

Consultation Plan:

Emergency Active Travel Fund Tranche 2 schemes

In November 2020, Warwickshire County Council was awarded £0.979m from Tranche 2 of the Government's Emergency Active Travel Fund, which aims to help local authorities implement measures to create an environment that is safer for both walking and cycling.

Of this funding, £0.829m has been allocated towards the northern phase of Rugby Gateway – rail station / town centre cycle route and the Long Shoot cycle route in Nuneaton.

The Department for Transport have asked local authorities to publish Consultation Plans on how they plan to engage / consult local communities on their EATF2 schemes and this is set out below for Warwickshire's schemes.

Rugby Gateway – Town Centre (phase 1): A426 Toucan crossing / Brownsover Lane traffic calming scheme

1) Informal engagement

Early stage engagement on the overall scheme principles via written communication / discussion with the local cycle forum, local residents, County Councillor, Rugby Borough Council and the local MP.

2) Statutory consultation

The two measures which make up this scheme, a Toucan crossing over a dual carriageway and a traffic calming scheme on a minor road, are each subject to a statutory consultation process which follow on from the informal engagement and include a public notice on site and in the local press, with scheme plans made available online. The statutory consultations involve a range of local and national stakeholders, including Rugby Borough Council, Warwickshire Police, Freight Transport Association and Warwickshire Vision Support (formerly Warwickshire Association for the Blind).

The above engagement / consultation is considered appropriate for the scale and location of the proposed scheme. However, we will communicate with a wider body of the public and stakeholders via community forums, local schools and local businesses to ensure awareness of the scheme.

Long Shoot (A47) cycle track, Nuneaton (eastern section: Nuneaton – Hinckley route)

1) Informal engagement

Early stage engagement with the local County Councillor, the Borough Council, the local MP, Nuneaton cycle forum and Sustrans.

2) Stakeholder / public engagement

Following development of a draft scheme design, an engagement exercise will include the above and the following stakeholders to obtain feedback on the scheme:

- Local residents living on or adjacent to the scheme
- Pedestrians / cyclists using the Long Shoot
- Local schools / colleges / businesses

- Community Forums
- Warwickshire Vision / Guide Dogs
- Police & emergency Services
- Bus operators
- Highways England
- Royal Mail
- WCC County Highways
- Wider public with an interest in the scheme

Proposed approach to engagement

Email / leaflet drop

We will contact the above residents / organisations via letter or email to explain the scheme and direct them to a web page for further information on the engagement process, to view plans and provide a feedback mechanism. Contact details will be provided to enable people to discuss the scheme or request a hard copy of the plans / feedback form if required.

On site posters

To ensure wider awareness of the scheme amongst the local community and potential users of the scheme, we will display posters at other suitable locations on or near the corridor. These will explain how to take part in the engagement process as above.

Local media

We will also issue a press release and publicise the scheme on the Warwickshire web and via social media channels at the start of the engagement exercise, to raise wider local awareness of the proposed scheme and the opportunity to participate in the engagement process.

3) TRO statutory consultation: speed limit reduction

The A47 Long Shoot cycling scheme includes a speed limit reduction, which will be subject to a Traffic Regulation Order and a statutory consultation process with a range of consultees following the above stakeholder / public engagement.

Next steps

A summary report will be produced to set out the feedback received and explain how it has been used to inform the final scheme design where appropriate. This will be published on the web and individual responses provided where appropriate.

A Communications Plan will be developed to summarise the outcome of the engagement process and provide information on the delivery of the schemes.