

The Royal Borough of Windsor and Maidenhead Local Access Forum

Secretariat: Andrew Fletcher, Public Rights of Way Officer
Royal Borough of Windsor and Maidenhead, Town Hall, St. Ives Road, Maidenhead, Berkshire, SL6 1RF
Telephone: 01628 796122 **Email:** prow@rbwm.gov.uk
http://www.rbwm.gov.uk/web/prow_local_access_forum.htm

RBWM Local Access Forum Fast Response Team

Consultation Response: Stafferton Way Link Road

The Local Access Forum (LAF) has examined the proposals for the Stafferton Way Link Road and wish to make the following comments:

The Forum is supportive of the overall scheme and considers that it will be a great benefit to the traffic flow in Maidenhead.

The forum would like to make the following observations and recommendations:

1. Whilst the proposed scheme would be a great benefit to road users it will have severe limitations to the anticipated traffic flow and inherent dangers to cyclists if both the new section of road and the existing roads are not of sufficient width to allow both cyclists and motorists to proceed independently of each other.

The Forum recommends that a separate cycle lane each side of the road is included in the scheme so that cyclists have a secure road space and the main part of this road is of sufficient width for vehicles such as lorries and buses to pass each other without intruding in any way over the cycleways - especially at corners. This may necessitate the widening of the existing roads to make this a safe and viable inner distribution road, but it is imperative that this done as roads which are of inadequate width such as the A308 suffer substantial delays and potential dangers to all as drivers often have to follow far slower cyclists for hundreds of metres or more before they can safely pass. If this were to happen on such a southern relief road its use and value would be severely limited, and would not meet the Council's policy to promote cycling.

2. The Green Way promoted route and cycle way crosses the road near to the Stafferton Way retail centre. This is a very popular route which links Green Lane and the Braywick Nature Centre with Maidenhead Town Centre. As the level of traffic along the road will increase substantially the risks to the public crossing this road will increase. The Forum therefore recommends that a traffic controlled toucan crossing is installed at this crossing point in order to allow the public to cross the road in safety.
3. The forum fully supports the proposal to create a route alongside the water course from Forlease Road to Green Lane.

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This would create a convenient alternative link for the residential properties on the eastern side of Maidenhead to go to Bray and Braywick Nature Centre. The Forum recommends that this should be made available for dual use with cyclists, which would allow cyclists to avoid travelling along the Bray Road.

4. The Forum would also like to recommend that the opportunity is taken during the works to install street lighting and upgrade the surface of Maidenhead Footpath 2B which runs from Fotherby Court to Forlease Road behind Forlease Close.

This letter constitutes formal advice from the Royal Borough of Windsor and Maidenhead. The Royal Borough of Windsor and Maidenhead Council is required, in accordance with section 94(5) of the Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000, to have regard to relevant advice from this forum in carrying out its functions.