

Re: Local Plan 2040 consultation response

Sushila Dhall [REDACTED]

Sat 16/12/2023 10:23

To: Planning Policy <planningpolicy@oxford.gov.uk>

Thank you and please see below.

Sushila Dhall, Chair and on behalf of Oxford Pedestrians Association

On Fri, 15 Dec 2023 at 17:52, Planning Policy <planningpolicy@oxford.gov.uk> wrote:

Dear Ms Dhall

Thank you for taking the time to submit your comments. For your comments to be valid for consideration, we would need you to provide some additional information. This is to ensure we meet our statutory requirements for handling comments, and also for you to confirm your consent on how we use your personal information and contact you in future. Please reply with the table below completed:

Are you happy for the first line of your address and postcode to be published with your response(s)? (Please select/underline <u>one</u> of the options)	<u>Yes – you may state my name and the first line of my address and postcode when publishing my response.</u>
	No – Please obscure all personal details except my name and a non-specific address (e.g. Oxford).
If you wish to be notified about the progress of the Plan following this stage, please select/underline <u>one or more</u> from the following options:	<u>I wish to be notified when the Council submits the Oxford Local Plan 2040 to the Government?</u>
	<u>I wish to be notified when the Inspector's report is published?</u>
	<u>I wish to be notified when the Oxford Local Plan 2040 is adopted?</u>
	None of the above

If you have any questions please email us at planningpolicy@oxford.gov.uk.

Best wishes

Planning Policy Team

Planning & Regulatory Services (Post Point SA 3.1A) Oxford City Council |
Town Hall | St. Aldate's | Oxford | OX1 1BX | ☎ 01865 252847

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From: Sushila Dhall [REDACTED]**Sent:** 14 December 2023 16:58

To: Planning Policy <planningpolicy@oxford.gov.uk>

Subject: Local Plan 2040 consultation response

To Whom It May Concern - Local Plan Consultation 2040

Oxford Pedestrians Association Response

Over the past 27 years Oxford Pedestrians Association (OxPA) has commented in detail on many strategy documents, both City and County Council, and have spent a good deal of time and energy on this. We have almost always made the comment that the policies on walking and cycling and public transport use read well, but that it is hard to see how they will pan out in practice since there are also policies to keep general traffic moving and to continue to build car based developments, both residential and commercial.

Sometimes as a result of our input words have been changed or paragraphs tweaked. However, what is most important to OxPA is change on the ground. Oxfordshire County and Oxford City Councils have written and updated many documents which aspire to prioritising vulnerable road users but change is slow to come. We applaud the changes to policy that have made LTNs possible, and we support the traffic filter strategy to come into practice in October 2024. We support the creation and expansion of the Zero Emissions Zone. We are glad that policy to put pedestrians and wheelchair users at the top of the road users' hierarchy have been adopted.

However, OxPA still finds that despite the aspirations in policy documents, practice often falls short of words.

Our policy for Transport and Planning is and remains (for new and existing developments):

- **Walking and wheeling need to be at the centre of street and public space planning.**
- **Pavements need to be 3m wide so that two wheelchair users can pass one another in comfort and dignity.**
- **Wide and level pavement extensions should be installed across all side roads, on desire lines, and crossings should be on desire lines,**
- **Waiting times to cross need to be shorter, and crossing times longer than is currently policy.**
- **Pavements should be level (including at driveway entrances), and unobstructed.**

If just these principles were applied across the board we will have come a long way.

We ask that these standards be incorporated into the Local Plan 2024 in both the Planning and the Transport sections.

Sincerely,

Sushila Dhall

Sushila Dhall
Chair, Oxford Pedestrians Association
12 Stable Close

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