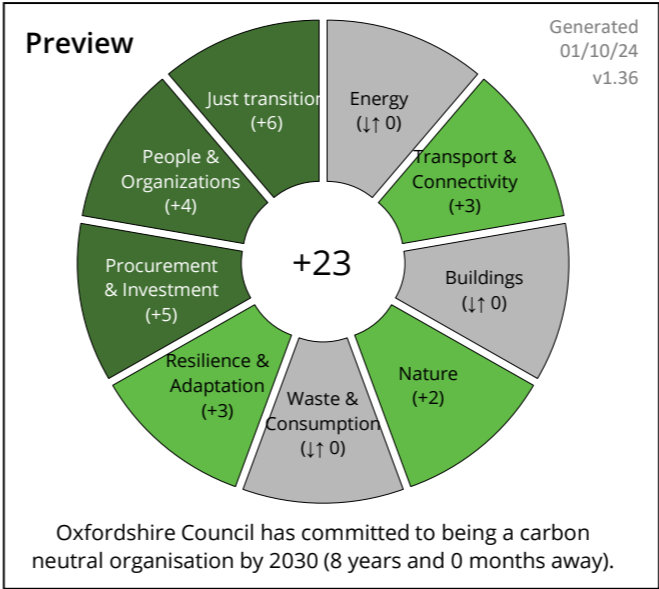


Climate Impact Assessment

Summary

Directorate and Service Area	Environment & Place, Place Planning North
What is being assessed	Cherwell Street, Banbury bus service improvement scheme
Is this a new or existing function or policy?	A new scheme
Summary of assessment	
Completed by	Colm McAllister
Climate action sign off by	
Director sign off by	
Assessment date	



Detail of proposal

Context / Background	The CIA is being updated following modelling results of the preferred scheme design and ahead of the Cabinet Member review for the transition of the project to the delivery team
Proposal	This scheme is part of OCC's Bus Service Improvement Plan, which sets out how OCC and local bus operators will achieve the outcomes of the National Bus Strategy. The signalised Bridge Street intersection with Cherwell Street is identified in the BSIP as of particular importance for Banbury's local and inter-urban bus network.
Evidence / Intelligence	<p>All the data, evidence, stakeholder engagement has been carried out during the feasibility study. Because of the speed of turn around the options assessment and feasibility design are being combined into one stage.</p> <p>In preparing for the bid we engaged with Stagecoach who are the main operator in Banbury, and they had evidence of bus delays and unreliable journey times from the south into the town centre. We also had evidence of the overall level of delay on Cherwell Street, approaching the Bridge Street junction.</p> <p>A four week non-statutory Public Consultation was undertaken in March 2024. 1400 visitors accessed the Let's Talk page and there were 120 respondents, with the most common method of travel through the study area for respondents being by bus and walking Feedback was overall positive, with over an 80% positive response for the proposal.</p>
Alternatives considered / rejected	<p>5 options were put forward for modelling, Two options (option 5 & 2) showed the best results for bus journey time and for minimal impact to general traffic, these options don't include implementing a bus lane. They have been refined into a option 5+.</p> <p>Doing nothing is not an option as this will make the bus services in the town increasingly unattractive, which will not encourage people back to the bus post-Covid as intended, and certainly won't encourage a shift from car to bus. The congestion levels are severe along this corridor and there is no alternative way into the town centre and the bus stops or bus station.</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				
Energy	Promotes a switch to low-carbon or renewable energy	N/A				
Energy	Promotes resilient, local, smart energy systems	N/A				
Transport & Connectivity	Reduces need to travel and/or the need for private car ownership		1	This will create more reliable bus journey time		
Transport & Connectivity	Supports active travel		1	Safer and more attractive pedestrian facilities are being produced, including replacing staggered crossings with straight across crossings and greening		
Transport & Connectivity	Increases use of public transport		2	Invests in public transport infrastructure		
Transport & Connectivity	Accelerates electrification of transport	N/A				
Buildings	Promotes net zero new builds and developments	N/A				
Buildings	Accelerates retrofitting of existing buildings	N/A				
Nature	Protects, restores or enhances biodiversity, landscape and ecosystems	N/A				
Nature	Develops blue and green infrastructure		1	Enhancing blue and green infrastructure is part of the brief for the scheme but the extent that this is met is unknown at this stage.		
Nature	Improves access to nature and green spaces		1	This would improve bus access to the green and blue spaces in the vicinity of Banbury town centre, such as the canal and parks.		
Waste & Consumption	Reduces overall consumption	N/A				
Waste & Consumption	Supports waste prevention and reuse and recycling	N/A				
Resilience & Adaptation	Increases resilience to flooding		1	The scheme should invest in flood mitigation measures using SUDs.		
Resilience & Adaptation	Increases resilience to other extreme weather events (e.g., storms, cold snaps, heatwaves, droughts)		1	The project will provide the opportunity to inform the public and stakeholders about extreme weather risks.		
Resilience & Adaptation	Increases resilience of council services, communities, energy systems, transport infrastructure and/or supply chains		1	The study will provide information and education for the community and stakeholders on resilience to climate change impacts and how moving away from a reliance on the car will assist this.		
Procurement & Investment	Procurement practices prioritise low-carbon options, circular economy and sustainability	N/A				

Procurement & Investment	Investment being considered supports climate action/ is consistent with path to net zero		3 Capital investment that supports transition to net zero in Banbury
People & Organizations	Drives behavioural change to address the climate and ecological emergency		3 Will provide infrastructure that will support behavioural change
People & Organizations	Drives organizational and systemic change to address the climate and ecological emergency	N/A	
Just transition	Promotes green innovation and job creation	N/A	
Just transition	Promotes health and wellbeing		3 Improves air quality if fewer car trips and less hold ups for buses
Just transition	Reduces poverty and inequality		2 Creates accessible, zero-carbon transport options