



**Directorate for Planning, Growth & Sustainability
Strategic Transport and Infrastructure**

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Dear Resident,

Emergency Active Travel Scheme – Southcourt

In November 2020, a trial scheme was implemented in Southcourt, through the government's Emergency Active Travel Fund. This included improved cycle route signage and lining, installation of cycle lane segregation and temporary road closures. It provides improved links to some of the existing Gemstone Routes, and a diverted routing to overcome the existing severed Jet Way.

The Emergency Active Travel Fund was created by the Government to help encourage more people to walk and cycle, which can also have longer term benefits such as reduced congestion, improved air quality, improved community cohesion and better public health. This is part of the Government's longer-term strategy to encourage more people to walk and cycle.

During the initial trial, we have been grateful to receive feedback which has allowed us to adjust the scheme during the trial period. We have regularly been engaging with local Buckinghamshire Councillors, and receiving feedback from within the community. Some of the common themes in feedback regarding changes noticed since the installation of the trial scheme include less through traffic resulting in quieter roads and streets, a perception of reduced speeds and an improved feeling of safety through the segregated cycle route.

After consideration and consultation with local Buckinghamshire Councillors and the Cabinet Members for Transport and Sport and Leisure, it has been agreed to extend the duration of the trial scheme to mid March 2021, when a further review will be undertaken.

Whilst the scheme has been extended, it should be noted that the scheme is temporary, and we will continue to use feedback to help "tweak" the scheme and to understand local views on the scheme.

Thank you for taking the time to read this letter. Feedback can be provided directly, via our website <https://www.buckinghamshire.gov.uk/parking-roads-and-transport/active-travel> or via email, to transportstrategy@buckinghamshire.gov.uk

Yours faithfully,

Joan Hancox

Service Director – Strategic Transport and Infrastructure, Planning, Growth & Sustainability