



Written Representation
on behalf of
Warwick District Cycleways and Clean Air Warwickshire

THE WARWICKSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL (A429 COVENTRY
ROAD, TOWNSEND CLOSE, PHILLIPPES ROAD AND
HUDDISDON CLOSE, WARWICK) CYCLE TRACK ORDER 2022

A429 Coventry Road Cycle Scheme

About Us

Warwick District Cycleways ('Cycleways') is an open membership group administered by constitution with a vision to campaign for a cycle friendly Warwick District that will benefit everyone. Its aims are:

- To make cycling safer in Warwick District.
- To promote cycling as a safe, enjoyable, efficient and environmentally friendly form of transport and recreation for all.
- To operate as a lobby group.
- To help companies and transport bodies consider the needs of cyclists.
- To promote the use of bicycles as a lifestyle choice.

Clean Air Warwickshire is an open membership group that campaigns to inform, facilitate and communicate around the issues of poor air quality and campaigns for improvements that will deliver benefits. It does this by:

- Informing local people and leaders of the state of Warwickshire's air, how it compares to other similar towns, the causes, and why air quality matters – aiming to increase popular demand for action to be taken on our poor air quality.
- Taking a collaborative and non-political approach, supporting parish, town, district and county councils to implement measures that will improve air quality.
- Complementing and collaborating with other environmental groups.

Combined, both organisations represent hundreds of residents and business owners local to Warwick, Leamington Spa and Kenilworth. On behalf of both organisations, we undertake to provide the following written representation for consideration by the Inspector at Public Inquiry on 11th January 2024.

Cycle Network

Cycleways and Clean Air Warwickshire recognise that the greatest benefits from introducing cycle infrastructure only come once a functioning network of routes is in place. We were proud to contribute to the development of Warwickshire's Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan and are keen to see that its delivery is expedited in order to achieve the scale of ambition in mode shift towards sustainable travel. We wish to see a bold, coherent active travel strategy for Warwickshire.

We recognise that this scheme will deliver a strategic connection between the centre of Warwick and the existing walking and cycling track on the A429 Coventry Road north of Primrose Hill and therefore its influence is well beyond that of its immediate surroundings.

Delivery of this link will provide an immediate benefit to residents of Woodloes Park and surrounding neighbourhoods north of Warwick as well as facilitating future extensions to serve Leek Wootton, Warwick Hospital and Kenilworth. The southern end of the proposed route terminates at the eastern gateway to Warwick Town Centre of St John's and the route passes close to Warwick railway station. The gradient of the road means that an off-road cycle track will deliver a significantly more attractive route than is currently provided in sharing the road with motorised vehicles.

Scheme Development

Cycleways and Clean Air Warwickshire have reviewed and provided feedback to the earlier design process, including our view that greater segregation of cyclists was required to seek to achieve best-practice under LTN 1/20 guidance. We were glad to see this reflected in the updated designs put forward by Warwickshire County Council in the form that was taken forward to the draft Order.

We recognise that the corridor is constrained along its length and that compromise is necessary. We note that the proposed route is now to provide a segregation between pedestrians and cyclists and welcome the approach of setting back the cycle route from the edge of the carriageway where width is available.

Whilst not involved in the discussions alluded to between Warwickshire County Council and local residents, we support the evidence put forward by Dan Morris on behalf of

Warwickshire County Council in Section 3 of his Proof of Evidence. We would further add that it is our experience that in a wide range of public consultations and polls, the delivery of high-quality cycle infrastructure is a key priority of the general public at large.

Conclusion

The delivery of this cycle track will result in a benefit to people who choose to cycle locally for all or part of their journey; it will encourage people to shift to active travel; and deliver a tangible response to the climate emergency and local air quality concerns, all within the envelope of adopted national and local policy and transport plans.

Cycleways and Clean Air Warwickshire would therefore like to show our support for the confirmation of the Order.

Submitted by Mark Lever-Green, on behalf of,

Susan Rasmussen
Chair
Cycleways

Kevin McGreal
Chair
Clean Air Warwickshire

10th January 2021