South and Vale Locality	10 years. Monitor impact through LTCP target monitoring and regular reviews of the LCWIP.
People & Organizations	Drives behavioural change to address the climate and ecological emergency		3	The LCWIP will help to encourage behavioural change of staff and residents by providing infrastructure which supports the change from private car use to active travel.	Encouraging modal shift is a key function of LCWIPs. Action: develop, approve and implement the Thame LCWIP.	South and Vale Locality	11 years. Monitor impact through LTCP target monitoring and regular reviews of the LCWIP.
People & Organizations	Drives organizational and systemic change to address the climate and ecological emergency		1	The LCWIP supports LTCP targets for reducing emission and Council targets for being net-zero by 2040. The LCWIP is a guide that helps to promote the Council's climate policies in new developments	Adoption and implementation of the LCWIP will help to drive change and address the climate emergency.	N/A	N/A
Just transition	Promotes green innovation and job creation	N/A		N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Just transition	Promotes health and wellbeing		2	The LCWIP promotes active travel which will have health co benefits for physical and mental health in the local population.	Improving health and wellbeing is a key function of LCWIPs. Action: develop, approve and implement the Thame LCWIP.	#REF!	#REF!

Just transition	Reduces poverty and inequality	<div>1</div> <div>The LCWIP will help to create accessible, low-carbon transport options for deprived communities. Improved active travel helps with accessibility for work and leisure activities.</div>	Creation of accessible, low-carbon transport options is a key function of LCWIPs. Action: develop, approve and implement the Thame LCWIP.	South and Vale Locality	10 years. Monitor impact through LTCP target monitoring and regular reviews of the LCWIP.
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