

B4063 Gloucester to Cheltenham cycleway

Briefing note – February 2021

This year we will start building a continuous cycleway on the B4063 to connect Gloucester and Cheltenham. The new cycleway will be accessible to all, in line with the latest Government guidance, and improve health and wellbeing in the community while reducing Gloucestershire's carbon emissions.

Vision

The scheme is key to unlocking green transport for those commuting between the two urban areas and will provide a safe continuous route for the thousands of cyclists in Gloucester, Tewkesbury and Cheltenham.

The route will help people reboot their commute, as it will link up Churchdown, Innsworth and Staverton to public transport hubs in both Gloucester and Cheltenham. The route also links up with many different work places and schools, Gloucestershire Royal Hospital, and University of Gloucestershire campuses.

The scheme promises to bring many benefits to the area, including:

- provide a safe route for cyclists of all ages and abilities as an alternative to the A40
- improve health and wellbeing
- reduce carbon emissions
- cut congestion in the area long term

The scheme will be split into two parts, with work on the section between Elmbridge Court roundabout and Arle Court roundabout starting first, followed by the section between Elmbridge Court roundabout and Gloucester city.

Existing infrastructure

The cycle route currently provided along the B4063 from Elmbridge roundabout to Arle Court is made up of a mixture of on road and off road cycle lanes, shared pavement with pedestrians and in places there are no cycle facilities at all. The speed limits vary between 30mph and 50 mph towards the Cheltenham end of the route. This mixture of infrastructure does not provide a route which would encourage people to take up cycling, and it is not up to the new Government LTN 1/20 standard for cycle infrastructure.

Funding

Funding for scheme design has been fully secured from Highways England Designated Funds. Construction costs have also been partially secured from multiple sources and other funding contributions are currently being found. Gloucestershire County Council will be co-funding this scheme.

Survey and feedback

We want to work with residents to make sure their views are heard, so we are asking for feedback on plans for the first section of the route to be constructed – from Elmbridge Court to Arle Court. The survey to collect people's views will be open from 10 February until 23:59 on 10 March 2021.

The survey site can be found online at www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/B4063 which also contains lots of information, maps and FAQs about the project. The survey will ask for people's views on our plans to improve cycling opportunities between Gloucester and Cheltenham along the B4063, and help to capture the passion people in Gloucestershire have for active travel.

The feedback will shape the scheme going forward and ensure the final plan provides a safe, convenient and direct route from Gloucester to Cheltenham, reflecting the needs of people in our county. The responses will be used to enable us to determine how important cycling is to Gloucestershire and how it can help to reduce carbon footprint, reduce congestion and improve public health.

Next stages

Following feedback, we will begin the process of appointing a contractor to build the cycleway and work on the Elmbridge Court to Arle Court section, which is due to get under way in summer 2021.

There will be an opportunity to comment on the next section (Elmbridge Court to Gloucester) after the May elections, with work on it due to start later this year.

COVID-19 position

We want to reassure you that we are working with our highways contractors in Gloucestershire to protect all staff, following government and industry guidance regarding COVID-19 and construction work. We will make progress with our plans for the B4063 Gloucester to Cheltenham cycleway using the principles of social distancing and working remotely.

More information

Website: www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/B4063

Email: majorprojects@gloucestershire.gov.uk

Residents can [sign up to receive future news bulletins](#)

