

COLCHESTER CITY COUNCIL

RECORD OF DECISIONS TAKEN UNDER DELEGATED POWERS

Explanatory Note

The Leader of the Council has established Delegation Schemes by which certain decisions may be made by the relevant cabinet member or specific officers.

Cabinet member decisions are subject to review under the Call-in Procedure.

From the date the notice of the decision made is published there are five working days during which any five Councillors may sign a request for the decision to be reviewed (called in) and deliver it to the Proper Officer.

If, at the end of the period, no request has been made, the decision may be implemented. If a valid call- in request has been made, the matter will be referred to the Scrutiny Panel

Part A – To be completed by the appropriate Cabinet Member/Officer

Title of Report

ECC Local Cycling and Walking Investment Plan (LCWIP) Route 7 Consultation
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Delegated Power

To promote and procure the implementation of the Borough Council's Transport Strategy in partnership with Essex County Council, the responsible Transport Authority and other partners to improve infrastructure.

Decision Taken

To thank ECC for the opportunity to respond to the consultation and anticipate that the Council's response will help fine tune the LCWIP Route 7, thereby helping target investment in this route which will encourage people to choose to walk and cycle; in turn helping reduce traffic congestion and improve air quality in the area.

The Council approves of the proposed route, and would suggest that the LCWIP Route 7 could be even better if the following changes are included in the final plan -

- link with LCWIP route 4 via new crossing of St Andrews Avenue. This will give Greenstead residents more direct access to the city centre.
- links into Highwoods Centre and into Colchester Business Park south (Wyncolls Road) giving more and better access to employment for Greenstead residents.
- the proposed routes 7a, 7b, 7c, 7d set out in the recent [Colchester LCWIP consultation](#), which will link the route 7 to the local area giving even more work opportunities as well as study facilities at the University.

We understand that the criteria for LCWIP mean that walking routes will generally follow the existing road network due to these routes usually being more direct, better lit and better maintained than off road routes. However, links within communities will need investment if walking is to be encouraged along these routes.

It should also be noted that more direct and better crossing facilities, which give shorter journey times where roads sever walking routes, also help increase the number of people walking.

Key Decision

No

Forward Plan

N/a

Reasons for the Decision

The Council has several strategies and policies that reflect the importance it places on encouraging sustainability, including promoting sustainable modes of transport. Documents such as the Strategic Plan and the Local Plan demonstrate the Council's aspiration to encourage greater modal shift from private cars to sustainable transport. To give residents, visitors and employees genuine opportunity, a quality walking and cycling network needs to be available to provide realistic alternatives to the private car.

ECC are the responsible authority for this work; however, this Council would wish to support ECC in their role as the Highway Authority by working closely with them and other stakeholders to help increase the number of people walking and cycling for everyday journeys.

The work to improve access to local employment and study opportunities is in line with the Town Deal Heart of Greenstead project and will complement the work of Essex Pedal Power in making cycling available to everyone.

Alternative Options

To not respond to the consultation. This would mean losing the opportunity to influence the design of the LCWIP Route 7.

Conflict of Interest

None

Dispensation by Head of Paid Service

N/a

Dispensation by Monitoring Officer

N/a

Approved by Portfolio Holder for Planning Environment and Sustainability

Signature Councillor Andrea Luxford Vaughan

Date 9 November 2023

(NB For Key Decisions the report must be made available to the public for five clear days prior to the period for call-in commencing)

Part B – To be completed by the Proper Officer (Democratic Services)

Portfolio Holder Decision Reference Number

ENV-002-23

Implementation Date

This decision can be implemented if no request for the decision to be reviewed (call-in) has been made **after 5pm on *Thursday 16 November 2023***

Call-in Procedure

The Decision Notice for this decision was published on the internet on ***Thursday 9 November 2023***

A request for reference to the Scrutiny Panel must be made by **5pm on *Thursday 16 November 2023***

Signature of Proper Officer
K Barnard