

18 May 2020

Bernadette Owens  
Cherwell District Council  
Bodicote House  
Banbury  
OX15 4AA

Councillor Dr Suzanne Bartington  
Cycling Champion  
County Hall  
Oxford OX1 1ND

Re. Cherwell District Council Planning Application 19/01740/HYBRID

Dear Bernadette,

Bicester is an area identified for significant housing and employment growth, therefore strongly supporting the national economy. This investment has potential to achieve multiple benefits including public health, environmental and travel objectives. However, to realise such benefits a joined up approach is essential for active travel infrastructure, providing high quality, protected walking and cycling routes in accordance with the objectives of [Oxfordshire County Council Local Transport Plan 4](#) and the [Oxfordshire County Council Cycling Design Standards](#).

Further, Bicester is the location of the NHS England [Healthy New Town](#) place based population prevention programme using the opportunities presented by population growth to test innovations in the built environment, new models of care, and community activation to identify the impacts they have on public health.

The Albion Land's Design for New Roundabout at Catalyst Development, Bicester [10/01740/HYBRID] does not reflect these principles, and will not deliver adequate improvements for walking and cycling which are consistent with the stated design standards. Specifically the plans outline:

1. Provision for pedestrians only in many areas
2. A confusing design with multiple junction types
3. No horizontal separation between carriageway and paths
4. No waiting areas meaning that pedestrians and cyclists waiting to cross carriageway will block the paths.
5. No transitions between the shared paths and carriageway

In my role as **County Council Cycling Champion**, I have observed some excellent progress with regard to co-design for key infrastructure to achieve improvements for active travel. I very much hope this opportunity will be used to revisit this design with the support of Bicester Bike User Group and other local users, focusing upon the needs of vulnerable road users at this location.

Yours sincerely



Cllr Suzanne Bartington

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