

Hereford Transport Package

Walking, Cycling, Bus and Public Space Improvements
Public Consultation

Summary Brochure



For detailed information about the proposals,
please visit: www.herefordshire.gov.uk/HTP

This consultation runs for six weeks,
from 29 January to 11 March 2019.



Foreword

Creating an environment in Hereford where people want to live and work, where businesses can grow and communities can thrive, continues to be our overarching aim for our city.

For years we have been talking about how improving the transport network, including building a bypass, will support this. By improving road links and providing an alternative to travelling through the city we can encourage business growth. By developing infrastructure we can open up space for housing, education and regeneration, and attract people to study and work here. By helping alleviate congestion, we can provide the conditions for walking, cycling, buses and public space improvements in the city.

In early 2018, we asked people to let us know what they thought of the Hereford Transport Package (HTP) – a shortlist of proposed routes for the bypass and active travel improvements across the city. Securing approval for a preferred bypass route last summer was a significant step towards shaping how we move forward. The consultation feedback highlighted considerable public support for measures that encourage and support more people to walk or cycle in the city.

We are now asking those who visit, live, study and work in Hereford to once again get involved and help us develop options for safe and attractive alternatives to the car for travelling in the city. This consultation is your opportunity to let us know what you think of our suggestions and to provide us with your ideas.

Of course, much of what we are proposing will not be possible without the bypass which will reduce the volume of vehicles through the city. Work is currently underway to develop more detailed proposals for the bypass which we will consult on later in 2019.

I continue to wholeheartedly support the bypass and second river crossing, and the associated improvements for those who wish to use public transport, cycle or travel by foot in our city. Hereford suffers from decades of lack of infrastructure investment. I make no excuses for being ambitious in our plans – indeed I think it is essential if we are ever going to provide residents and businesses with the vibrant city necessary for our growing economy, new better paid jobs and a world class centre for higher education.



Councillor Philip Price
Cabinet Member - Infrastructure

Welcome

Welcome to the next stage of public consultation for the Hereford Transport Package.

In this consultation, we would like to know your thoughts on possible walking, cycling, bus and public space improvements throughout the city.

Improving the way we travel in Hereford is an important part of our vision, as outlined in our Local Transport Plan and Core Strategy. By improving our transport network, we aim to encourage people to choose walking, cycling or travelling by bus more often and reduce dependency on the car for shorter journeys.

An overwhelming 87% of people who responded to the last Hereford Transport Package consultation told us they approved of the walking, cycling, bus and public space improvements that were presented. Since then we have carefully considered feedback and developed measures and we would like to hear your views about these.

The Hereford Transport Package is the range of measures designed to improve the way we move about the city, reduce congestion, cut pollution and give people more choice about how they travel. A key part of the Hereford Transport Package is a range of measures designed to improve access to public transport, to make cycling and walking easier, safer and more convenient.

We would like to hear your opinions on these proposals and to learn more about what would encourage and enable you to walk, cycle or use the bus more often.

How to give us your views

Online: www.herefordshire.gov.uk/HTP

By email: herefordtransportpackage@balfourbeatty.com

By post: FREEPOST: RTHL-BBZH-JATH
(Hereford Consultation) Balfour Beatty Living Places Unit 3, Thorn Business Park, Rotherwas, HEREFORD HR2 6JT

In person: Paper copies of the questionnaire can be handed in at the public exhibition events or at the deposit box at the entrance to the Hereford Library from Tuesday 12 February

Hereford Transport Package includes:

Walking, cycling, bus and public space improvements

A series of proposed improvements in Hereford to encourage walking, cycling and bus use for short distance journeys.

Hereford bypass

The proposed bypass is a new road to the west of Hereford which includes a crossing of the River Wye. By building this new road we can deliver an ambitious programme of walking, cycling, bus and public space improvements.

The bypass is still undergoing technical assessment and more information will be provided later in the year. You will have the opportunity to provide your comments on the bypass at a public consultation later in 2019.



Overview

The Hereford Transport Package includes a bypass and a package of walking, cycling, bus and public space improvements. The proposals are designed to work together to make Hereford a better place to live, work, study and visit.

The bypass will be a key driver in freeing up road space in the city creating the opportunity to provide high quality walking, cycling, bus and public space improvements.

The schemes that make up the Hereford Transport Package shown on the map aim to meet the following objectives:

- **Facilitate economic growth**
Reducing peak hour journey times
- **Encourage sustainable development**
Creating attractive alternatives to shorter car journeys

- **Improve regional connectivity**
Creating more reliable journeys for people travelling through Hereford
- **Provide network resilience**
Reducing the impact of accidents, breakdowns, and maintenance work on the city's main road network
- **Encourage healthier lifestyle**
Providing facilities for active travel (walking, cycling and travelling by bus)
- **Improve air quality and reduce noise**
Reducing pollution from congestion
- **Reduce severance**
Improving connections for pedestrians and cyclists
- **Improve safety**
Improving safety for all road users



Possible future view of Victoria Street / Eign Street junction providing an improved environment once traffic is re-routed to the new bypass

Proposed walking, cycling, bus and public space improvements

1. College Road Routes

Tackling the barriers caused by the railway between residential and employment areas

2. Aylestone Hill Routes

Helping students travel to their schools and colleges safely

3. Ledbury Road Route

Creating a safer and continuous route between Tupsley and the city centre

4. Greenway and Hampton Park Road Routes

Delivering safe and attractive routes between Hampton Park, the Hereford Enterprise Zone and the city and its future university

5. A49 Victoria Street Routes

More reliable buses and safer crossings on the A49

6. A49 Edgar Street Routes

Easier access to and from leisure, shopping areas and businesses

7. Great Western Way Routes

Upgrading Hereford's most popular north-south traffic free route

8. A438 Whitecross Road Route

Establishing a key walking and cycling gateway into the city from the existing and new residential areas to the west

9. Hurdman Walk Routes

Improving off-road routes between homes, schools, colleges and employment to encourage healthier lifestyles

10. Grandstand Road Routes

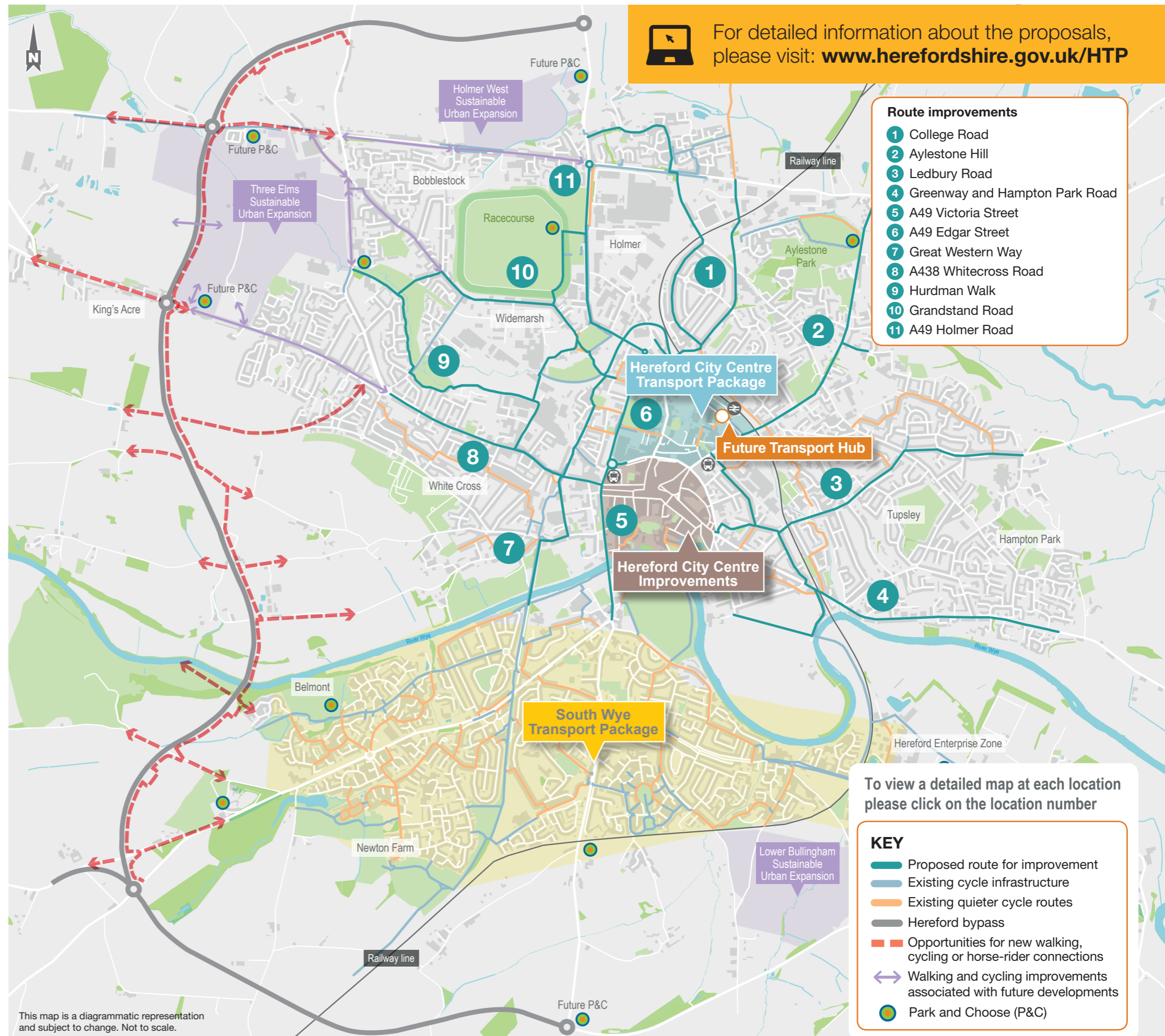
Providing more attractive routes to work and school for all users of Grandstand Road

11. A49 Holmer Road Routes

Safer journeys to school and work around Starting Gate Roundabout



For detailed information about the proposals, please visit: www.herefordshire.gov.uk/HTP



Benefits

The walking, cycling, bus and public space improvements outlined in this consultation are essential to complement the bypass and help meet the overall HTP objectives. Here are the benefits of these improvements:

Create attractive alternatives to car use for journeys within the city

The routes will enable reliable and continuous travel by foot and cycle across the city, creating a network that is recognisable and user friendly.

Encourage healthier lifestyles

The routes will give more people the confidence to travel more actively by walking, cycling and by bus, keeping us healthier for longer.

Create a safer travel environment

The measures will tackle some of the least safe areas for walkers and cyclists in the city, providing a safer travel environment for all users.

Reduce journey times

The routes will reduce waiting times by giving more priority to people travelling by foot, cycle or bus at busy junctions. They allow buses and bikes to avoid delays from heavy traffic and provide new, more direct routes for cyclists and pedestrians.

Improve air quality and reduce noise

These measures will encourage people to use their car less, reducing noise and pollution.

Create better routes across roads, railways and the River Wye

The routes will link communities with employment and the city centre, overcoming existing barriers to movement across the city.

Did you know?



49% of commuting trips in Hereford which are less than 5km are made by motor vehicle (*typically a 20 minute cycle*).

Source: Census 2011 (WP7701EW data).

Walking makes up less than 20% of all journeys in Hereford.



Source: Hereford Household Travel Survey 2016/17.



Levels of physical activity are declining across Herefordshire.

An inactive person spends **38% more days in hospital** than an active person.

Source: Herefordshire's Health and Well Being Strategy.



38% of commuting trips in Hereford which are less than 2km are made by motor vehicle (*typically a 25 minute walk*).

Source: Census 2011 (WP7701EW data).

Concentrations of **harmful air polluting chemicals have exceeded levels** within



government guidelines along the A49 through the centre of Hereford.

Source: 2017 Air Quality Annual Status Report (ASR) Herefordshire Council (May 2018).

Process Overview

The following explains the process for developing walking, cycling, bus and public space schemes.

Stage 1

We reviewed Hereford's transport network and in our first consultation sought your views on what issues should be prioritised. As a result, we were able to develop a set of objectives for the Hereford Transport Package (HTP).



Stage 2

We then identified walking, cycling, bus and public space improvements that supported these HTP objectives.

Stage 3

The second consultation asked for your views on possible measures we could develop under six key themes ranging from traffic management and use of public space to junction improvements and traffic free paths.



Stage 4

Building on your positive feedback from the second HTP consultation, we have developed walking, cycling, bus and public space improvement plans. We would like to hear your opinions on our proposals and find out what would encourage you to walk, cycle or use the bus more.

Stage 5

We will analyse the public feedback given in this consultation to inform the next stage of design.

Stage 6

The designs will be developed for further consultation.

What did you tell us at our last consultation?*



57% wanted more space for walking, cycling and bus journeys



70% supported better junction improvements for people walking, cycling and using the bus



64% approved of crossing improvements along and across main roads



64% supported traffic management measures including 20mph speed limits



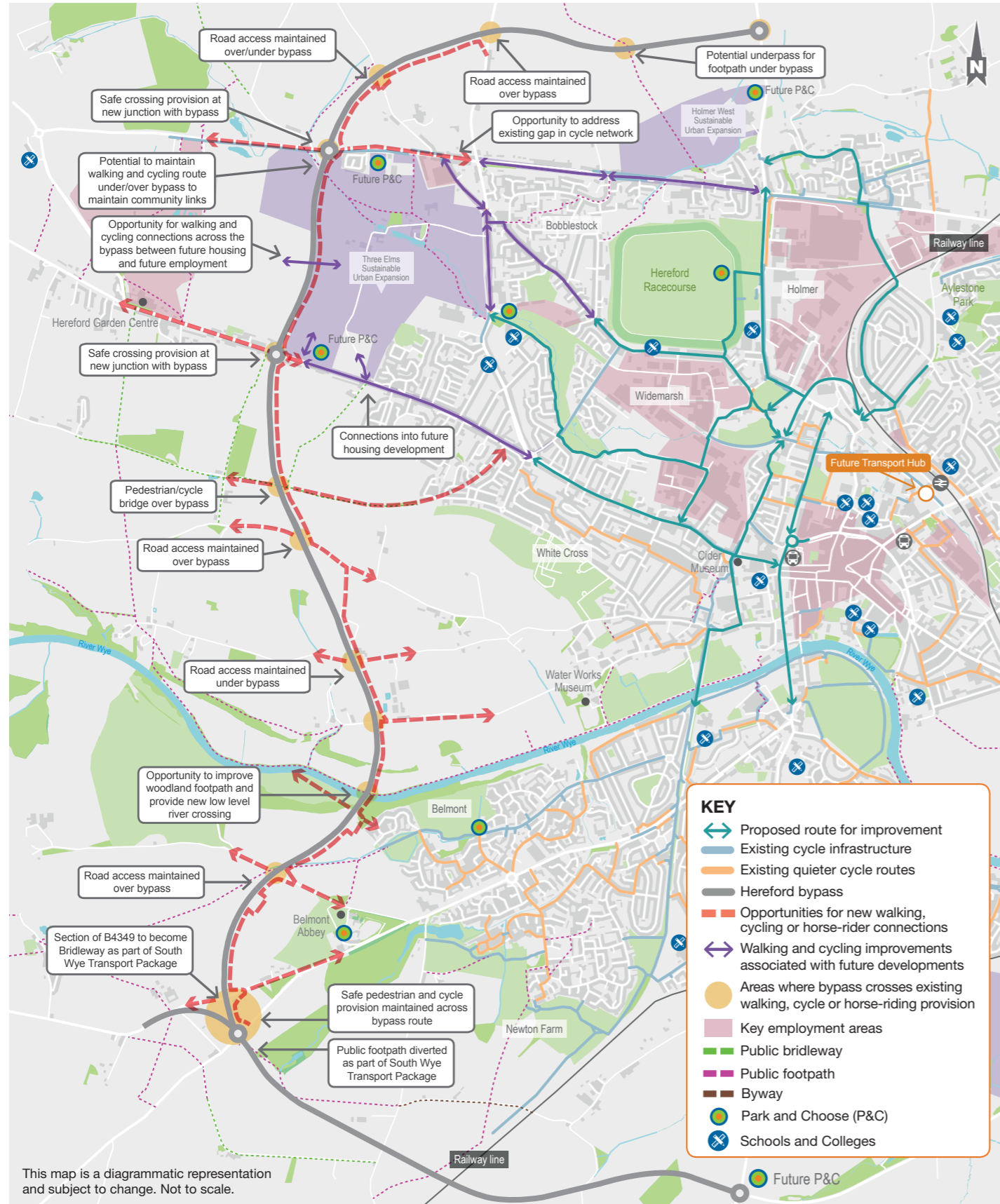
63% liked the suggestion of improvements to traffic free paths for walking and cycling

*Figures obtained from the 2018 - Phase 2 Hereford Transport Package consultation report.

Links with the Hereford Bypass

The HTP is not just about the bypass – the vision is much bigger than that.

The walking, cycling, bus and public space improvements are designed to work together with the bypass to make Hereford a better place to live, work, study and visit. By improving our transport network, we aim to encourage people to choose walking, cycling or travelling by bus more often and reduce dependency on the car for shorter journeys.



Next Steps

You can let us know your views on the proposals in a number of ways:

A questionnaire can be completed online at www.herefordshire.gov.uk/HTP or at one of our consultation exhibitions, which are being held at:

- Left Bank on Tuesday 29 - Thursday 31 January 2019 between 11am-8pm
- Old Market kiosk on Monday 4 - Thursday 7 February 2019 between 10am-6pm

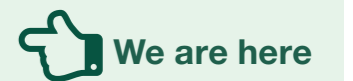
The best way to complete this questionnaire is online.

Alternatively, please complete a copy of the questionnaire and return it to the freepost address on the back page of this brochure or you can use the deposit box at the entrance to the Hereford Library from Tuesday 12 February. Your comments will be treated confidentially.

The closing date for responses is **Monday 11 March 2019.**

The exhibition will be available to view from Tuesday 12 February - Saturday 9 March 2019 (during opening hours) in the Hereford Library entrance space.

Hereford Transport Package Timeline



For further information:



www.herefordshire.gov.uk/HTP



Email us at:
herefordtransportpackage@balfourbeatty.com



Write to us at: **FREEPOST: RTHL-BBZH-JATH (Hereford Consultation)**
Balfour Beatty Living Places Unit 3, Thorn Business Park,
Rotherwas, HEREFORD HR2 6JT



Call us on: **01432 261800**



An Easy Read version of our proposals can be found online at:
www.herefordshire.gov.uk/HTP

Paper copies of the Easy Read brochure and questionnaire will also be available at public exhibition events and the Hereford library.

If you would like help to understand this document, or would like it in another format or language, please contact our Hereford Transport Package team:



01432 261800



herefordtransportpackage@balfourbeatty.com