

# MELBOURN GREENWAY

## Melbourn - Foxton - Harston - Hauxton

Have your say on a new walking, cycling and, where appropriate, horse riding route linking Melbourn, Foxton, Harston, Hauxton, Trumpington and Cambridge



# WHAT IS A GREENWAY?

Greenways will be new or improved walking, cycling and, where appropriate, horse riding routes. They will follow off-road paths, along quiet streets or with improved facilities on busier roads. They will help more people reach more of Greater Cambridge with safer, easier and more direct journeys.

## The Challenge

The Greater Cambridge Partnership (GCP) is investing to secure sustainable economic growth and improve the quality of life for everyone in our area through a series of ambitious projects and programmes. Although a thriving centre for education, high-tech business and world-leading healthcare, there are severe transport challenges the area needs to address, including:

**Continued growth of traffic and congestion**

**Limited public transport choices and lack of attractive walking and cycling routes**

**Toxic air pollution and high carbon emissions as a result of limited alternatives to the car**

To meet these challenges, the GCP was awarded £500million to make vital improvements to our transport networks.

With this money, we are developing more affordable and greener travel options for our region. The Greenways aim to provide attractive and safer walking, cycling and, where appropriate, horse riding routes, between the city and its surrounding communities.

## Improving our region through Greenways, to:



**Provide better cycling and walking routes**



**Enhance public spaces where possible**



**Reduce the impact of traffic congestion and growing traffic levels**



**Support access to jobs and opportunities**



**Reduce air pollution and improve our health**

# Melbourn Greenway Project

## BACKGROUND

The Melbourn Greenway is one of twelve proposed Greenways, which aim to make local walking and cycling journeys easier connecting villages along the route to each other and to enable a direct connection with Cambridge.

Previous public consultation was held in 2019 with supportive feedback for the Melbourn route. Further design work on the route was approved by the GCP Executive Board in June 2020.

Your views, ideas and experiences are important to us, and we are now providing an update of the design proposals and seeking your feedback for the Melbourn Greenway.

## THE ROUTE

Once the proposed Melbourn Greenway is complete it will connect Cambridge to Melbourn and Royston. The route covers 12.5km of improvements routing south-west from Cambridge, via Trumpington, Cambridge South West Travel Hub, Hauxton, Harston, Foxton, Foxton Travel Hub, Melbourn Science Park and Melbourn. Additional links to the route extend to Haslingfield, Shepreth, Meldreth and Royston.

The improvements will focus on where there are gaps in the existing provision and will be focused on Hauxton, Harston, Foxton, Melbourn, Meldreth, Shepreth and Royston.

The route follows existing quiet roads, off-road paths and busier roads, with the aim to provide a high quality route to improve and enhance walking, cycling and where appropriate, horse riding in the area.

## THE PROPOSALS

The proposals involve making better use of the existing shared use path on the A10 along with 12.5km of safety and other improvements. The existing A10 path will be enhanced with upgrades and new sections where there are currently gaps.

Through villages on the route, where people cycling will use the road, we are proposing traffic calming measures, such as raised tables, road narrowing and chicanes to make them safer both for cycling on and crossing on foot.

Alongside traffic calming, we are proposing new pedestrian and cycle crossings to make roads safer and easier to cross. We will also be providing improved access to railway stations.

**We want to hear what local people, organisations, and businesses think about these proposals.**

# Visualisations of the scheme

## TYPICAL URBAN SETTING

Our proposals include a 'quiet road' treatment type, where people cycling will use the road. This typically includes reducing speed limits, often to 20mph, and using signs to reinforce the presence of people cycling.



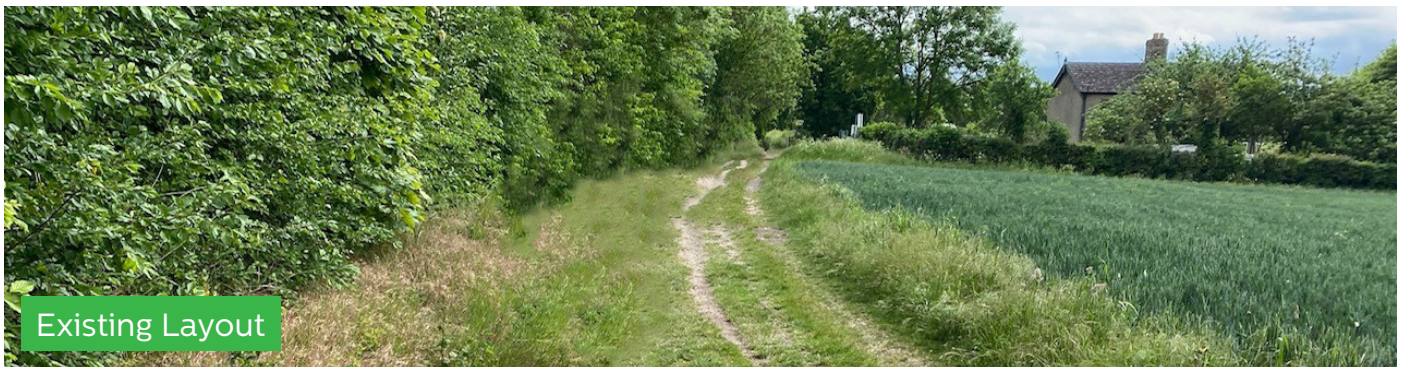
Existing Layout



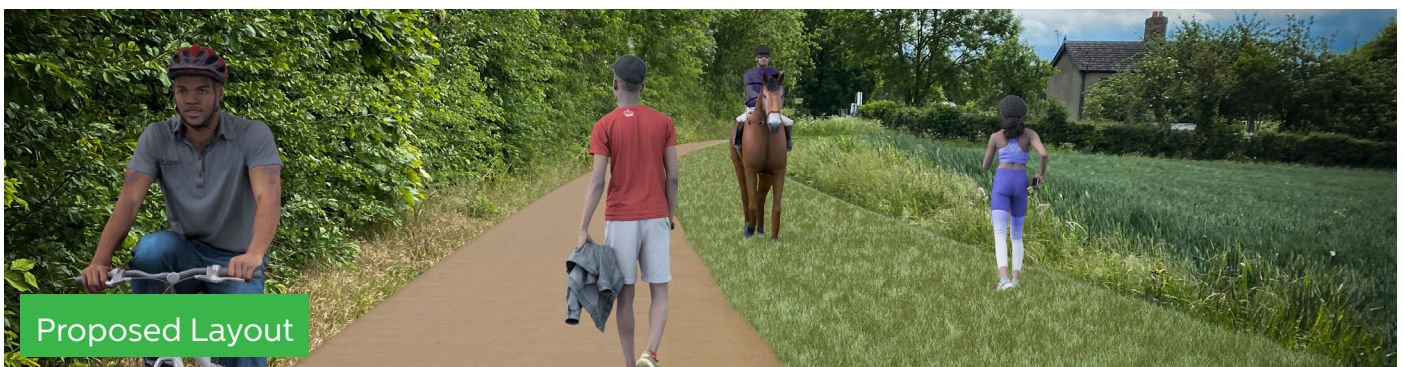
Proposed Layout

## TYPICAL RURAL SETTING

Our proposals include shared use paths where the route runs off-road. This typically includes a 3-metre wide sealed track with a 2-3 metre grass verge for soft surface users (including horse riders) running parallel. Exact materials are still to be confirmed.



Existing Layout



Proposed Layout

## Next stages

The next stages to progress the design of the Melbourn Greenway will include undertaking the following tasks:

### 1 ENVIRONMENTAL & ECOLOGY IMPACTS

We are considering the environmental constraints and assessing the possible effects of the proposals on the environment and local ecology, so that this can be incorporated into the next stage of scheme design. This will consist of arboricultural and ecological surveys and hedgerow assessments. Our aim will be to minimise the impacts and enhance biodiversity overall (biodiversity net gain).

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### 2 ENGAGEMENT WITH LANDOWNERS

We will continue to talk to the various private landowners along the route to gain their consent before the scheme is progressed.

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### 3 PLANNING CONSENT

Under the Town and Country Planning Act 1990, planning consent may be required for the Melbourn Greenway, subject to final preliminary designs, prior to construction.

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### 4 TRAFFIC MODELLING

We will model and assess traffic flows at key junctions to understand the potential impact proposals may have on journey times.

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### 5 PARKING SURVEYS

We will undertake surveys, where necessary, to understand on-street parking demand at locations where changes may need to be made to improve safety for walking and cycling which could impact parking. Any survey data collected will be inform the preliminary design process.



# Greenway improvement types

The Melbourn Greenway will include the following types of route sections:

## A. QUIET ROAD

On sections of the route using quieter roads where vehicle speeds are reduced, white painted signage would be added to the carriageway where appropriate. Where there is no existing footpath, signage may be used to warn motorists that this is a multi-use route.

## B. SHARED USE PATH

A shared use path would typically include a 3-metre wide sealed track with a 2-3 metre grass verge for soft surface users (including horse riders) running parallel. Where the path runs beside the carriageway, a verge will separate the path from the road, where possible.

## C. PROTECTED PATH

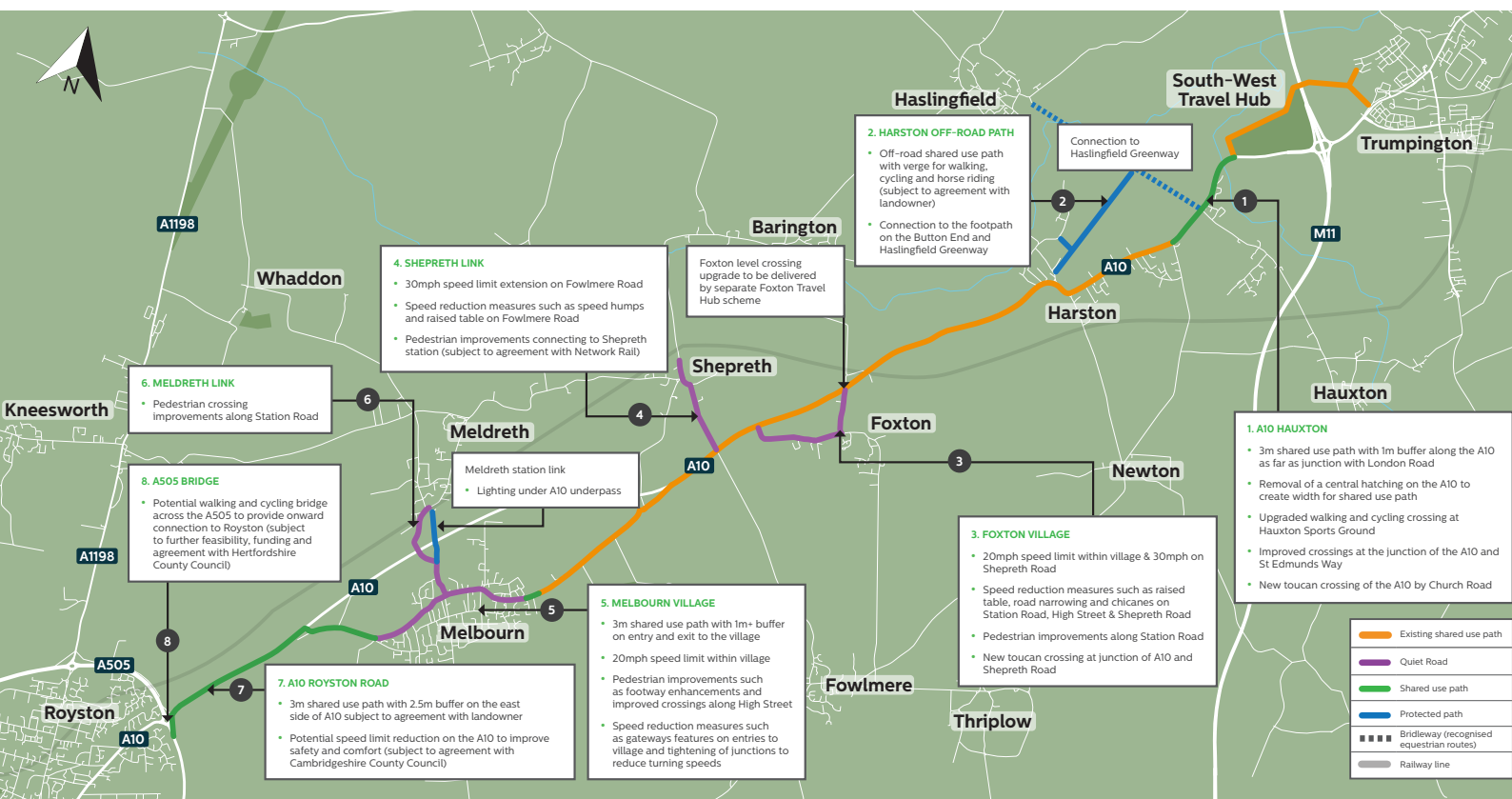
A protected path would typically include a 3-metre-wide sealed path with equestrian access where appropriate. Where possible, as much protection from the carriageway will be provided, which may include grass verges or shrubs.

It should be noted that 3-metres may not be achievable in all locations due to width constraints, so some bespoke measures will be implemented.

## D. EXISTING SHARED USE PATH

Existing active travel routes which will form part of the Melbourn Greenway, creating a continuous route.

The map illustrates the scheme alignment and key proposals. Technical drawings for the Melbourn Greenway can be viewed at: <https://consultcambcs.uk/engagement/hq.com/gcp-melbourn-greenway>



## Potential impacts and mitigations

The scheme aims to deliver positive impacts by enhancing routes and facilities for walking, cycling and, where appropriate, horse riding to support safer, easier and healthier journeys as part of our vision for Greater Cambridge.

The routes are being designed to be fully accessible for wheelchairs, opening up more of our places to more people.

Proposals for on-road sections of the route will feature measures to improve safety for all, including traffic calming and safer crossing points. We are reviewing car parking on the route to ensure it does not create excess risk to people cycling.

## Materials and surfacing

Generally, routes will be made from a hard, smooth surface such as asphalt. In more rural locations, including bridleways we will introduce appropriate surface treatment that is sensitive to the local environment.

## Visual impact

The visual impact of the route will be minimised through measures such as landscaping (including mounds) on the sides of paths where required, which will also include pollinator friendly planting.

## Equality analysis

To help ensure that we are meeting our obligations under the Equality Act 2010 we are preparing an Equality Impact Assessment (EqIA) for the proposals put forward in this engagement exercise.

An EqIA is a tool to assess the impact any proposals would have on the protected characteristics: age, disability, sex, gender identity, sexual orientation, race, religion or belief, pregnancy or maternity, marriage and civil partnership and carer's responsibilities.



# Timeline

Final route options were presented to the public and the Executive Board in 2020. We are now developing the technical design. The next stages are outlined below:



**GCP Executive Board approval**



**Obtain planning consent**



**Develop designs**



**Construct & build**

On-going engagement with key stakeholders, land owners and the wider public.

## HAVE YOUR SAY

We want to continue to understand the views of local communities and other interested parties on our proposals and use this feedback to help produce the design for this scheme.

The engagement period will run for four weeks from 3 October to midday 28 October 2022. There are a number of ways to respond and provide feedback:



Fill out the online questionnaire at: <https://consultcamb.org.uk/engagementhq.com/gcp-melbourn-greenway>



Download or request a paper questionnaire and return to: **Greater Cambridge Partnership, PO Box 1493, Mandela House, 4 Regent Street, Cambridge, CB1 0YR**



We will be holding one virtual event and two in person events.

### Virtual Zoom Event

**Date:** Tuesday 11 October

**Time:** 18:00 - 20:00

**Please register details online at:**

<https://consultcamb.org.uk/engagementhq.com/gcp-melbourn-greenway>

### Venue: Hauxton Centre

**Date:** Thursday 20th October

**Time:** 16:00 - 19:00

**Address:** Church Road, Hauxton, CB22 5HS

## NEXT STEPS

Your feedback will be analysed once the engagement period ends. The findings will then be compiled into a summary report and made available on our website. Your views alongside the Equality Impact Assessment will be considered by the GCP Executive Board.

## GET IN TOUCH



[consultations@greatercambridge.org.uk](mailto:consultations@greatercambridge.org.uk)



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[www.facebook.com/GreaterCam](http://www.facebook.com/GreaterCam)

**ALTERNATIVE FORMATS:** If you require any of the material in an alternative format or language, please email: [consultations@greatercambridge.org.uk](mailto:consultations@greatercambridge.org.uk) or call **01223 699906**.

### Venue: Melbourn Hub

**Date:** Monday 17th October

**Time:** 16:00 - 19:00

**Address:** High Street, Melbourn, SG8 6DZ