

From: Rachel Livingstone [REDACTED]
Sent: 03 February 2019 14:43
To: Planning Policy South
Subject: Local Plan comments

Dear Sir/madam

Unfortunately your links on the website are not working, below I have introduced myself and given details and facts of equestrian use.

Below these are the comments for the Local Plan. I hope you will take on board my concerns.

As an access and bridleways volunteer for the British Horse Society, for many years now I have been attempting to raise the profile of equestrian needs in Oxfordshire when it comes to planning/housing/roads/developments.

I have written a document in a personal capacity, attached, which I would like you and your colleagues to read and digest, and act upon. Ideally it could be stored carefully so that others can access it in the future. It reflects my key concerns as an BHS Access and Bridleways Officer and member of Oxfordshire Countryside Access Forum.

Below is a summary. Also attached are British Horse Society advice documents on equestrian controlled crossings, bridges and surfaces.

THINK ABOUT **EQUESTRIANS** FROM THE START OF ANY PLANNING/HOUSING OR ROAD DEVELOPMENTS

SAFETY – Most riders have to use the roads. How can planners ensure they are SAFE?

ECONOMY – Horse ownership contributes **some £40 million annually** to Oxfordshire's economy. How can planners reciprocate?

GAINS – Any improvements for equestrians/carriage drivers **will also help** cyclists, pedestrians, people with buggies and mobility vehicles. Are planners thinking widely enough?

BENEFIT – Planning for equestrian needs at the outset **is cheaper** than having to retro-fit. Make it number one on planners' checklists!

WIN-WIN – Just by including equestrians' requirements AT THE START, building this into the consultations, plans, schedules and finance, projects can benefit everyone.

Ensure equestrian concerns are included in all plans and developments from the start. SAFETY is always the key factor.

Please see comments to the local plan below.

Page 40/6.ii this should include **equestrians**, where a restricted byway/bridleway runs through or adjacent to a development.

Page Policy STRAT7 2. ix) encourages **horse riding**, cycling and walking (creation of multi-user paths to include equestrians cyclist, pedestrians and disability vehicles)

Page 53 3.vii b) - **this has not included the use for equestrians**, a restricted byway runs though the site so adequate measure need to be maintained for equestrian use. Any 'green links' should be 'multi-user paths (multi-user paths to include equestrians cyclist, pedestrians and disability vehicles)

Page 54 4.iii - **this has not included the use for equestrians**, a restricted byway runs though the site so adequate measure need to be maintained for equestrian use. Any 'green links' should be 'multi-user paths (multi-user paths to include equestrians cyclist, pedestrians and disability vehicles)

Page 59 2.vii - to include equestrians in any 'green links'. this site is close to a bridleway and any additional multiuser paths connecting up to these route for all equestrians cyclist, pedestrians and disability vehicles sou;ld benefit the wider community and connections to local villages.

Page 67 2.vi a) 'provision ans contribution towards **horse riding**, cycling and walking'. i.e. creation of multi-user paths to include equestrians cyclist, pedestrians and disability vehicles.

Page 70 a very well used bridleway runs right thought the middle of this site, yet it not mentioned anywhere! Its is extremely important that this bridleways is maintained and enhanced. The 'local centre' is positioned right on this route. Any changes must include equestrian use, any diversion of the bridleway **MUST** be of the same or of an improved standard. Ideally a track around the whole development for circular route would be advisable and would enhance the health & well being for all users.

Page 73 d. 'retains and incorporates existing public rights of way and supports movement through the site and into adjoining areas by walking, cycling **and horse riding**: and'

Page 79 'HEN1' v) 'and **equestrian**, pedestrian and cycle links'

Page 80 'TH1' iv) 'and **equestrian**, pedestrian and cycle links'

Page 81 'WAL1' iv) 'and **equestrian**, pedestrian and cycle links'

Page 154 TRANS2 1. iii) 'ensure new development is designed to encourage walking, cycling **and horse riding**'

Page 201 9.14 British Horse Society guidance for equestrian crossings, bridges and surfaces

Page 202 DES4 1. ii) **inclusion of horse riders**

Kind regards
Rachel Livingstone

