

The Design of Future Active Travel Schemes

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This council acknowledges the importance of active travel schemes in promoting walking, cycling, and the use of public transport, which help to reduce congestion and improve public health.

However, we need to also recognise the role that motor vehicles play in supporting local economies, facilitating daily commutes, helping parents with the struggle of balancing work and family responsibilities due to a lack of time and ensuring personal mobility for residents.

Recent plans from Transport for Greater Manchester have resulted in concerns from local councillors, residents and businesses that the proposed active travel schemes will potentially negatively impact road capacity, parking availability, and journey times. Therefore, it is essential when planning such schemes to accommodate all road users, including pedestrians, cyclists and motorists.

Future active travel schemes and junction upgrades should be designed to minimise unnecessary disruption to motorists while still achieving their intended benefits. Additionally, proper consultation with motorists, businesses, and public transport users should take place before implementing significant future changes to road layouts.

This council resolves to:

- Ensure that all future active travel schemes include a formal assessment of their impact on motorists, including consideration given to congestion, journey times, and parking availability.
- Require that active travel proposals are carried out using a clearly structured, well-defined formats and include a transparent public consultation process. This should be designed to ensure the views of all road users are sought and considered.
- Press TFGM to allow councillors to participate in active, direct consultation with their highway engineers regarding design proposals to ensure councillors local knowledge can help shape the designs.
- Commit to reviewing existing active travel schemes where concerns have been raised and, where necessary, consider modifications to improve traffic flow.
- Advocate for a fair and proportionate allocation of road space that reflects the needs of all users, avoiding excessive restrictions on motor vehicles where no alternative solution is available.
- Where schemes are deemed to have a significant detrimental impact on motor vehicle journey times or parking, consider not proceeding with a proposal, especially when this would be against the wishes of residents and businesses.