



Oxfordshire County Council

Equalities Impact Assessment

Witney Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan

31/01/2023

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Section 1: Summary details

Directorate and Service Area	Environment and Place, Growth and Economy
What is being assessed (e.g. name of policy, procedure, project, service or proposed service change).	Witney Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan (LCWIP)
Is this a new or existing function or policy?	A new plan for Witney
Summary of assessment Briefly summarise the policy or proposed service change. Summarise possible impacts. Does the proposal bias, discriminate or unfairly disadvantage individuals or groups within the community? (following completion of the assessment).	<p>Development of LCWIPs is a policy requirement within Oxfordshire's Local Transport and Connectivity Plan. LCWIPs play a key role in supporting more journeys by walking and cycling and addressing the climate emergency.</p> <p>No negative equalities impacts have been identified as arising from the Witney LCWIP, instead there is significant opportunity to address inequality in Witney and the surrounding area.</p> <p>The LCIWP promotes investment in infrastructure that will improve the accessibility of travel in Witney and the surrounding area for everyone.</p> <p>All individual highways schemes may result in unintended negative equalities impacts. This risk will be considered in detail on a scheme-by-scheme basis (using scheme-specific EIAs as appropriate) when the individual schemes promoted in the LCWIP are developed.</p>
Completed By	Kim Sutherland, Transport Planner
Authorised By	Hannah Battye, Head of Placemaking
Date of Assessment	31/01/2023

Section 2: Detail of proposal

<p>Context / Background</p> <p>Briefly summarise the background to the policy or proposed service change, including reasons for any changes from previous versions.</p>	<p>The Witney LCWIP is a 10-year plan for improving cycling and walking infrastructure in Witney. The improvements aim to enable walking and cycling to be the natural choices for travelling short distances (or as part of longer journeys), in Witney and the surrounding area, thereby reducing reliance on motor vehicles. It is a policy requirement in Oxfordshire County Council's Local Transport and Connectivity Plan to produce LCWIPs (Policy 3a).</p> <p>This is the first version of the Witney LCWIP to be considered for approval.</p>
<p>Proposals</p> <p>Explain the detail of the proposals, including why this has been decided as the best course of action.</p>	<p>The LCWIP proposes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •new and improved crossings for people walking and cycling •segregated cycle tracks •provision of lighting on footpaths and cycleways •removal or modification of barriers on walking and cycling routes to improve accessibility •implementation of additional cycle parking •new and improved bridges on walking and cycling routes •footway widening and resurfacing •new shared use footway/cycleway •public realm improvements to create a more accessible and pleasant environment on High Street for people to walk, cycle and spend time.
<p>Evidence / Intelligence</p> <p>List and explain any data, consultation outcomes, research findings, feedback from service users and stakeholders etc, that supports your proposals and can</p>	<p>The LCWIP and its associated documents outline the evidence used to inform the proposals in the LCWIP. Two consultations have been held, the feedback from these is used to inform the proposals in the Witney LCWIP.</p>

<p>help to inform the judgements you make about potential impact on different individuals, communities or groups and our ability to deliver our climate commitments.</p>	
<p>Alternatives considered / rejected</p> <p>Summarise any other approaches that have been considered in developing the policy or proposed service change, and the reasons why these were not adopted. This could include reasons why doing nothing is not an option.</p>	<p>The Witney LCWIP is a policy requirement in LTCP (Policy 3a). The Witney LCWIP development followed Department for Transport Guidance on developing LCWIPs. 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 Witney area.</p>

Section 3: Impact Assessment - Protected Characteristics

Protected Characteristic	No Impact	Positive	Negative	Description of Impact	Any actions or mitigation to reduce negative impacts	Action owner* (*Job Title, Organisation)	Timescale and monitoring arrangements
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Age	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<p>Segregated cycle facilities are provided where possible so that people cycling do not need to mix with motor vehicles or cycle on carriageway. This increases the safety of cycling, particularly for children, young people and the elderly who are typically less confident at cycling. In addition, the walking and cycling network ensures high quality connectivity to schools to support more journeys to school by walking and cycling.</p> <p>The Witney LCWIP also promotes the Healthy Streets Approach, which aims to create accessible and pleasant places for all. This includes the provision of benches to provide people with opportunities to rest when necessary.</p>	<p>Consider unintended consequences of individual schemes during design work.</p> <p>Public consultation endeavours to engage with a range of people to receive a representative view.</p>	Cherwell and West Locality Team	Ongoing
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Disability	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<p>The Witney LCWIP promotes the removal of physical barriers on footways and cycle paths to improve accessibility for all. The needs of people with visual impairments are also considered, including through the provision of tactile paving and segregated footways and cycleways to reduce conflict between people walking and cycling.</p> <p>The Witney LCWIP also promotes the Healthy Streets Approach, which aims to create accessible and pleasant places for all. This includes the provision of benches to provide people with opportunities to rest when necessary.</p>	<p>Retain or relocate disabled parking bays to suitable locations when reallocating space to active modes.</p> <p>Consider unintended consequences of individual schemes during design work.</p>	Cherwell and West Locality Team	Ongoing
Gender Reassignment	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Marriage & Civil Partnership	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

Pregnancy & Maternity	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<p>The Witney LCWIP promotes the removal of physical barriers on footways and cycle paths to improve accessibility for all, including for people with pushchairs and children.</p> <p>The Witney LCWIP also promotes the Healthy Streets Approach, which aims to create accessible and pleasant places for all. This includes the provision of benches to provide people with opportunities to rest when necessary.</p>	Consider unintended consequences of individual schemes during design work.	Cherwell and West Locality Team	Ongoing
Race	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

Sex	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<p>The cycle and walking networks provide equal opportunities for men and women.</p> <p>The cycle and walking networks will ensure inclusivity for all where everyone feels safe. Women more typically feel unsafe when cycling and walking – this can be due to lack of lighting and surveillance. The Witney LCWIP seeks to address this by identifying where lighting is needed, increasing the liveability and improving place making of spaces so that more people are encouraged to be in public spaces, and ensure routes are not in isolated locations.</p>	<p>The walking and cycling network will provide connectivity to a range of destinations to ensure that multi-purpose journeys can be made safely.</p> <p>Public consultation endeavours to engage with a range of people to receive a representative view.</p>	Cherwell and West Locality Team	Ongoing
Sexual Orientation	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Religion or Belief	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

Section 3: Impact Assessment - Additional Community Impacts

Additional community impacts	No Impact	Positive	Negative	Description of impact	Any actions or mitigation to reduce negative impacts	Action owner (*Job Title, Organisation)	Timescale and monitoring arrangements
Rural communities	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	The Witney LCIWP includes improved cycling connections with the villages surrounding Witney.	Consider unintended consequences of individual schemes during design work.	Cherwell and West Locality Team	Ongoing
Armed Forces	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	The Witney LCWIP includes a cycling connection between Witney and Brize Norton, which will benefit people working at RAF Brize Norton.	Consider unintended consequences of individual schemes during design work.	Cherwell and West Locality Team	Ongoing
Carers	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Should the schemes in the Witney LCWIP be implemented this may benefit people who are Carers or the people they care for, by making cycling and walking safe and more accessible to all people. It is recognised that the LCWIP may only benefit a small proportion of Carers.	Consider unintended consequences of individual schemes during design work.	Cherwell and West Locality Team	Ongoing
Areas of deprivation	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	The Witney LCWIP identifies areas of deprivation in Witney. The walking and cycling	Consider unintended consequences of individual schemes during design work.	Cherwell and West Locality Team	Ongoing

Additional community impacts	No Impact	Positive	Negative	Description of impact	Any actions or mitigation to reduce negative impacts	Action owner (*Job Title, Organisation)	Timescale and monitoring arrangements
				network have been developed to ensure that access to/ from these areas to key destinations in Witney is provided. This will help to improve health, wellbeing, and access to economic opportunities for people in these areas.			

Section 3: Impact Assessment - Additional Wider Impacts

Additional Wider Impacts	No Impact	Positive	Negative	Description of Impact	Any actions or mitigation to reduce negative impacts	Action owner* (*Job Title, Organisation)	Timescale and monitoring arrangements
Staff	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Potential for improvements to staff's ability to travel (commuting and business travel) by active modes.	Consider unintended consequences of individual schemes during design work.	Cherwell and West Locality Team	Ongoing
Other Council Services	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Potential for improved access to schools, Witney Library, and Witney Community Support Service premises by active modes.	Consider unintended consequences of individual schemes during design work.	Cherwell and West Locality Team	Ongoing
Providers	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Social Value ¹	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

¹ If the Public Services (Social Value) Act 2012 applies to this proposal, please summarise here how you have considered how the contract might improve the economic, social, and environmental well-being of the relevant area

Section 4: Review

Where bias, negative impact or disadvantage is identified, the proposal and/or implementation can be adapted or changed; meaning there is a need for regular review. This review may also be needed to reflect additional data and evidence for a fuller assessment (proportionate to the decision in question). Please state the agreed review timescale for the identified impacts of the policy implementation or service change.

Review Date	EIA to be reviewed during LCWIP updates. The LCWIP is a live document, and the EIA should be updated accordingly as and when changes are made to the LCWIP
Person Responsible for Review	Odele Parsons, Senior Transport Planner, Cherwell and West Locality Team
Authorised By	Hannah Battye, Head of Placemaking