

Response ID ANON-4M1E-555X-E

Submitted to National Highways Midlands Regional Stakeholder Survey 2025
Submitted on 2025-03-06 12:09:33

Introduction

About you

1 Name

Name:
Sheila Cooper

2 Organisation

Organisation:
Warwickshire Solihull and Coventry Local Access Forum

Postcode:
CV7 7AZ

3 Role

Role (if representing an organisation):
Acting Chair

4 Email

Email:
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5 Contact number

Contact number:
01676 535242

6 Which section of the motorway on the Strategic Road Network in the Midlands does your most recent experience relate to? (please select one)

A46

7 Are you happy for National Highways to use the information supplied in this survey to contact you about future works or specific areas of interest expressed within this survey?

Yes

Getting to know you more

8 Which of the following projects best describes your most recent experience when dealing with National Highways? (please select one)

A46 Coventry Junctions Walsgrave (MP)

Other schemes or roadworks not listed above:

9 Thinking about your most recent interactions, when was the last time you received an update from National Highways? (please leave blank if you haven't received an update in the past 12 months)

Date:
2025-02-28

10 Focusing on improved access and removal of barriers to non-motorised travel, please share your experience or views on active travel and accessibility, including rights of way, when accessing the strategic road network for walking, wheeling, cycling and horse riding, especially for those with disabilities and mobility impaired:

Focusing on improved access and barrier removal, share your experience or views on active travel and accessibility, including rights of way, when accessing the strategic road network for walking, cycling, wheeling, horse riding, and other non-motorised journeys, especially for those with disabilities: - Are you aware of any National Highways rights of way and active travel projects that have improved non-motorised journeys in your area?:
No

Focusing on improved access and barrier removal, share your experience or views on active travel and accessibility, including rights of way, when accessing the strategic road network for walking, cycling, wheeling, horse riding, and other non-motorised journeys, especially for those with disabilities: - Have you noticed an increase in walkers, wheelers, cyclists and/or horse riders using rights of way and active travel facilities on, across or near the strategic road network?:

Focusing on improved access and barrier removal, share your experience or views on active travel and accessibility, including rights of way, when accessing the strategic road network for walking, cycling, wheeling, horse riding, and other non-motorised journeys, especially for those with disabilities: - Has National Highways effectively provided and/or improved rights of way and active travel facilities that have removed barriers for all users, including those with disabilities and mobility impaired?:

Focusing on improved access and barrier removal, share your experience or views on active travel and accessibility, including rights of way, when accessing the strategic road network for walking, cycling, wheeling, horse riding, and other non-motorised journeys, especially for those with disabilities: - Are you aware of any future rights of way and / or active travel opportunities in your area that National Highways should consider?:

Please use the text box below to expand on your response and share any additional thoughts or experiences of active travel, accessibility and rights of way.:

We hope access for ALL into the University Hospital Walsgrave from the surrounding area and the wider road networks will be drastically improved during the A46 Walsgrave Junction Upgrade. This is not as yet apparent.

Accessibility for ALL and the provision of sustainable travel also for ALL is a vital component of this proposal. A dedicated access route into the hospital including emergency vehicles is essential. Without the provision of a dedicated access into the hospital for patients, staff, including consultants and emergency vehicles, the project cannot be described as an upgrade.

11 In your interactions with National Highways (by phone, email and in person) did you find us?

In your interactions with National Highways (by phone, email and in person) did you find them - Accessible and easy to engage with?:
Disappointing (1*)

In your interactions with National Highways (by phone, email and in person) did you find them - Understanding of your needs and concerns?:
Disappointing (1*)

In your interactions with National Highways (by phone, email and in person) did you find them - Open and honest in discussions with you?:
Disappointing (1*)

In your interactions with National Highways (by phone, email and in person) did you find them - Responsive in following up your enquiries?:
Disappointing (1*)

In your interactions with National Highways (by phone, email and in person) did you find them - Trusted to display integrity, dependability, and competence?:
Disappointing (1*)

If you would like to provide further information in relation to your answers, please use the text box below.:

The WSC LAF's previous comments have not been acknowledged or replied to. We are a statutory Advisory body who were contacted and attended a meeting with other interested parties a long time ago to give our comments details of which we still hold. Nothing other than a few emails and request to respond to surveys has followed. We have not been contacted directly as a consultee and certainly we have not been asked to provide and additional information in our advisory capacity on all things rights of way.

If the access route into the hospital from the A46 Walsgrave Junction during the proposed Upgrade Project does not include a new and dedicated access route into the hospital, the gridlocking, disruption of emergency vehicles and time sent by patients using public transport to access their hospital appointments the project will be substandard. Staff including consultants find their working days blighted by serious travel access issues.

12 How highly do you rate National Highways engagement with regards to:

How highly do you rate National Highways engagement about - Explaining the benefits and impacts of a project?:
Disappointing (1*)

How highly do you rate National Highways engagement about - The reasoning for road improvements?:
Disappointing (1*)

How highly do you rate National Highways engagement about - Explaining the planning and development process?:
Disappointing (1*)

How highly do you rate National Highways engagement about - Explaining the construction process?:
Disappointing (1*)

How highly do you rate National Highways engagement about - Explaining how National Highways directly benefits you or your organisation?:
Disappointing (1*)

How highly do you rate National Highways engagement about - Understanding your priorities as an individual or an organisation?:
Disappointing (1*)

If you would like to provide further information in relation to your answers, please use the text box below.:

Our statutory advisory comments have thus far been ignored.

13 Please rate National Highways engagement and supporting materials in terms of:

Can you rate National Highways engagement and materials in terms of - Quality and accuracy?:

Disappointing (1*)

Can you rate National Highways engagement and materials in terms of - Relevance to you?:

Disappointing (1*)

Can you rate National Highways engagement and materials in terms of - User friendliness?:

Satisfactory (3*)

If you would like to provide further information in relation to your answers, please use the text box below.:

The Warwickshire Solihull and Coventry Local Access Forum would appreciate direct face to face contact so our questions and the issues and matters they relate to can receive definitive answers. Our Acting Secretary is: charlesbarlow@warwickshire.gov.uk

I am certain he, I and all our members would like to invite you to attend one of our meetings which are held every three months in Shire Hall Warwick so we can receive clarification and have an option to ask appropriate questions on the proposed A46 Walsgrave Junction Upgrade.

The cost effectiveness of including a dedicated access/egress into the University Hospital Coventry during the A46 Walsgrave Junction Upgrade clearly makes undeniable financial sense.

14 How do you feel about National Highways?

Overall, I rate the PROCESS of dealing with National Highways - Overall, I rate the PROCESS of dealing with National Highways:

Disappointing (1*)

Please use this section to comment further about the reasoning for your answers relating to the PROCESS. Please feel free to share your views on what you think works well and where you see room for improvement.:

The formal advice given by a Statutory Advisory body, in this case the Warwickshire Solihull and Coventry Local Access Forum made in accordance with section 94(5) of the Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000 which does not produce a response is disappointing.

The National Highways Authority should have regard to relevant advice from this forum in carrying out its functions.

Overall, I rate the OUTCOME of dealing with National Highways as - Overall, I rate the OUTCOME of dealing with National Highways as:

Disappointing (1*)

Please use this section to comment further about the reasoning for your answers relating to OUTCOMES. Please feel free to share your views on what you think works well and where you see room for improvement.:

There have been no acknowledgements or OUTCOMES

Overall, I rate my RELATIONSHIP with National Highways as - Overall, I rate my RELATIONSHIP with National Highways as:

Disappointing (1*)

Please use this section to comment further about the reasoning for your answers relating to your RELATIONSHIP. Please feel free to share your views on what you think works well and where you see room for improvement.:

As Acting Chair of the WSC LAF I believe the answers given reflect the responses given above.

15 Would you speak positively to others about National Highways?

No

Please use this section to comment further about the reasoning for your answer. :

We would appreciate the National Highways Authority accepting our invitation to attend one of our meetings.

16 Would you like to arrange a meeting with a representative from National Highways to discuss any opportunities or concerns highlighted in your responses?

Yes

If you answered yes, please indicate below the key topics you'd like to discuss further.:

As Acting Chair I am one of many members who will all have different questions to ask and issues to discuss. The main issue is described above but other issues involving Public Rights of Way in the wider area of the project will arise.

The Acting Secretary of the Warwickshire Solihull and Coventry Local Access Forum is:

charlesbarlow@warwickshire.gov.uk