

Corporate Resources

Christopher Chiswell
What Do They Know? Website

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Please ask for Ethan Hawkins
Email managemyrequests@gloucestershire.gov.uk

Telephone 01452 324000

Our ref: 20489396

Date: 12 February 2021

Dear Mr Chiswell,

I am pleased to provide a response to your request for information received on **28 January 2021**.

Under the Freedom of Information Act s1, I can confirm that Gloucestershire County Council holds the information you have requested.

Please find this detailed below.

- 1) The Highways England value for money assessment (including methodology and metrics used) cited by the council as supporting the high value of the scheme, and the council's interpretation and validation of the DfT Rapid Cycleway Prioritisation Tool.**

Highways England at the onset of the project prepared the attached designated funds summary project summary form based solely on the detailed design of the scheme. This exercise will be repeated for construction in the coming months.

Gloucestershire County Council has recently submitted a Value for Money Assessment as part of the DfT EATF bid with an enhanced BCR of 2.38 using the DfT's assessment methodology highlighting 'high value for money' categorisation.

The DfT Rapid Cycleway Prioritisation Tool can be found here:

<https://www.cyipt.bike/rapid/gloucestershire/>.

It clearly shows how the B4063 cycle scheme will contribute towards creating a cohesive cycle network. The Tool was used in combination with other

methods of understanding which cycle schemes should be prioritised, as outlined under question 2 below.

2) Documentation of the prioritisation and decision process followed by the council to establish this as being the route that would receive the vast majority of investment.

The decision which schemes should be submitted to bid for Emergency Active Travel Fund funding and in which priority order they should be submitted was taken by an officer group, in consultation with Lead Cabinet Members and endorsed by MPs.

Decisions were informed by the following evidence:

- The above mentioned DfT Rapid Cycleway Prioritisation Tool.
- An assessment of the potential of each scheme to increase cycling, using the Propensity to Cycle Tool: <https://www.pct.bike/>.
- An assessment against Gloucestershire's strategic cycle network ambitions as outlined in:
 - Gloucestershire's Cycle Desire Lines which are published and reflected in Gloucestershire's emerging Local Transport Plan (LTP) and the Central Severn Vale (CSV) Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan (LCWIP).
 - The CSV LCWIP:
<https://www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/transport/gloucestershires-local-transport-plan-2015-2031/local-cycling-and-walking-infrastructure-plans/>.
 - The existing and emerging LTP:
<https://www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/media/2093897/full-draft-local-transport-plan-draft-for-consultation-171219-a.pdf>.

Both the LTP and LCWIP are published documents that undertook extensive consultation and in the case of the LTP, was approved by Gloucestershire County Council's Cabinet.

The B4063 cycle scheme is at the centre of the outlined cycle strategy and cycle schemes in both plans.

3) The narrative and outcome of the equality impact assessment undertaken by the council to assure itself that the outcome of its prioritisation decision did not disproportionately affect groups with protected characteristics, for example by age, gender.

Gloucestershire County Council (through its contractor, Atkins) has undertaken a Statement of Due Regard (attached) which considers the needs of all protected characteristic groups in accordance with the Equality Act.

4) The number of users per day that the council has modelled in its decision-making process who will use the route

The baseline cycle and pedestrian volumes and weekday estimated pedestrian and cyclist volumes are attached and based on the DfT uplift methodology.

Gloucestershire County Council has not withheld any information in relation to this request under the exemptions of the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

If you are unhappy with my response, you can complain or ask for a review of your request by writing to us within 40 working days of receiving this response. The full procedure is on our website at <http://www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/foi>. This should be addressed to:

Shire Hall
Westgate Street
Gloucester
GL1 2TG
managemyrequests@gloucestershire.gov.uk

Yours faithfully

Ethan Hawkins
Information Requests Officer

NOTE: Please do not edit the subject line when replying to this email.