



**WITNEY**  
TOWN COUNCIL

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Mrs Sharon Groth FSLCC fCMgr  
Town Clerk

Cllr Owen Collins  
Mayor of Witney

The Right Hon. Mark Harper MP  
Secretary of State for Transport, Department for Transport  
Tyneside House  
Skinnerburn Road  
Newcastle upon Tyne  
NE4 7AR

21 February 2024

Our ref: A6

Dear Mr Harper

**Access to Witney (Shores Green West Facing Slip Roads) Scheme**

I write on behalf of Witney Town Council regarding the above scheme.

I understand it is being considered at a public inquiry, 12-15 March, following objections to The Oxfordshire County Council (Highways Infrastructure – A40 Access to Witney) Compulsory Purchase Order 2023 and The Oxfordshire County Council (Highways Infrastructure – A40 Access to Witney) (Side Roads) Order 2023, which would ensure the delivery of the project.

With Witney being the service centre for West Oxfordshire and with further housing development planned, the Town Council is a long-standing supporter of this overdue transport infrastructure scheme and welcomed planning approval to 'bring better, less congested and safer access to the town.' In particular:

- The Council has continuing concerns about traffic and air quality problems in the town centre and the impact this has on the quality of the town centre environment as a place to live, work, shop etc.
- The Scheme, which will provide an alternative route for traffic to cross the town, avoiding the town centre, will help to reduce traffic volumes on Bridge Street and reduce traffic congestion and air quality problems in the town centre.

I trust the views of the town/parish Council which will be most affected by the scheme will be taken into consideration during your deliberations for this much needed infrastructure.

If you require any further information or clarification, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely

Sharon Groth  
Town Clerk & Chief Executive Officer

@witneytowncounc



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