

STATEMENT OF REASONS

WARWICKSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984

THE WARWICKSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL (A439, STRATFORD-UPON-AVON) (40 MPH SPEED LIMIT) ORDER 2024

THE WARWICKSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL (A439 STRATFORD-UPON-AVON) (50MPH SPEED LIMIT) (VARIATION NO.1) ORDER 2024

S65 AND S66 HIGHWAYS ACT 1980

A439 AND WELCOMBE ROAD, STRATFORD-UPON-AVON, PROPOSED CONVERSION OF FOOTWAY TO SHARED USE FOOTWAY / CYCLE TRACK AND CONSTRUCTION OF SHARED USE FOOTWAY / CYCLE TRACK

1. Background

The proposed scheme is funded by the Department for Transport (DfT) and will include the installation of a shared use pedestrian/cycle track along part of Welcombe Road and the A439 Warwick Road, Stratford-upon-Avon. The proposals also include a reduction of part of the 50mph speed limit, to a 30mph and 40mph speed limit, on the A439 Warwick Road, as described in the Schedules below.

Footway provisions will better connect pedestrians to the town Centre, and street lighting will be installed at junctions to improve visibility of vehicles joining on to Warwick Road. Parking restrictions (physical engineering measures) will be implemented to prevent dangerous parking along the route, as well as pedestrian crossings points where there is clear pedestrian movement across the highway.

Protected turning lanes at high collision junctions are proposed, and signage and lining improvements made across the entire route. This project aims to reduce the number of Personal Injury Collisions (PICs) along the identified route as well as identifying engineering measures to improve the route to prevent future collisions.

The proposed improvements to the road layout will help to reduce the number of personal injury collisions along the highlighted route which will be beneficial to all road users and the local community, especially vulnerable road users such as pedestrians and cyclists, the latter being involved in a higher percentage of collisions at the site.

Consultation Plan	Location
TR11430 -01	A439, Warwick Rd, Stratford upon Avon
TR11430- 02	
TR11430 -03	
TR11430-04	
TR11430-05	
TR11430-06	
TR11430-07	
TR11430-08	
TR1140 -09	
TR1140 -14	
TR11430-16	
TR11430-18	
TR11430-19	

2. Statement of Reasons

Shared use Pedestrian/Cycle Track- A439 And Welcombe Road, Stratford-upon-Avon

Part of the footway on Welcombe Road will be widened and it is proposed to convert it into a shared use footway/cycleway. It is also proposed to create a shared use footway/cycle way over the grass verge to a point where it will meet with the existing footway on the A439 Warwick Road (as described in Schedule 1 below).

The existing footway on the A439 Warwick Road will also be widened and it is proposed to convert this into a shared used footway/cycle track to its junction with Ryon Hill (as described in Schedule 1 below). This will be achieved by narrowing the carriageway.

50mph Speed Limit Reduction to 30mph and 40mph - A439 Warwick Road, Stratford-upon-Avon

Warwickshire County Council is continuously reviewing and monitoring speed limits, and as part of this scheme, as funded by the DfT, aims to make sure speed limits are appropriate for the carriageway and environment.

It is proposed that part of the existing 50mph speed limit on the A439 Warwick Road will be reduced to 30mph by virtue of Streetlighting (on the length of road described in Schedule 3 below) and it is proposed part will be reduced to 40mph by way of Order (as described in Schedule 2 below). The remaining 50mph distance is described in Schedule 4 below.

The carriageway referred to in Schedule 2 below, for a length of 2.48miles lends itself to a 40mph for this stretch and it would benefit the dwellings and junctions it serves to reduce this speed limit. This section of carriageway has been assess based on DfT guidelines to determine the most appropriate speed limit, based on KSIs, mean speeds, traffic flow and carriageway environment.

A new system of streetlighting will be installed on the A439 Warwick Road (as described in Schedule 3 below) from its northern most junction with Warwick Crescent to extend in a north easterly direction to 100 metres past Fisherman's Car Park on the A439 Warwick Road, imposing a 30mph speed limit by virtue of system of streetlighting. This will reduce south bound vehicle speeds on the approach to Stratford-upon-Avon town centre, therefore slowing traffic in advance of the centre.

The shared use pedestrian cycle track is being proposed for the active travel rationale of the scheme. The proposals will aim to reduce conflict between cyclist and vehicles whilst also improving pedestrian facilities to allow easier access into the town centre. The route will become far more inclusive to all road users as they will be able to use the route's engineering proposals to their benefit.

The scheme will also ensure that this section of the highway is clearly signed to avoid driver/cyclist confusion which can result in collisions. It will also ensure visibility of vehicles joining the network from various segments of the route is not compromised, all contributory factors which have resulted in several collisions at this location. The DfT's Creating Growth, Cutting Carbon: Making Sustainable Local Transport Happen White Paper is a document that sets out the government's vision for a sustainable local transport system that supports the economy and reduces carbon emissions. It addresses the dominance of private vehicles by encouraging more sustainable modes of travel and the role local authorities has in enabling this shift. This Scheme ties in with the ambitions of the above document as it will encourage sustainable local travel and economic growth by making cycling and walking more attractive and effective, promoting lower carbon transport whilst also tackling local road congestion.

3. Schedules

Schedule 1

Proposed Footway conversion/creation of shared use footway/cycle track

A439 (Warwick Road), Stratford-upon-Avon

From a point 103 metres north-east of its junction with Bridgeway in a north-easterly direction for a distance of 2735 metres.

Welcombe Road, Stratford upon Avon

From a point 28 metres north of its junction with the A439 in a northerly direction for 6.54 metres and then in a north-easterly direction for a distance of 9.57 metres.

Schedule 2

Proposed 40mph Speed Limit

A439 (Warwick Road) Stratford Upon Avon

From a point 643.7 metres north- east of its most northern junction with Warwick Crescent in a north-easterly direction to a point 117 metres north-east of its junction with Stratford Road (a distance of 2300 metres).

Schedule 3

Proposed 30mph Speed Limit (By Virtue of Streetlighting)

A439 (Warwick Road) Stratford Upon Avon

From its most northern junction with Warwick Crescent, in a north-easterly direction for a distance of 643.7metres (to extend 100 metres past its junction Fisherman's car park).

Schedule 4

Proposed 50mph Speed Limit (remaining lengths of existing 50mph)

A439 (Warwick Road) Stratford Upon Avon

From its junction with the A46 roundabout (Marraway roundabout) for a distance of 3330 metres in south-westerly direction.

4. Existing orders to be varied

The Warwickshire County Council (A439 Stratford-Upon-Avon)(50mph Speed Limit)
Order 2005

5. Priority

Urgent