



A629 Halifax Road Phase 4 Proposals for a New Plan

1. BACKGROUND

Proposals made in 2021 to encourage more cycling and walking (by Kirklees Council/Mott McDonald) as part of a consultation

- One-way for motor vehicles (towards Lindley)
- Make the footway shared-use so that cyclists can cycle contra-flow to the one-way motor traffic (Mott McDonald proposal)
- Continuous footways across side roads
- Make a designated contraflow cycle track towards Marsh (proposal made by previous consultants)
- Shared-use footway opposite Sainsburys to enable cycling access to Daisy Lea Recreation Ground

2. KCC COMMENTS

Will these proposals make a difference?

- The proposal of continuous footways is welcome
- The one-way traffic route in the direction of Lindley would probably encourage individuals to drive at even faster speeds than is the case at present.
- A shared-use contraflow would be a negative for pedestrians. It would restrict an already narrow width of footway.
- A shared use contraflow for cyclists downhill in the direction of Marsh would risk conflict with pedestrians and frustrate cyclists.
- There is no obvious infrastructure for cyclists to facilitate a right turn into Thornhill Road.
- The shared-use footway opposite Sainsburys liable to cause conflict between cyclists and pedestrians.

3. KCC ALTERNATIVE PLAN

What COULD make a difference?

1. Designate Occupation Road **Access only** for motor vehicles
2. Introduce a 20mph speed restriction and continuous footways.

This would make a real difference, would encourage cycling and walking. If enforced, it would involve minimal inconvenience for drivers who have a genuine need to use this road.

- Cyclists could continue to use the carriageway
 - There would be no need to construct contraflows for cyclists.
 - Pedestrians would have the footway to themselves and would be less intimidated when crossing sideroads and when stepping into the carriageway to avoid a group already using the footway.
3. Introduce junction infrastructure to assist cyclists to make a safe right turn into Thornhill Road.

4. COMMENTARY on Current Phase 4 Proposals

Phase 4 proposals feel very much like an afterthought. The very fact that Kirklees Council went out to consultation about Phase 4 after Phase 5 (the major road scheme) tends to reinforce that view. Huddersfield Civic Society pointed out that respondents were at a disadvantage in offering feedback about the Phase 5 proposals because they were being asked to do so before they had seen what was proposed for 'Active Travel' in Phase 4.

A more detailed briefing will be published by Kirklees Cycling Campaign @CycleKirklees in early March 2022.

Kirklees Cycling Campaign Briefing February 2022

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