

Witney Traffic Advisory Committee Report by Oxfordshire County Council

March 2026

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Maintenance issues: <https://fixmystreet.oxfordshire.gov.uk/>

Actions for OCC from January TAC:

- Schedule of lights changing at Ducklington Lane / Thorney Leys
Traffic Signals Team

The operation of both junctions has been checked and found to be working without any current faults. The slip road approach does have queue detection, to help prevent vehicles queueing back onto the A40. This detection was also found to be working correctly when checked.

Both junctions run an adaptive mode of operation, where green times vary depending on vehicle flows rather than fixed time. We believe the current signal operation to be the best achievable at this location and will continue to monitor the sites.

- Bridge closure at New Mill Lane, Crawley
Public Rights of Way Team

The Public Right of Way bridge, known to us as the Audley Travel Bridge, at New Mill Lane, Crawley is currently closed due to crumbling abutments.

The Public Rights of Way team have it scheduled for replacement in our capital works programme, however the presence of bats in one of the preliminary ecology surveys has held us up. It is now due for replacement between April - June dependant on bats and weather.

- OCC's flag policy
An update is provided below as item 11.

Place Planning updates

Odele Parsons, Place Planning (North) West Team Leader

1. A40/B4022 Shores Green, Access to Witney (AtW)

The Access to Witney scheme continues to make good progress. Recent adverse weather and associated ground considerations have required some resequencing of carriageway construction activities.

The project team remains focused on achieving completion in early summer, with the final opening dependent on the completion of the remaining carriageway works and prevailing site conditions. Further details on the scheme opening strategy and wider scheme updates will be communicated through the Council's bi-weekly Access to Witney newsletter. Residents and stakeholders are encouraged to subscribe via the Oxfordshire County Council website to receive the latest information as it becomes available.

[A40 Access to Witney | Oxfordshire County Council](#)

2. Access to Witney complimentary schemes – re-designation of the A4095 and associated signage changes

A Councillor briefing was held on Thursday 12th February, which covered the signage changes that will complement the new Shores Green slip roads (Access to Witney) scheme.

The slides and meeting recording were shared after the meeting concluded with all of those invited.

Work continues to ensure these signage changes take place once the junction is operational.

3. West Oxfordshire Lowlands Movement and Place (MAP) Plan

Tom Wilkins, Area Travel Plans Technical Lead

The Movement and Place Plans (referred to as “MAP Plans”) are part of the council's [Local Transport and Connectivity Plan](#) (LTCP), which was adopted in July 2022. The MAP Plans form Part 2 of the LTCP and sit alongside other council policies and strategies. They will remain live documents, with updates made regularly to ensure that they reflect the latest policy guidance, future Local Plans and strategies, and the development of schemes.

The draft West Oxfordshire Lowlands Movement and Place (MAP) Plan has been advancing and is currently undergoing engagement with County Councillors, District Councillors, Town and Parish Councils and key local stakeholders in advance of public consultation during May.

The West Oxfordshire Lowlands MAP Plan replaces the Local Transport Plan 4 (LTP4) Connecting Oxfordshire Strategies for Witney and Carterton, extending them to cover new areas, support sustainable growth and to develop a framework that reflects the shift to a people first approach. The requirement to replace the area strategies from LTP4 and provide corridor studies is also set out in Policies 52 and 53 of the LTCP.

The MAP Plans outline how the vision, targets, and outcomes of the LTCP will be delivered in locations across the county. Outlining more detailed plans for specific locations and key travel corridors in the county. They will be used to guide future workstreams, scheme development, funding bids, responses to planning

applications, developer contributions and will support and enable sustainable growth.

4. Witney High Street and Market Square Enhancements

Nick Howdle-Smith, Infrastructure Delivery Project Manager / Duncan Stewart, Infrastructure Delivery Programme Lead

Subject to approval of the Full Business Case and Traffic Regulation Orders (TROs) the contractor for the Witney High Street & Market Square Enhancement scheme will be instructed to commence mobilisation (ordering of materials / set up of site compound) at the beginning of April to allow main works to commence in early May. This will minimise the risk of works continuing into the Christmas trading period.

Next steps include:

- Approval of the Full Business Case by the Strategic Capital & Commercial Board (SCCB) in March. This includes approval to move into the construction phase.
- The Cabinet Member Decision (CMD) for approval of the traffic regulation orders required for the scheme and approval to proceed is scheduled for 26th March [Agenda for Delegated Decisions by Cabinet Member for Transport Management on Thursday, 26 March 2026, 10.00 am | Oxfordshire County Council](#)

Revision to the proposals for benches and planters are currently being explored with the contractor to be reported back to local stakeholders including the Town Council.

The project team have been preparing communications and stakeholder engagement that will be delivered in the lead-up to start of works and have also been revising the plan for communications during the construction period. Briefings will be held for councillors and other key stakeholders with a public information event also to be held to coincide with the start of works.

If you wish to speak at CMD on this topic, advice on how to do so can be found here: [Get involved in meetings | Oxfordshire County Council](#)

5. Witney Paths and Crossing

Karl Chadwick, Infrastructure Delivery Assistant Project Manager / Duncan Stewart, Infrastructure Delivery Programme Lead

Verbal update to be given at TAC meeting.

6. Fiveways Roundabout

Roger Plater, Vision Zero

The Vision Zero team are awaiting a quote from MGroup for the civils work. MGroup are actively looking at road space booking etc. so construction is expected to take place in the next two months, but there are no confirmed dates as of yet.

7. King George's Field Path

James Wright, Highway Maintenance (Traffic and Road Safety)

Design details are being added to a plan of the works over the next week, so that MGroup have enough information to provide costings for the scheme.

8. Loom Lane / Burford Road

James Wright, Highway Maintenance (Traffic and Road Safety)

At present, vehicles are permitted to park right up to the corner of the junction, which can cause the entrance to Loom Lane to have poor visibility. This means drivers often pull out blindly onto Burford Road.

'Keep Clear' lining to be implemented across the access. Although this may not be implemented until the new financial year.

9. On-street Parking Enforcement Updates

John Charlton, Parking Enforcement Team Lead

From 1 December 2025 to 28 February 2026.

	Patrols	PCNs Issued
Witney	1575	193
Corn Street	222	28

We do deploy 2 CEO in the District whenever possible however the contract is experiencing recruitment issues. This is a national problem and not just an issue experienced by our parking contractor, Trellint.

We continue to work with the contractor on their recruitment, but the job does not attract applicants as they are out in all weathers and are abused by the public.

A tender notice was published 4 March seeking a new Civil Enforcement Contractor and this contractor should be appointed in the Autumn

10. Introduction of ANPR to the High Street

Lauren Jones, ANPR Enforcement Team Lead

Regarding the ANPR cameras being implemented in Witney, there will be an exemption system in place. Anyone who is currently eligible for access will be able to apply to be added to an exemption database, ensuring their access continues without interruption.

We intend to engage with local residents and businesses closer to the go-live date to explain the process and help them register where needed.

The enforcement of the scheme is scheduled to start once the High Street works are complete.

11. Flags on the highway

Last meeting there was a query about Flag on the highway. Below is a statement from Oxfordshire County Council's website from 22 December 2025.

“As a council, we proudly fly both the Union Jack and St George’s flags. We also welcome residents displaying flags on their own property.

However, placing flags or painting them on or near highways can create serious safety hazards. These include reduced visibility for drivers, cyclists, and pedestrians, and increased risk of distraction. In addition, installing flags on street furniture or near roads can lead to personal injury or property damage. For these reasons, we strongly advise people against doing so.

To keep everyone safe, our teams have been removing flags and other unauthorised attachments from streetlights during routine maintenance or where they pose an immediate risk.

With the current darker, windier and wetter weather, these risks are increasing. We are therefore stepping up the removal of flags and other unauthorised items. Each case will be assessed based on the level of risk, with priority given to those that pose an immediate risk.

Our overarching priority is to keep our roads and public spaces safe for everyone.”

Source: [Flags on the highway](#)