

Scheme overview – A4 Cycleway & Bus Stop Improvement Scheme

Where:	Taplow
When:	November 2016
Status:	The feasibility study for the scheme was completed in November 2013. Engagement with elected members and other key stakeholders has started. Work on the detailed design is expected to commence in July 2015
Summary:	Safe cycling and walking route along the A4 between Maidenhead and Slough, connecting to existing/proposed cycle networks and Taplow Rail Station. Real-time Passenger Information (RTPI) and Wi-Fi Hubs at the bus stops along the A4
Developer:	Buckinghamshire County Council with Transport for Buckinghamshire
Contact:	aakinyosade@buckscc.gov.uk

About the project

In July 2014, the Local Enterprise Partnership was awarded capital funding from the Local Growth Fund for three key areas under the theme of 'Access to Stations.' The schemes aim to encourage sustainable travel to train stations which are due to face increased demand. Three key areas were identified as target locations due to having new or upgraded rail services/stations in the coming years. Encouraging a shift in behaviour towards sustainable travel modes prior to these improvements is essential to help minimise impact.

Information about the Local Growth Deal for Buckinghamshire can be found here:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/buckinghamshire-thames-valley-growth-deal-2014>

Taplow is one of these three key areas where this scheme (A4 Cycleway & Bus Stop Improvements) is proposed to be implemented.

Why Taplow?

- Slough Borough Council and the Royal Borough of Windsor & Maidenhead both have plans to install cycleways along their sections of the A4, with Bucks being the missing link. Therefore both Local Authorities approached BCC to request that a cycleway be progressed in order to create a continual route along the A4, linking Maidenhead and Slough.
- Taplow rail station forms part of the western section of Crossrail (new service due to begin in 2019). The western section of the Crossrail route runs from London Paddington to Heathrow Airport and Maidenhead - providing rapid, direct services to the West End, City and East London, and is therefore likely to increase demand at Taplow station.
- In addition to the proposed cycle route, the scheme also includes adding real time passenger information to bus stops along the A4, as well as Wi-Fi. This will encourage the use of public transport to Taplow station for those who are unable to use the cycle route.

Objectives

The main objectives of the scheme are to:

- Minimise the impact of increased patronage at Taplow Station (due to Crossrail) by improving multi-modal connectivity, through providing improvements to the bus stops and a cycle route along the A4.
- Provide a strategic missing link to proposed cycling improvements along the A4, creating a continuous route between the three Local Authority areas.
- Improve cycling access to local visitor attractions to encourage increased tourism.
- Provide a signed on-road cycle route to Cliveden from Taplow rail station.
- Provide live bus times and Wi-Fi at selected bus stops along the A4.

Timescales

In the coming months we will be working to engage with partners to begin to prepare and consult on the scheme. Detailed design is expected to commence in July 2015.

The programme of work is expected to be:

Description	Forecast/Actual Date
Pre-surveys (cycle/pedestrian counts, etc)	18 th May 2015
Complete Preliminary Design	April/May 2015
Public Consultation	May - June 2015
Detailed Design	July - Dec 2015
Implementation of the cycle routes	31 st Oct 2016
Installation of Real-Time Passenger Information (RTPI) / Wi-Fi Hubs	31 st Oct 2016
Launch the Routes	29 th Nov 2016
Project Evaluation & Closure	2 nd Jan 2017

The above dates are provisional and subject to change