

# View Response

## Response Details

**From** Russell Chidwick

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**Status** Complete

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We are seeking your views on walking, cycling and horse-riding as part of the consultation for the A229 Blue Bell Hill Junction Improvement Scheme. This is to make sure that appropriate facilities are incorporated into the preferred option of the scheme design.

We recommend that you read the [consultation brochure](#) or view the [virtual exhibition](#) before answering this questionnaire.

**Please note all responses submitted for this questionnaire are anonymised.** This means you will not be able to save your progress and return to your questionnaire, if you exit you will need to start again.

**You do not have to complete all of the questions. However, please ensure that you click to the end of the questionnaire and click 'finish' to submit your response. Unsubmitted responses will not be taken into account.**

## Privacy

Kent County Council collects and processes personal information in order to provide a range of public services. Kent County Council

respects the privacy of individuals and endeavours to ensure personal information is collected fairly, lawfully, and in compliance with the General Data Protection Regulation and Data Protection Act 2018.

For more information, view our [Privacy Notice](#).

**Q1. Please tell us in what capacity you are completing this questionnaire:**

Please select the option from the list below that most closely represents how you will be responding to this consultation. Please select one option.

- As an individual
- On behalf of an organisation or business, in an official capacity
- Other

If Other, please specify

«No response»

**Q1a. If you are responding on behalf of an organisation or business, please tell us the name of your organisation:**

Maidstone Cycle Campaign Forum

**Q2. Are you or your organisation users of routes (including public rights of way) along or surrounding the A229 Blue Bell Hill?**

Please select one option.

Yes

No

**Q2a. Please provide details of how you or your organisation use these routes:**

Cycling for commute and leisure as members of the forum and representatives of the cycling community in and around Maidstone.

Our proposals are at a very early stage in their design. We welcome your views and suggestions on how we can shape them to provide safe and improved routes for walking, cycling and horse-riding and to encourage people to undertake these activities more often.

Please review the proposals here: [kent.gov.uk/a229bluebellhill](https://kent.gov.uk/a229bluebellhill) then answer the questions below.

You can provide responses to all the questions or just the ones that are relevant / of interest. **Please ensure that you click through to the end of the questionnaire and press 'Finish' to submit your response.**

**Q3. How could we improve routes along and surrounding Blue Bell Hill to encourage more walking?**

Walking routes can be improved by safe and segregated paths. Specifically the existing routes need to be retained and improved. Adjacent to the A229 north of the footbridge the path

needs retention and widening. South of the Shell Garage underpass the existing route on the left path needs to be widened and segregated as it is currently obstructed by HGV parking. All routes need to be of a suitable gradient to make them accessible. Warren Road is not a suitable alternative route.

#### **Q4. How could we improve routes along and surrounding Blue Bell Hill to encourage more cycling?**

Cycling routes can be improved by safe and segregated cycle routes conforming to the DoT Cycle Infrastructure Design (Local Transport Note 1/20). Specifically, the existing routes need to be retained and improved. Adjacent to the A229 north of the footbridge the path adjacent to the south bound carriageway needs retention and widening. The minimum width as in DoT Cycle Infrastructure Design (Local Transport Note 1/20) needs to be adhered to. South of the Shell Garage underpass the existing route on the left path of Old Chatham Road needs to be widened and segregated as it is currently obstructed by HGV parking. All routes need to be of a suitable gradient to make them accessible therefore Warren Road is not a suitable alternative route. There needs to be a clearly defined, wide and well surfaced cycle path behind the Shell garage where Old Chatham Road connects to the underpass and reconnects to Old Chatham Road. The cycle route starting at Tyland Lane running north along Old Chatham Road to the footbridge before Salisbury Road

needs to be improved to provide a seamless well surfaced, segregated and signed route. A direct route for cyclists should be enabled by provision of segregated full width paths adjacent to all roads affected by the scheme. All routes should be clearly signed.

**Q5. How could we improve routes along and surrounding Blue Bell Hill to encourage more horse-riding?**

no response

**Q6. How could we ensure the routes along and surrounding Blue Bell Hill are accessible for all?**

The Scheme Plans for all three options all contain the wording "Footpath and National Cycle Route 17 will be affected by the scheme, alternative provision will be provided so that this route is maintained". All three schemes options include the proposal to widen the southbound carriageway between the M2 and the M20. This will severely impact the current route of NCR17. It is clear, even at this stage of the scheme development, that significant expenditure will be required to maintain this route. Even at this stage, there should be some idea as to how the widened carriageway, the footpath and a two way cycle path of sufficient width to comply with DoT Cycle Infrastructure Design

(Local Transport Note 1/20) and Sustrans standards, can be accommodated into the limited space available. This will allow the schemes to be developed with adequate provision which will enable accessibility for walkers, cyclists and the disabled. All routes should be clearly signed. It is imperative that safe routes are clearly visible to avoid users taking unsafe options and making errors that result in them being exposed to danger by 'landing' on the dual carriageway.

**Q7. What do you think we should bear in mind for walking, cycling and horse-riding specifically for Option 1?**

Please see [Scheme Plan: Option 1, exhibition board 4](#) or page 15 in the [consultation brochure](#).

Responses to Q3, Q4 and Q6 are relevant to all Options

**Q8. What do you think we should bear in mind for walking, cycling and horse-riding specifically for Option 2?**

Please see [Scheme Plan: Option 2, exhibition board 5](#) or page 16 in the [consultation brochure](#).

Responses to Q3, Q4 and Q6 are relevant to all Options

**Q9. What do you think we should bear in mind for walking, cycling and horse-riding specifically for Option 3?**

Please see [Scheme Plan: Option 3, exhibition board 6](#) or page 17 in the [consultation brochure](#).

Responses to Q3, Q4 and Q6 are relevant to all Options

Thank you for taking the time to complete this questionnaire; your feedback is important to us. All feedback received will be reviewed and considered in the development of our proposals.

We will report back on the feedback we receive, but details of individual responses will remain anonymous and we will keep your personal details confidential.

**Please click the Finish button below to submit your response.**

#### **How we use your information**

The information you provide on this form is collected and dealt with in compliance with the General Data Protection Regulation and Data Protection Act 2018.

We are relying on the lawful bases of the 'performance of a public task in the public interest' to process your personal data for a specific purpose of facilitating a consultation.

We also rely on 'processing is necessary for reasons of substantial public interest' as the lawful basis on which we collect and use your special category data for the purposes of equalities monitoring.

Kent County Council will share your details with services within the Council who are responsible for management of this consultation. Responses will be shared with a third-party supplier who has been contracted to independently analyse the consultation responses. Any information given will not be used to identify you.

Responses will be securely stored for the period of 6 years.

For more information, view our [Privacy Notice](#) for this consultation.