

HIGHWAYS AND TRANSPORT OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE - 5 JUNE 2025

QUESTIONS ASKED UNDER STANDING ORDER 35

1. Question asked by Rachael Wigginton

I would like to ask the following question on behalf of the Leicestershire Active Travel Alliance, the Leicestershire arm of the UK's Active Travel Alliance, a national campaigning group to increase investment in active travel for healthier lives and safer, quieter streets.

My question is as follows:

Resident frustration is growing around the significant increase in the volume of traffic and streets completely dominated and overwhelmed by vehicles parked on every spare inch of public space in their local communities. This is massively impacting health and wellbeing. A key part of the solution is increasing the focus and investment in the alternative quieter healthier forms of transport specifically safe cycling routes to local schools, shops and stations/transport hubs.

Leicestershire County Council has received a significant amount of money from Active Travel England to be spent on active travel schemes. Will the Oadby cyclops scheme that was consulted on last year now go ahead? If not, why not and what will happen to the funding? We are concerned that the council will be deemed to lack ambition, as has happened in the past, and will not secure the funding that is likely to be available in the future for Leicestershire.

Reply by the Chairman

The Council remains committed to delivering high-quality active travel infrastructure that supports healthier, safer, and more sustainable transport choices.

The public engagement for the proposed CYCLOPS scheme at The Parade, Oadby, highlighted a number of issues including concerns around the one-way circulatory layout not aligning with cyclists' natural desire lines, potentially leading to a risk of conflict between different users of the junction. The Council is considering these concerns and discussing options for a way forward with Active Travel England.

The details of the concerns raised during the consultation along with recommended way forward will be fully considered via Council's democratic process. Subject to the outcome, any revisions to the scheme recommended following discussion with ATE, will be subject to further public engagement.

The Council continues to be mindful of the importance of demonstrating ambition and capability in order to maintain future eligibility for external funding, including from Active Travel England.