The Kingsway: Have Your Say

If you would like any more information about this consultation or would like this information in another format please advise us by:

e-mail: thekingsway@swansea.gov.uk website: www.swansea.gov.uk/thekingsway telephone: 01792 636498

The consultation will run until noon on the 10th March

How often do you currently use The Kingsway (driving, walking, bus route, visiting etc...)?

 45 (20.8%)
 Every day

 57 (26.4%)
 1 - 2 days per week

 49 (22.7%)
 3 - 5 days per week

 5 (2.3%)
 Weekends only

37 (17.1%)	Few times a months
15 (6.9%)	Less often
3 (1.4%)	Never

How do you currently travel into and around the City Centre?

	Bike	Bus	Car	Walk
Travelling into the City Centre	31 (14.4%)	58 (26.9%)	161 (74.5%)	68 (31.5%)
Travelling around the City	19 (8.8%)	10 (4.6%)	64 (29.6%)	112 (51.9%)
Centre	. ,		. ,	. ,

Do you live within the City Centre (or within walking distance)?

63 (29.2%) Yes 152 (70.4%) No

How do you feel about the current layout and condition of The Kingsway and surrounding roads?

164 (75.9%)Major improvements needed46 (21.3%)Some improvements needed4 (1.9%)No improvements needed0 (0.0%)Don't know/no opinion

The Council is proposing to make significant improvements to The Kingsway and the surrounding roads. We have put a proposed new plan together which you can see here: www.swansea.gov.uk/thekingsway

We'd like your view on our proposal below:

Have you looked at the proposal for the new layout of The Kingsway and surrounding roads? 209 Yes (96.8%)

7 (3.2%) No

Do you agree with our proposal to make improvements to The Kingsway and surrounding roads?

93 (44.5%) Strongly agree
47 (22.5%) Tend to agree
20 (9.6%) Tend to disagree
47 (22.5%) Strongly disagree

Do you have any comments that you would like to make in relation to the proposal? Please write in below 160 (76.6%)

Do you have any other comments that you would like to make in relation to The Kingsway and surrounding roads. Please write in below 125 (57.9%)

If the scheme were to go ahead the main works would commence in October. We do have the option to close the dedicated and bus/cycle lane in August to enable preparation for the permanent works. This has the benefit that the permanent works time will be reduced.

Do you agree with our proposal to close the dedicated and bus/cycle lane in August to enable preparation for the permanent works?

 85 (39.4%)
 Strongly agree

 64 (29.6%)
 Tend to agree

 24 (11.1%)
 Tend to disagree

 38 (17.6%)
 Strongly disagree

Do you have any comments that you would like to make in relation to the proposal to close the dedicated and bus/cycle lane in August 94 (43.5%)

Further Information

Please tick the appropriate option below:

208 I am responding to this consultation as an individual (96.3%)

6 (2.8%) I am responding to this consultation as a group/ organisation - please specify below

Name of 7 (3.2%) group/organisation

Appendix C – Comments arising from Questions 7, 8 & 10 and letter of support Response from guide Dogs Cymru, Vision Impaired West Glamorgan and RNIB in Swansea

This consultation response represents the views of Guide Dogs Cymru, VIWG and RNIB as partner organisations working with blind and partially sighted people in Swansea. It focuses on points of key interest to people with sight loss and comments on the engagement process as well as the scheme itself.

Engagement - This was made more inclusive through the provision of tactile diagrams of the proposed new road layouts discussed at special meetings for people with sight loss. These preceded the public exhibitions and meant that particular attention could be paid to ensuring the proposals were understood, debated and a range of options suggested. We welcome this approach and hope that it will continue as the scheme evolves.

The proposals - Overall, we welcome the plan to reduce traffic flow and the 20MPH speed limit on Kingsway, although we are sceptical as to how this will be enforced. We entirely support a hierarchy of road use which puts pedestrians first, and we are pleased to note the retention of controlled crossings. We understand the debate as to whether the intervening crossings, on the newly regenerated stretch of Kingsway, should be controlled and we do have concerns if they put vulnerable pedestrians at risk. A major factor in whether it will be safe to use a zebra crossing in this situation will be the amount and speed of traffic. Assessing when it is safe to cross becomes impossible in situations where there is a lot of road noise, and this could be the case on Kingsway.

WE welcome the proposed new pedestrian route between Kingsway and oxford Street and new bus lay by's on Orchard Street and Kingsway.

We are interested in the plans for the Northern side of Kingsway and would wish to ensure a safe segregated route for pedestrians. We understand that the Northern side has potential for many activities including cycling and café culture, but within that environment it must be clear to people with sight loss how they can move along the footway without encountering unexpected obstacles or cyclists. We strongly suggest that signage and appropriate tactile paving, as a minimum, is used to denote this safe pedestrian route, and that this is kept free of lighting columns, café furniture, bins and seats. We note that priority is to be given to green landscaping here and feel that every opportunity to use this to separate pedestrians from cyclists should be taken.

We understand that these proposals may change as a result of consultation and through delivery phases, and we would ask that we continue the excellent communication methods that have, so far, been an opportunity to engage in this development. We assume that a full Equality Impact Assessment will be published to accompany the proposals and will seek to ensure that the impact on people with sight loss is clearly assessed.

Guide Dogs Cymru Building 3 Eastern Business Park St Mellons Cardiff CF3 5EA

Appendix D - Equality Impact Assessment (EIA) Report

This form should be completed for each Equality Impact Assessment on a new or existing function, a reduction or closure of service, any policy, procedure, strategy, plan or project which has been screened and found relevant to equality.

Please refer to the 'EIA Report Form Guidance' while completing this form. If you need further support please contact <u>accesstoservices@swansea.gov.uk</u>.

	nere do you w						
		y Regeneration	n & Planning				
Dir	ectorate: Plac	e					
(a)	This EIA is	being comple	eted for a				
	Service/ Function	Policy/ Procedure	Project	Strategy	Plan	Proposal	
(b) The		he and descril Jrban Park –		ent Enhand	cements		
(c)	lt was initia	ally screened	for relevance	e to Equalit	y and Diversi	ty on(22/02	2/2017)
(d)		d to be releva		7			_
	Children/you	ng people (0-18) .	>	- 0	· · · ·	f	
	Any other ag	e group (18+)	🗵	Sex.			
	Disability			Sexu	al orientation		
	Gender reas	signment		Wels	h language		
	Marriage & c	ivil partnership] Pove	rty/social exclusion	on	🖂
	Pregnancy and maternity			Care	Carers (inc. young carers)		
	Race] Com	munity cohesion .		
(e)	Lead Office	ər		(f)	Approved	by Head of S	ervice
	Name: Gareth Hughes			Name: Phil Holmes			
	Job title: Principal Regeneration Manager		ger	Date: 03 /03/17			
	Date : 22/02	2/17					

Section 1 – Aims (See guidance):

Briefly describe the aims of the initiative:

What are the aims?

- To rebalance the highway and pedestrian hierarchy to create a slower speed environment.
- To enable improved movements for pedestrians and cyclists with legible spaces including improved pedestrian crossings.
- To ensure capacity for future traffic flows arising from changes to the highway network elsewhere and to take account of future regeneration project demands on the highway network.
- To remove dedicated bus lanes and place in general traffic lanes.
- To introduce environmental enhancements including new green space and meet the aspirations of the Swansea Central Area Regeneration Framework (SCARF).

Who has responsibility?

A multi-disciplinary team from Place and Transportation & Highways reporting to the City Regeneration Board.

Who are the stakeholders?

General public including all cohorts covered in section (d) above, whether they be pedestrians, drivers or users of public transport.

Section 2 - Information about Service Users (See guidance):

Please tick what information you know about your service users and provide details/ evidence of how this information is collected.

Children/young people (0-18)	\boxtimes
Any other age group (18+)	\square
Disability	
Gender reassignment	
Marriage & civil partnership	
Pregnancy and maternity	\boxtimes

Carers (inc. young carers)	\square
Race	
Religion or (non-)belief	
Sex	\boxtimes
Sexual orientation	
Welsh language	\boxtimes

What information do you know about your service users and how is this information collected?

- Transport Infrastructure Studies inform projections of traffic future traffic requirements;
- Pedestrian surveys indicate desire lines, ped flows;
- Consultation with community and businesses will inform final designs and needs during construction;
- Consultation with bus companies inform public transport requirements contributing to final design, including needs during construction to avoid service efficiency issues.

Any Actions Required?

• On consultation close, inform Cabinet of consultation outcome and seek approval to design and progress final scheme.

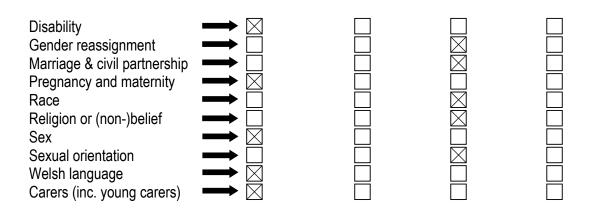
Section 3 - Impact on Protected Characteristics (See guidance):

Please consider the possible impact on the different protected characteristics. This could be based on service user information, data, consultation and research or professional experience (e.g. comments and complaints).

Positive Negative

Neutral

Needs further investigation



Thinking about your answers above, please explain in detail why this is the case. The street is a public highway and all users may be affected. The above groups may be disproportionately affected compared with the general populace.

What consultation and engagement has been undertaken (e.g. with the public and/or members of protected groups) to support your view? Please provide details below.

- 1. Pre-public consultation target workshops with stakeholders (disability, access, business, statutory agencies, other) held in January;
- 2. Drop-in sessions in February to inform the community of the proposals;
- 3. Subsequent drop-in's planned to feedback changes in response to consultation and prior to work commencing;
- 4. Regular project communications at key milestones including via press, web, social media, e-mail distribution list to local community (signed-up at drop-in's), business (via BID) etc.
- 5. Site notice boards.

Any actions required (to mitigate adverse impact or to address identified gaps in knowledge).

- Consultation with community will assist inform any gaps in knowledge consultation ongoing.
- Access to businesses/facilities impacted by the project to be maintained throughout the project and beyond.

Section 4 - Other Impacts:

Please consider how the initiative might address the following issues.

You could base this on service user information, data, consultation and research or professional experience (e.g. comments and complaints).

Foster good relations between different groups	Advance equality of opportunity between different groups
Elimination of discrimination, harassment and victimisation	Reduction of social exclusion and poverty

(Please see the specific Section 4 Guidance for definitions on the above)

Please explain any possible impact on each of the above.

The communications plan and the methods highlighted is section 3 above evidences methods used to target all cohorts of the community. Planned drop-ins with the community help communicate the project to all concerned, providing an opportunity to flag up socio-economic benefits of the project and it's outcomes in relation to the wider Kingsway regeneration project, including creation of a CBD.

What work have you already done to improve any of the above?

Using experience in other projects such as Westway, advice from Access to Services, Corporate Comm's support will be critical to enable the full range of communications are accessed to maximise exposure to inform the community. A public consultation included a questionnaire, with drop-in's including a range of communication methods, including BSL, hearing loops, Welsh language spoken and written accessibility.

Is the initiative likely to impact on Community Cohesion? Please provide details. Yes – better understanding of how we deliver projects and was evidence of how we can work closely with the community (Sandfields in this case)

How will the initiative meet the needs of Welsh speakers and learners? All information was provided bilingually.

Actions (to mitigate adverse impact or to address identified gaps in knowledge).

• Not aware of any gaps – but always willing to be advised.

Section 5 - United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC):

In this section, we need to consider whether the initiative has any direct or indirect impact on children. Many initiatives have an indirect impact on children and you will need to consider whether the impact is positive or negative in relation to both children's rights and their best interests

Please visit <u>http://staffnet/eia</u> to read the UNCRC guidance before completing this section.

Will the initiative have any impact (direct or indirect) on children and young people? If not, please briefly explain your answer and proceed to Section 6.

Is the initiative designed / planned in the best interests of children and young people? Please explain your answer.

Best interests of the child (Article 3): The best interests of children must be the primary concern in making decisions that may affect them. All adults should do what is best for children. When adults make decisions, they should think about how their decisions will affect children. This particularly applies to budget, policy and law makers.

The scheme considers all members of the community, and includes not only The Kingsway, but changes to traffic flows also include Orchard Street, Mansel Street, Grove Place, Alexandra Road, Christina Street, Craddock Street – so has a wide impact.

Actions (to mitigate adverse impact or to address identified gaps in knowledge). To mitigate inherent dangers with the highway and general environment the following are planned:

- safer pedestrian crossings informed by discussions with disabled persons, over 50's reps and others;
- scheme design fosters lower speeds by reducing clutter, providing better and visible crossings, improved lighting and more legible space reflecting good practice.
- expected reductions in traffic numbers and introduction of a more conventional road layout is expected to bring about improvements in pollution levels, a safer environment for living and working, incorporating where possible green spaces for safe enjoyment, but also to bring about an environment which will encourage investment which brings jobs and footfall for local shops and cafes.

Section 6 - Monitoring arrangements:

Please explain the arrangements in place (or those which will be put in place) to monitor this initiative:

Monitoring arrangements:

Monitoring feedback from users.

Actions:

- a Safety Audit will be undertaken at key stages of the project and will inform changes as required;
- the voices of stakeholders will be listened to throughout the project and any required changes requested reviewed and implemented as considered appropriate.

Section 7 – Outcomes:

Having completed sections 1-5, please indicate which of the outcomes listed below applies to your initiative (refer to the guidance for further information on this section).

Outcome 1: Continue the initiative – no concern Outcome 2: Adjust the initiative – low level of concern Outcome 3:Justify the initiative – moderate level of concern Outcome 4: Stop and refer the initiative – high level of concern.

\boxtimes
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For outcome 3, please provide the justification below:

For outcome 4, detail the next steps / areas of concern below and refer to your Head of Service / Director for further advice:

Outcome 3 – at all stages of design and implementation, issues will be identified through monitoring and a response will be applied using best industry practice (including relevant Highway Agency standards and other statutory guidance).

Section 8 - Publication arrangements:

On completion, please follow this 3-step procedure:

- Send this EIA report and action plan to the Access to Services Team for feedback and approval – <u>accesstoservices@swansea.gov.uk</u>
- 2. Make any necessary amendments/additions.
- 3. Provide the final version of this report to the team for publication, including email approval of the EIA from your Head of Service. The EIA will be published on the Council's website this is a legal requirement.

Action Plan:

Objective - What are we going to do and why?	Who will be responsible for seeing it is done?	When will it be done by?	Outcome - How will we know we have achieved our objective?	Progress
Communicating, informing, consulting	Gareth Hughes/Comm's	Throughout life of project	Low level of complaint	Low level of complaint to date
Keeping the traffic moving	Alun Thomas (Engineering Supervisor) & Contractor	Throughout life of project	Low level of complaint to date	Low level of complaint to date
Ensuring safe passage across streets for pedestrians	Contractor	Throughout life of project	Low level of complaint to date	Low level of complaint to date

Please remember to be 'SMART' when completing your action plan (Specific, Measurable, Attainable, Relevant, Timely).