

THE OAKHAM NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

Transport Working Group

Introduction

The Oakham Neighbourhood Plan (ONP) will give residents and businesses their **Voice** to decide the transportation issues and their importance. The topics taken forward will be their **Choice**.

Transport covers:

- Roads
- Rail
- Parking
- Park & Ride
- Pedestrian and Cycling links
- Bridal Ways
- Foot Paths & Public Rights of Way
- Bus Services
- Demand Responsive Transport (DRT), (sometimes referred to as dial-a-ride, or flexi bus)
- Access for disabled people

Approval was granted by RCC for the new Oakham Neighbourhood Area in April 2016.

Aim

Transport should enable residents and visitors to access the businesses, places, services and facilities of Oakham ensuring a vibrant and prosperous market town. It needs to find a balance between the ease of transport, sustainable development and its impact on the environment.

Objectives

1. Engage effectively with RCC & OTC as key sponsors and stakeholders.
2. Identify existing Local Plans and Government regulations with regard to transport that have to be complied with within the ONP.
3. Produce a set of strawman focus areas for transport to stimulate debate and elucidate key transport issues for the community and business.
4. To use online and paper questionnaires to clarify and focus the key concerns and ideas from residents and businesses within the ONP boundary.
5. Liaise with other ONP Sub Groups to identify transport issues and focus areas.
6. Ensure effective and productive consultation and communication with the community and business via the communications sub group.
7. After extensive consultation develop transport policies for the ONP.
8. Ensure the overall ONP or order includes the transport policies such that the overall plan is coherent and logical.

THE OAKHAM NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

High Level Tasks

9. Review RCC Local Transport Plan 3 and related/supporting documentation understanding key strategic development needs, themes and plans.
10. Develop the transport themes from the first consultation event to arrive at a questionnaire that will clarify focus areas and stimulate the identification of new themes.
11. Work with other sub groups to understand the requirements they have of transport.
12. Hold further consultation events (in consultation with the communications group) with
 - Business within the agreed ONP boundary
 - Residents within the agreed ONP boundary
 - Visitors to Oakham and Barleythorpe
 - All Community Groups inc churches, market traders, OTP, VAR and schools within the agreed ONP boundary.
4. Update and publicise the ONP Web Site and the Transport focus area.
5. Consolidate the key transport themes and identify potential solutions for the residents and businesses to review and comment on.
6. At all stages a factual evidence base should be established to support the transport proposal.
7. Through the process of consultation develop a number of easy to understand transport policies for the ONP.

Timescales

The Oakham Neighbourhood Plan will look at a planning horizon until 2026 to align it with the RCC Local Transport Plan 3.

It is expected that the plan will take 2-3 years to deliver including independent examination and referendum.

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Potential Detailed Tasks

To review the short and long term parking in Oakham to determine if it meets current and future needs.

To review residential parking especially on new estates to see if it meets the typical two car family of today.

identify solutions to the congestion issues associated with the level crossings at Melton Road near the station and Brook Road.

identify the benefits of a one way system and partial pedestrianisation of the high street in Oakham.

identify the feasibility and benefits of a second bypass to the west (around Barleythorpe) and south west of Oakham.

To review the footpath and cycle way access and signage from the housing estates and businesses in Oakham and Barleythorpe into the town centre to encourage less use of cars.

Review bridal ways within the ONP boundary.

To assess the degree of integration between train and bus services.