



**OFFICER REPORT TO LOCAL COMMITTEE
(Guildford)**

**A25 PARKWAY, LADYMEAD AND MIDLETON
ROAD, GUILDFORD SHARED CYCLE AND
PEDESTRIAN ROUTE**

12 SEPTEMBER 2012

KEY ISSUE

This report recommends the approval of a shared cycle and pedestrian route beside the A25, Parkway, Ladymead and Midleton Road.

SUMMARY

The report describes the Local Sustainable Transport Fund project to convert the footway beside the A25 Parkway, Ladymead and Midleton Road to shared use between pedestrians and cyclists, and seeks the committee's approval to these proposals.

OFFICER RECOMMENDATIONS

The Committee is asked to agree that:

- (i) the footways adjoining the A25 Parkway, Ladymead and Midleton Road are converted to shared used for pedestrian and cyclists, as detailed in paragraph 9 of this report.

INTRODUCTION and BACKGROUND

1. Last year Surrey County Council was awarded £3.9m from the Department of Transport (DfT) as part of its Local Sustainable Transport Fund (LSTF) initiative. A second LSTF Bid was successful this year and the DfT awarded the County a further £14.3m in July. Government policy seeks to generate economic growth and carbon reductions by supporting transport projects which help residents and businesses travel locally by sustainable modes such as walking, cycling and public transport.
2. Last financial year the County successfully delivered a range of projects, including four cycle projects, both in Woking and Guildford Boroughs, and in doing so fully spent the allocated funds for the year 2011/12. One of these schemes was the widening and improvement of footways on the A25, Parkway between London Road and puffin crossing west of the Spectrum access junction (eastern section). Approval to proceed with this section of the shared pedestrian and cycle route was taken by the Guildford Local Committee on 13 February this year.
3. The main purpose of the February 2012 report was to agree to the building the eastern section of the A25 route first, and did not explicitly confirm the conversion of the footway to shared use, although this is indirectly implied as the result. However, to rectify any possible uncertainty the eastern section is included in the recommendations to this report for converting all necessary sections of the A25 to shared use.
4. Cabinet has approved the schedule of projects for implementation during the financial year 2012/13 for the three towns benefiting from LSTF Key Component funding. This Committee, in turn approved the scheme list for Guildford at its meeting in March 2012. Three of the approved cycle schemes will improve cycle facilities along the A25 corridor, linking important business locations with other cycle routes through residential areas to the north of Guildford and the town centre. The three schemes are:

A25, Parkway (western section)
A25, Ladymead
A25 Midleton Road

5. Officers are well advanced with the design and implementation of all three sections of the A25 cycle route, which includes the widening of certain sections of the footways where they are too narrow for shared use. In general this involves adding 0.5m to the existing 2.0m wide footways. According to UK design standards 2.5m is considered to be the minimum width of footway that can be designated for shared pedestrian and cycle use.
6. It should be noted that there is already a section of A25 Parkway between the puffin west of the spectrum and Stoke Road is already laid out as a

segregated cycle and pedestrian footway, where the footway and cycle track is separated by a solid white line, which is frequently ignored by pedestrians and cyclists alike.

LEGAL REQUIREMENTS FOR SHARED USE FOOTWAYS

7. It is a requirement of the Highways Act 1980 that Highway Authorities wishing to introduce shared use between cyclists and pedestrians on footways must pass a resolution of the relevant Council Committee to approve the conversion of the public footway to shared use.
8. Where residents may be affected by the proposal to introduce shared use residents are normally notified of the County's intentions by letter and invited to give any comments about the proposals. In the case of the A25 there are no residential properties affected.

SECTIONS OF A25 FOOTWAY TO BECOME SHARED USE

9. The sections of the A25 footway that are proposed for shared use conversion are listed in the table below.

Road Name	Side	From	To
Parkway	Northern footway	London Road	Stoke Road
Parkway	Southern footway	London Road	Spectrum access
Ladymead	Both footways	Stoke Road	Woodbridge Road
Midleton Road	Northern footway	Woodbridge Road	River Wey (Wood Bridge)
Midleton Road	Southern footway	Woodbridge Road	Ash Grove

10. In respect to the last section in the above table, the route runs along the southern footway from Woodbridge Road, over the River Wey, passed the Guildford Business Park, across Surrey Way, beside the A3 on slip road from the Dennis roundabout, until it connects with the local road Ash Grove. The route then follows a path adjacent to Ash Grove, across the railway to the University Roundabout, giving access to businesses and the University served by this junction. The section from the Dennis Roundabout to Ash Grove is not due for funding this year, but an allocation will be proposed to include the section for implementation next year as part of the LSTF Key Component Funding.
11. A plan showing the different section of the A25 share footway cycle route is presented as **Annex A** at the rear of this report.

CONSULTATIONS

12. The development of the Guildford cycle routes have been discussed with

consultees such as the Guildford Cycle Touring Club and the routes were on display at the recent public consultation into the County's Large Bid.

EQUALITIES AND DIVERSITY IMPLICATIONS

13. There are no direct Equality and Diversity implications as a result of this report.

CRIME AND DISORDER IMPLICATIONS

14. There are no direct Crime and Disorder implications as a result of this report.

FINANCIAL AND VALUE FOR MONEY IMPLICATIONS

15. The implementation of the shared use routes is being funded by the DfT grant award from their LSTF (Key Component), and where appropriate from Section 106 contributions. Two Planning Applications in preparation for sites in Ladymead are likely to contribute to the A25 cycle/pedestrian route projects.

CONCLUSIONS & REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

16. It is recommended that the Guildford Local Committee agree to the use of the footways adjoining the A25 Parkway, Ladymead and Midleton Road (as detailed in para 8), as shared routes for pedestrians and cyclists.

WHAT HAPPENS NEXT

17. As further sections of the A25 footway become upgraded and improved, they can immediately operate as shared pedestrian and cycle routes.

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BACKGROUND PAPERS	None
