

The Highways Study

The Borough Council has completed a study to consider options for an appropriate road scheme to facilitate the commitment in the Core Strategy to deliver 1,500 new homes in north Wokingham, and to minimise the effects of traffic growth on residential roads.

The Council tested three main options with many alternatives for traffic effects, environmental impacts, property and land requirements, engineering design and overall deliverability.

Option 1: Improve Existing Junctions

We looked at improving existing junctions rather than building a new road, but it showed that roads would become too congested and the effects on residential roads would be unacceptable.

Option 2: A new junction with the A329(M)

We considered providing a new junction on the A329(M) at Twyford Road, known locally as the Ashridge Interchange. However our study indicated that a junction here would attract more through traffic into north Wokingham; traffic from Winnersh and from the north that would usually use the Winnersh junction to access the A329(M) would instead travel to and through Emmbrook to use the new junction, and traffic from Woosehill would also use Ashridge Interchange instead of the Coppid Beech junction. This change in travel patterns would increase traffic in Emmbrook and on the A329(M) to such an extent that it would need to be widened from two to three lanes in each direction. We concluded that this scheme has too many negative impacts on north Wokingham and widening of the A329(M) would take a long time to deliver. This option was therefore not progressed.

Option 3: A new Distributor Road

The study identified that a new distributor road would be the most effective road scheme for north Wokingham.

A single alignment was identified for the majority of the route between Twyford Road and Coppid Beech as there is no other realistic alternative. We have called this the Eastern Section.

We have identified three alternatives for the Western Section between Reading Road and Twyford Road.

What would the distributor road look like?

The distributor road would be a single carriageway, tree-lined road. It would have a 30mph speed limit between Reading Road and Pebblestone Cottage, and 40mph east of Pebblestone Cottage to Coppid Beech as no development is proposed on this section.

It is currently envisaged that the road would have a footpath on one side of the road and a shared use footpath and cycle path on the other side of the road. This could provide a continuous route across the whole of north Wokingham, connecting new and existing residential and employment areas to Winnersh and Coppid Beech avoiding the town centre. This would allow less confident cyclists to cover the distance away from busy traffic. The cycle route may be diverted away from the distributor road where alternative safe and quicker cyclist routes could be provided.

Trees may not be provided on both sides of the road or might be located behind the footway at road junctions and on bends, where we need to ensure good forward visibility for drivers, and where the width between properties and land boundaries prevents trees being provided.

These design issues will be considered in the next stages of scheme development.

The suggested alignment and alternatives are described inside this leaflet.

Have your say

Public Consultation Exhibitions

Two static exhibitions have been arranged:

- **Wokingham Library, Denmark Street, Wokingham until Saturday 2 November 2013.**
- **Council Offices, Shute End, Wokingham** (Monday to Friday between 10.00 am and 3.00 pm) until **Friday 1 November 2013.**

There are also a number of mobile exhibitions – these are listed below.

Talk to us

You can talk to Council officers and discuss your comments at a number of mobile exhibitions. The venues, dates and times are as follows:

Wokingham Market, Market Place
Friday 13 September from 10.00 am to 4.00 pm
Saturday 14 September from 10.00 am to 4.00 pm

The Cornerstone, Norreys Avenue
Friday 27 September from 1.30 pm to 5.30 pm
Saturday 28 September from 09.30 am to 1.30 pm

Winnersh Community Centre, New Road, Winnersh
Friday 11 October from 1.30 pm to 5.30 pm
Saturday 12 October from 09.30 am to 1.30 pm

Emmbrook Village Hall, Emmbrook Road
Saturday 02 November from 09.30 am to 1.30 pm

Send us your comments

Please **complete a questionnaire**, either online or at an exhibition.

You can **visit the website** to read the detailed technical reports at:
www.wokingham.gov.uk/northwokinghamdistributorroad

You can **email us** at: northwokingham@wokingham.gov.uk

You can **write to us** at:
The Consultation Officer (NWDR)
Wokingham Borough Council
Shute End
Wokingham
RG40 1BN

Please ensure you have sent your comments to us by **Friday 08 November 2013**. If you provide a postal or email address, we will acknowledge your comments and will endeavour to provide a response to them.

Thank you for taking part in our consultation.

North Wokingham Distributor Road Public Consultation

9 September – 8 November 2013

Background

Wokingham Borough Council is consulting on the routes that it considers could best serve new development in north Wokingham. Your views are important and, in holding this consultation, you may be sure that your opinions will be seriously considered.

The Council is committed to the development of 1,500 new homes in north Wokingham in addition to 2,500 in the area south and east of the town centre by 2026. The North Wokingham Distributor Road is designed to provide access to the new development and to minimise the impacts of traffic growth on residential roads in north Wokingham.

The Borough Council is consulting on a small number of options for the North Wokingham Distributor Road. These have been identified as the best performing routes from an investigation of a number of alternatives.

Have your say

This consultation runs from 09 September 2013 to 08 November 2013.

We need your views on these options to make sure we are providing the most appropriate scheme. This is an important step in the decision making process. Your comments will help inform and refine the ultimate preferred route selection.

There is a questionnaire designed to explore your preferences and thoughts on the distributor road that we ask you to fill in and return to us. There is also a dedicated website where you will find the full highway study reports. Full details are provided on the back of this leaflet.

Please send your comments to us by Friday 08 November 2013.

The Council will use your comments to help identify a preferred scheme for North Wokingham. We will publish a report on the comments received in spring 2014.

The preferred scheme will be considered by the Council's Executive in spring 2014. The final choice will need to consider many factors which include your and other comments, the 'fit' with policy, design, transport, viability and environmental impacts as well as being balanced against the views of key stakeholders.

Please do not hesitate to contact the team if you have any questions.

We look forward to hearing from you.

