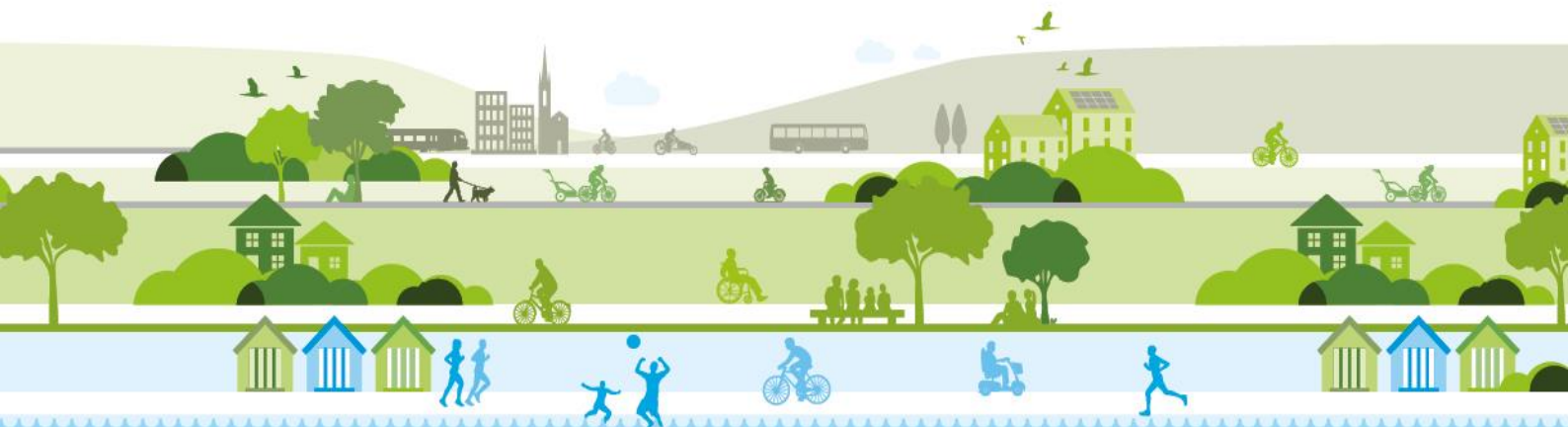


BEAR CROSS- LONGHAM BRIDGE

Responses to issues raised - TCF Consultation 2021

Version: V1.0

Date: February 2023



Context

BCP Council, on behalf of Dorset Council and BCP Council, ran a consultation on the proposed changes and designs of the Transforming Cities Fund (TCF) programme. This consultation ran from 10 May to 14 June 2021.

This report details responses to issues raised by respondents to the proposals along Ringwood Road on the Poole town centre to/from Ferndown and Wimborne. It specifically covers the section between Bear Cross Roundabout and Longham Bridge.

More details on the proposed improvements and the insight report summarising the outcome of the consultation for these sub-sections can be found on the Transforming Travel website.

Responses to issues

We have considered all comments received through the consultation process, and below we have summarised the key themes that emerged from responses to the open questions within the online questionnaire, as well as received letters and emails.

The table below sets out our responses to the most frequently recurring themes that emerged through the analysis. The full frequency showing the number of times each code description was used, as well as example comments, can be found in the insight report mentioned previously.

Comments were also raised through other channels, including social media, during the process. In the table below, we have also sought to address pertinent matters received through these channels that necessitated a response

Theme	Nature of comments received	BCP / Dorset Council Response
General agreement	Agreement with proposals/positive comments	<p>We welcome these comments in support of the scheme. They have been noted as part of the process to determine the outcome taken forward.</p> <p>We are continuing to review the design in this area. As part of that work and in light of Dorset Council's plans to reduce the speed limit along Ringwood Road, north of Longham Bridge, we are now planning to reduce the speed limit from 40 mph to 30 mph between just north of Bear Cross Roundabout (from Cudnell Avenue) and Longham Bridge.</p> <p>The proposal to reduce the speed limit was not included as part of the May-June 2021 consultation and will only be implemented in conjunction with Dorset Council's proposals.</p> <p>This part of the proposals remains subject to a separate legal process and a Traffic Regulation Order (TRO) is being advertised and consulted on at https://haveyoursay.bcpccouncil.gov.uk/hub-page/highway-consultations outlining the changes. The TRO consultation is open for comments until Friday 24 February.</p>
General disagreement	Waste of money	<p>BCP Council and Dorset Council were jointly awarded £79m by the Department for Transport (DfT) through its Transforming Cities Fund (TCF) scheme. This grant plus further local contributions, means the Councils have more than £100m which is ring-fenced to specifically invest in public and sustainable transport infrastructure.</p> <p>The purpose of the TCF programme is to broaden the travel options available across the south east Dorset area by investing in improvements to walking, cycling and public transport infrastructure. These improvements are aimed at those aged 8-80 years old, ensuring that all that want to cycle and walk around the region feel safe to do so.</p> <p>By encouraging more walking and cycling, particularly for shorter journeys, and increasing bus usage in the area, we can help to reduce congestion on our already busy road network and as a result, we'll also help to improve air quality and create safer, more pleasant places in which to live, work and do business.</p>
	Not needed	
	Cyclists will still use the roads	
	The area is already very congested. The proposed design will increase congestion.	

Negative impact on traffic/ road users	Impact on HGVs- HGVs has not been considered	<p>These comments have been noted as part of the process to determine the outcome taken forward.</p> <p>Multiple road safety audits (RSAs) are being completed throughout the design process and following the scheme construction, which assess the safety of the scheme for all highway users. We are also working closely with local accessibility organisations as the design progresses to ensure the routes are inclusive for all.</p>
Environmental	Against vegetation removal	<p>We are working closely with the BCP Conservation Team to inform the development of the design. Ongoing advice is being sought about the proposed changes, to ensure that the proposed improvements will not adversely affect the environment in this area.</p>
Safety	Lighting and security of off-road path	<p>Lighting improvements can improve safety and security on quiet paths. These comments and concerns have been noted and will be considered.</p>
	Improvements needed at Longham Bridge	<p>These comments have been noted as part of the process to determine the outcome taken forward. Following further review of the designs, it is being proposed that the speed limit will be reduced to 30mph on and around Longham Bridge, improving safety for all road users in the area.</p> <p>This part of the proposals remains subject to a separate legal process and a Traffic Regulation Order (TRO) is being advertised and consulted on at https://haveyoursay.bcpCouncil.gov.uk/hub-page/highway-consultations outlining the changes. The TRO consultation is open for comments until Friday 24 February.</p> <p>The original proposals put forward in the consultation included the introduction of a system to help reduce bridge strikes by HGV on Longham Bridge. This proposal is still being explored by our designers.</p>
	Disagreement for shared path	<p>According to current national guidance on cycling infrastructure design (LTN 1/20), although shared use is not always the preferred option, it is appropriate where it will help achieve the continuity of a cycle route and not compromise an otherwise good network.</p>

		The current design includes the installation of new signage to further reduce the risk of collision, providing adequate space for both pedestrians and cyclists along the route.
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