

Hertfordshire County Council

## **Active Travel Fund Tranche 4: Jarman Park Consultation**

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Consultation Report

Final | April 2024

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# 1 INTRODUCTION

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## 1.1. Purpose of this document

- 1.1.1. This report documents the approach taken to formal consultation held on the Council's proposed walking and cycling improvements at Jarman Park, Hemel Hempstead, as part of the Active Travel Fund (ATF) Tranche 4 programme. The consultation took place between 4-31 July 2023.
- 1.1.2. As well as presenting the feedback received during the consultation period, the report also sets out the Council's responses to the key themes that have emerged.

## 1.2. Funding

- 1.2.1. In May 2023, Hertfordshire County Council was awarded £4.6 million by Active Travel England to deliver new walking and cycling projects across the county.
- 1.2.2. The award is in addition to the £9 million received in November 2020 and May 2022, which has already supported the delivery of other active travel schemes across the county.
- 1.2.3. The funding supports the delivery of projects that make it easier and safer for people to walk, cycle and wheel, and create more pleasant places for everyone to enjoy and spend time. The projects support the Council's commitment to sustainable travel, improving the health and wellbeing of communities, making towns cleaner, less congested and better places to live, work and visit.

## 1.3. About the proposals

- 1.3.1. The A414 St Albans Road, which links Hemel Hempstead and the M1, currently presents a significant barrier between residential areas to the north of the road and key local destinations to the south, including shops and leisure facilities at Jarman Park.
- 1.3.2. The proposals have been developed to make it safer and easier to cross the A414, with a new step-free pedestrian crossing alternative to the existing footbridge. This step-free crossing would be particularly beneficial to vulnerable users and those crossing with prams, trolleys or bicycles.
- 1.3.3. As well as making it safer and easier to cross the A414, the proposed improvements would link to other cycling routes in the area including the National Cycle Network Route 57 towards Adeyfield, and help improve connections to Hemel Hempstead town centre, the canal towpath and Heath Park.
- 1.3.4. The proposed improvements include:
  - A new signalised toucan crossing on the A414 St Albans Road to provide a step-free crossing option with direct access to and from Jarman Park.
  - Upgrading the existing informal crossing at Jarman Way to a new toucan crossing to improve connections along the A414.

- New shared-use paths for people walking, wheeling and cycling on both sides of the A414, to improve connections towards Hemel Hempstead town centre, Leverstock Green and Adeyfield.
- Widening of the existing footpath on the northern side of the A414 to provide space for the shared-use path (this would involve removing approximately 2m of the wall near the footbridge).
- Widening of the existing footpath where possible on the southern side of the A414 between Jarman Way and Bennetts End Road to provide space for the shared-use path. The crossing at Bennetts End Road would also be upgraded to a toucan crossing so that people cycling can cross safely alongside those walking or wheeling (this would involve either reducing or removing the existing traffic island on Bennetts End Road at the junction with the A414 to maintain the two-way carriageway).

## 2 CONSULTATION APPROACH

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### 2.1. Consultation period

2.1.1. The public consultation on the proposals at Jarman Park took place between 4–31 July 2023.

### 2.2. Consultation purpose

2.2.1. The primary purpose of the consultation was to seek opinions of the local communities, other key stakeholders, including elected representatives, and all other interested parties on the proposed scheme outlined in Section 1.3.

### 2.3. Consultation objectives

2.3.1. Hertfordshire County Council identified specific objectives that directed the approach to consultation, which included:

- Generating interest in the proposals by giving people the opportunity to influence the final design.
- Ensuring prospective respondents receive sufficient information about the proposals in order to make informed comment.
- Raising awareness of the benefits of more sustainable transport modes.

### 2.4. Overview of consultation materials and channels for promotion

2.4.1. A range of materials were produced for the consultation to help respondents understand the proposals and submit informed comments. These were subsequently promoted via a number of communications channels to raise awareness and encourage participation. These materials and channels are described in Section 2.5 onwards.

### 2.5. Core scheme information

#### 2.5.1. Website

2.5.1.1. Information about the consultation was published on the County Council consultation page: [www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/JarmanPark](http://www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/JarmanPark). This URL was included in all information released into the public domain during the consultation.

2.5.1.2. The Jarman Park consultation page represented the single repository for all information about the consultation. All channels and methods used for raising awareness directed the public to this page, which provided:

- An overview of the funding.
- The dates of the consultation.
- A link to the online survey.
- Background information on the proposals and why the improvements are needed.
- Public-facing map.

A screenshot of the consultation page is shown in Appendix 1 – Consultation page.

- 2.5.1.3. The Active Travel Fund webpage, which contains information about all the active travel projects across the county that are under construction, proposed, coming soon or completed, also contained a section on the Jarman Park consultation, under 'Proposed projects'. This contained a summary of the proposals and Jarman Park and included a link to direct viewers to the consultation page to find out more.
- 2.5.2. The website was the main destination for people interested in the consultation; all promotional content directed visitors to this page. Between 4–31 July, the page received more than 3,400 visitors, of which over 2,900 were unique views.

### 2.5.3. Public-facing mapping

- 2.5.3.1. To help prospective respondents understand the proposals in more detail, a public-facing map was produced. This was a simplified version of the general arrangement drawings, which paired back the technical detail to ensure that the local community understood the proposed improvements.
- 2.5.3.2. The map was hosted on the consultation page as a pdf available for download.
- 2.5.3.3. A visual of the public-facing map is available in [Appendix 2 - Public facing map](#).

## 2.6. Engagement with key stakeholders

### 2.6.1. Email to local elected representatives

- 2.6.1.1. Emails were sent to the constituency MP (Sir Mike Penning MP) and other local elected representatives to inform them of the start of the consultation and provide a description of the proposals at Jarman Park.
- 2.6.1.2. The email included the URL to the website and encouraged the elected representatives to share the information with their constituents, as well as participating in the consultation themselves.
- 2.6.1.3. The county and district councillors contacted are detailed in the table below.

**Table 1: List of Members**

	Role / Area	Contact
County Councillors	Hemel Hempstead St Paul's, Leader of Dacorum Council & Adeyfield West Ward	Cllr Ron Tindall
	Hemel Hempstead South East	Cllr Jan Maddern
	Hemel Hemstead Town, Adeyfield West Ward	Cllr Adrian England
	Hemel Hempstead East	Cllr Andrew Williams
District Councillors	Apsley & Corner Hall	Cllr Toni Cox
	Apsley & Corner Hall	Cllr David Deacon
	Apsley & Corner Hall	Cllr Carrie Link
	Bennetts End	Cllr John Birnie
	Bennetts End	Cllr Pete Hannell
	Leverstock Green	Cllr Robin Bromham

	Role / Area	Contact
	Leverstock Green	Cllr Jonathan Gale
	Leverstock Green	Cllr Catherine McAreyvey
	Hemel Hempstead Town	Cllr Victoria Santamaria
	Hemel Hempstead Town	Cllr Sadie Hobson

2.6.1.4. A copy of the email to Sir Mike Penning MP can be found in [Appendix 3 – Email to MP](#).

### 2.6.2. Stakeholder email

2.6.2.1. An email was issued upon the launch of the consultation (4 July 2023) to 51 local representative groups and bodies, statutory stakeholders, and organisations, who act as intermediaries to wider communities.

2.6.2.2. The emails encouraged recipients to share the details of the consultation amongst their networks and encourage participation.

2.6.2.3. A reminder email was also sent one week before the close of consultation (25 July 2023).

2.6.2.4. A copy of the email can be found in [Appendix 4 – Stakeholder email](#).

### 2.6.3. Local schools

2.6.3.1. Thirty-one infant, primary, and secondary schools located within 1.5 miles of the proposed scheme were contacted directly by email with information about the consultation.

2.6.3.2. The email included the dates of the consultation, details about the local proposal, and a link to the website. It asked the schools to make parents, pupils and staff aware via their own internal mechanisms.

2.6.3.3. A reminder email was also sent one week before the close of consultation (25 July 2023).

2.6.3.4. A copy of the email sent to schools can be found in [Appendix 5 – School email](#).

2.6.3.5. The list of the schools contacted can be found in [Appendix 6 - List of schools](#).

## 2.7. Promotional channels

2.7.1. Various channels were used during the consultation to provide detail to the public on the designs as well as to raise awareness and encourage participation, as detailed below.

### 2.7.2. Letters

2.7.2.1. A letter was sent to more than 500 properties near to the scheme area to promote the consultation.

2.7.2.2. As well as raising awareness of the consultation, the letter included timescales of the consultation, and how the recipient could access further information.



- 2.7.2.3. Copies of the letter and the distribution area to which it was sent can be found in [Appendix 7 – Letter to residents/businesses](#) and [Appendix 8 – Letter distribution area](#).

### **2.7.3. Social media**

- 2.7.3.1. Social media channels, including Facebook, were used to promote the consultation provide details about the proposals, and inform the public on how to share their opinions. The Facebook posts were reposted by local groups including XC Climbing and Skatepark (Jarman Park) and Healthy Hub Dacorum. Facebook was the main route to the consultation page on the Hertfordshire County Council website.
- 2.7.3.2. Examples of the social posts can be found in [Appendix 9 - Example social media posts](#)

### **2.7.4. Banners**

- 2.7.4.1. Promotional banners were erected on either side of the existing footbridge crossing over A414 St Albans Road.
- 2.7.4.2. The banners included a QR code (type of barcode) used for digital devices enabling direct access to the engagement materials, and the URL for the website.
- 2.7.4.3. A copy of the banner design can be found in [Appendix 10 – Banner design](#)

### **2.7.5. Press update**

- 2.7.5.1. A press update was shared with the local newspaper, Hemel Hempstead Gazette, during the consultation period.

## **2.8. Responding to the consultation**

### **2.8.1. Online survey**

- 2.8.1.1. The online survey was the main mechanism through which respondents could submit their feedback to the consultation. It was hosted on SmartSurvey, a web-based survey tool, and accessible via the Active Travel Fund project webpage and consultation page.
- 2.8.1.2. The survey was structured to give participants the opportunity to share their overall level of support for the proposal, as well as their support for each aspect of the proposal. An open-ended question also provided space for participants to share any further comments or details.
- 2.8.1.3. A copy of the questionnaire can be found in [Appendix 11 – Copy of questionnaire](#).
- 2.8.1.4. Participants were able to access a printed copy of the questionnaire on request and submit that via email or post to the council. Also available on request were any alternative formats required, for instance in a different language, large-print, or braille. However, no requests were received.

- 2.8.1.5. Hard copy versions of the other consultation materials were also available on request. However, no requests were received.
- 2.8.1.6. A dedicated mailbox ([ATFconsultation@hertfordshire.gov.uk](mailto:ATFconsultation@hertfordshire.gov.uk)) was utilised during the consultation as a means of contacting the project team and to gather email responses, of which four emails were received.
- 2.8.1.7. In addition to the email address shown above, the following contact details were provided for members of the public to get in touch with any queries regarding the consultation or the proposals:
- Telephone: 0300 123 4040
  - Post: Hertfordshire County Council, County Hall, Pegs Lane, Hertford, SG13 8DQ
- No queries or responses were received via telephone or post.

## 2.9. Response analysis and methodology

- 2.9.1. Online responses were processed directly through the SmartSurvey portal, before the data was downloaded into a spreadsheet, with the results of this analysis presented in the series of charts and tables which follow in subsequent sections.
- 2.9.2. The survey contained both closed questions, where respondents could select one or more choices from the options provided, and an open question inviting free-text responses. The latter require further analysis, which is summarised in [Section 2.10](#).
- 2.9.3. Other written responses submitted via email were included with the free-text response analysis collated via the survey, analysed, and reported on in the following sections.

## 2.10. Coding free-text responses

- 2.10.1. The consultation survey contained one free-text question which provided valuable insight into respondents' opinions.
- 2.10.2. Free-text responses require further analysis through a process called 'coding' to identify common high-level themes and enable the categorisation of comments in 'codes'. The codes can then be analysed quantitatively to identify the most frequently recurring areas of comment.
- 2.10.3. The code frame is a list of the codes which represent the broad range of comments raised by respondents. This is created by reviewing a sample of the responses and identifying common themes, each of which is given a unique code or number.
- 2.10.4. Both the code frame and the coding underwent a quality assurance check to ensure consistency and accuracy throughout the process.
- 2.10.5. A copy of the code frame can be found in [Appendix 12 – Full frequency coding table](#).

### 3 RESPONSES TO THE CONSULTATION

#### 3.1. Responses received

3.1.1. A total of 317 responses were received via the online survey. Additionally, 4 responses were provided via email.

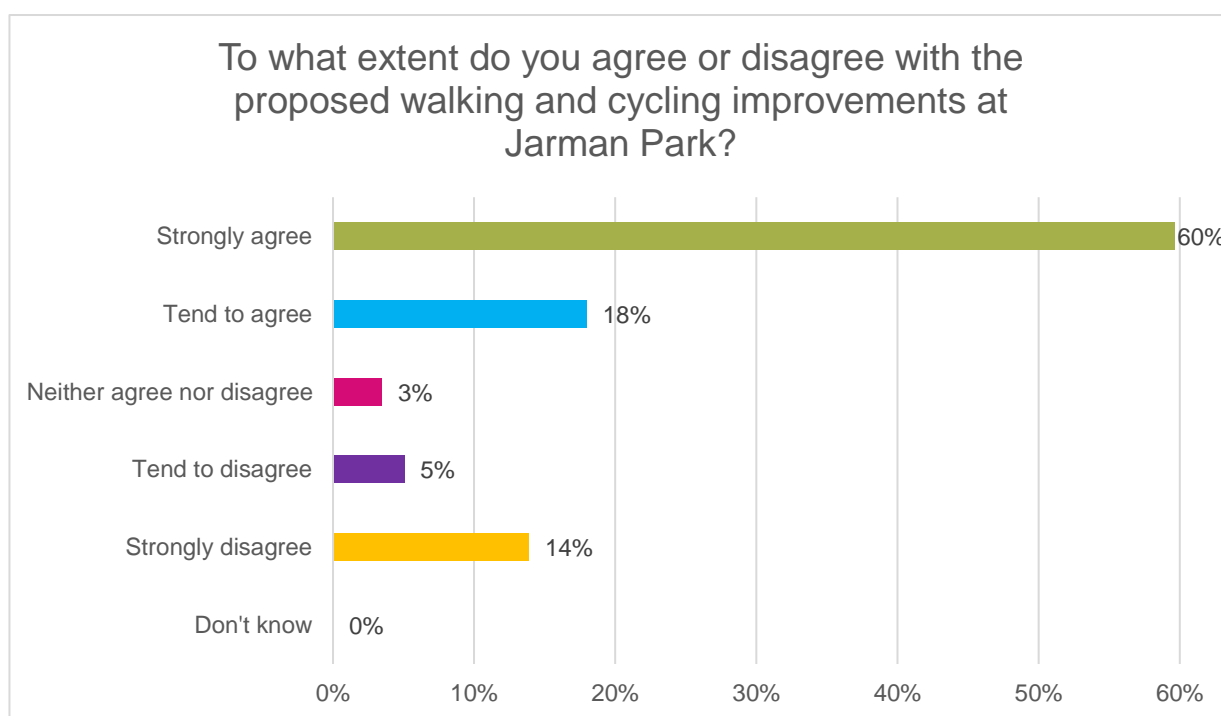
#### 3.2. Survey results

3.2.1. The Council received 317 responses to the Jarman Park consultation via the online survey, which are presented hereafter. Please note that percentages, where included, have been rounded to the nearest whole percentage point and, as such, may not always equal 100. Percentage labels are included on the charts, although figures below 5% are not shown for legibility.

3.2.2. The first question asked respondents to what extent they agree or disagree with the overall proposals at Jarman Park. They were asked to respond using a five-point scale ranging from 'strongly agree' through to 'strongly disagree', as well as a 'don't know' option.

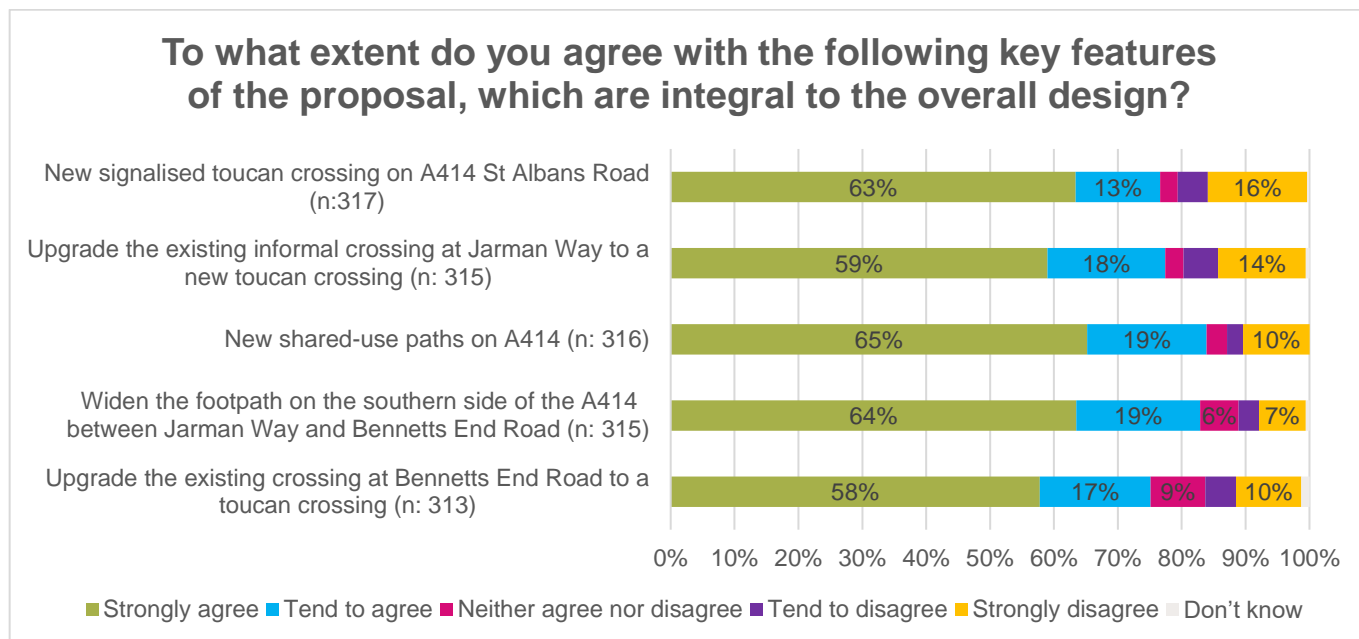
3.2.3. Figure 1 shows that the majority of respondents agreed with the proposals to some extent, with 246 out of 317 (78%) stating they either 'strongly agree' (189, 60%) or 'tend to agree' (57, 18%) with the proposals. Nineteen per cent (60 of 317) disagreed with the proposals to some extent, stating they either 'strongly disagree' (44, 14%) or 'tend to disagree' (16, 5%). Three per cent (11 of 317) respondents stated that they neither agreed nor disagreed.

**Figure 1: Extent of agreement with the Jarman Park proposal**



Base: all who responded (n: 317)

- 3.2.4. Respondents were subsequently asked about their attitudes to certain key features of the proposal which are integral to the design.
- 3.2.5. As shown in [Figure 2](#), the question focused on five key features of the design, including:
- A new signalised toucan crossing on A414 St Albans Road to provide a step-free crossing option with direct access to and from Jarman Park.
  - Upgrading the existing informal crossing at Jarman Way to a new toucan crossing to improve connections along the A414 St Albans Road.
  - New shared-use paths for people walking, wheeling and cycling on both sides of the A414, to improve connections towards Hemel Hempstead town centre, Leverstock Green and Adeyfield.
  - Widening the existing footpath where possible on the southern side of the A414 between Jarman Way and Bennetts End Road to provide space for the shared-use path.
  - Upgrading the existing crossing at Bennetts End Road to a toucan crossing so that people cycling can cross safely alongside those walking or wheeling (this would involve either reducing or removing the existing traffic island on Bennetts End Road at the junction with the A414 to maintain the two-way carriageway).
- 3.2.6. All five features received relatively high levels of support, with at least 75% total agreement for each feature (including those who 'strongly agree' and 'tend to agree').
- 3.2.7. The two features which received the most support (largest total number of 'strongly agree' and 'tend to agree' responses) were the new shared-use path for people walking, wheeling and cycling on the A414 (265 of 315 responses, 84%) and the widening of the existing footpath on the southern side of the A414 between Jarman Way and Bennetts End Road to provide space for a shared-use path (261 of 315 responses, 83%)
- 3.2.8. The two features that received the largest number of 'strongly disagree' and 'tend to disagree' results were the new signalised toucan crossing on A414 (64 of 317 responses, 20%) and the upgrading of the existing informal crossing at Jarman Way to a toucan crossing (60 of 315 responses, 19%). However, both these features also received high levels of agreement (77% total support for each).
- 3.2.9. The feature related to the upgrading of the existing crossing at Bennetts End Road to a toucan crossing received the highest number of 'neither agree nor disagree' views (27 of 313 responses, 9%). However, this feature still received high levels of agreement (235 respondents either 'strongly agree' or 'tend to agree', 75%).

**Figure 1: Extent of agreement with different key features of the design**

Base: all who provided a response on each aspect (n: as shown on the chart)

- 3.2.10. Of the 317 respondents via the online survey, 166 chose to answer Question 3, which was a free text answer asking participants if they had any further comments on the proposal. These were coded as per the code frame in [Appendix 12](#). The most frequently recurring codes (top unique code descriptions where the description accounts for 3% or more of the total coded comments) for the proposals have been included in [Table 2](#) below.
- 3.2.11. The code that occurred most frequently was the general support for the proposals. Forty-one (of 314) coded comments were accumulated from the respondents' feedback, amounting to 13% of the total coded comments.
- 3.2.12. The second most frequently recurring theme related to included comments opposing the proposed new toucan crossing over the A414, based on concerns regarding the impact on traffic and congestion. These amounted to 9% of all comments (28 total comments).
- 3.2.13. Other comments that supported the scheme were for reasons of increasing accessibility (26 total comments, 8%), especially for those with disabilities or prams crossing via a step-free crossing over the A414 to Jarman Park, and for reasons of improving safety (15 total comments, 5%).
- 3.2.14. Other comments that expressed opposition to the proposals included concerns over the safety of the proposed new toucan crossing over the A414 (15 total comments, 5%). This was often linked to the suggestion to reconsider the location of the proposed crossing and move it further away from the roundabout exit (18 total comments, 6%). A total of 8 comments (3%) expressed opposition to the proposals due to the concern about the impact on air quality caused by congestion. A further 8

comments (3%) expressed partial opposition to the proposals due to concerns about possible traffic build-up at adjoining roads, such as where Lower Yott and Old Crabtree Lane join the A414 St Albans Road.

- 3.2.15. A few comments stated the design was not needed or a waste of money (14 total comments; 4%) and there was some opposition to the scheme based on safety concerns about shared-use paths for those cycling and walking (13 total comments; 4%).
- 3.2.16. Other suggestions included:
- Providing further cycle improvements and paths in the area (25 total comments, 8%)
  - Reducing the speed limit and/or introducing traffic calming measures on the A414 to slow vehicle traffic (20 total comments, 6%)
  - Providing additional measures to stop people running across the A414 (10 total comments, 3%).
- 3.2.17. Some comments requested that the existing footbridge be maintained or upgraded (17 total comments, 5%).

**Table 2: Most frequently recurring codes**

Code description	No. of coded comments	% of coded comments
In favour of proposals (general support)	40	13%
Opposition to new crossings based on traffic concerns	28	9%
Support – scheme will improve accessibility	26	8%
Suggestion for further cycling improvements in the area	25	8%
Suggestion to reduce speed limit or introduce traffic calming measures on the A414	20	6%
Suggestion to reconsider the location of proposed crossings (e.g. move further away from roundabouts/junctions)	18	6%
Request to maintain or upgrade existing footbridge	17	5%
Support – scheme will improve safety	15	5%
Opposition to new crossings based on safety concerns	15	5%
Oppose – scheme is not needed / waste of money	14	4%
Other comment unrelated to scheme	14	4%
Partial opposition – safety concerns regarding shared-use paths	13	4%
Suggestion for additional measures to stop people running across the A414	10	3%
Opposition to new crossing based on air quality concerns	8	3%
Partial opposition – concern about traffic build-up at adjoining roads	8	3%

### 3.1. Email responses

- 3.1.1. During the consultation period, Hertfordshire County Council received four written responses from individuals regarding the proposals at Jarman Park. These were received through the dedicated ATF inbox and the key points that emerged from the responses are summarised below:
- 3.1.2. A total of 4 responses were received via email during the consultation period.
- i. Item Number ATF1518
    - The respondent asked what temporary crossing facility would be in place over the A414 whilst the footbridge is closed for maintenance.
  - ii. Item Number ATF1519
    - The respondent provided suggestions to improve vehicle access for those residing off Old Crabtree Lane and reduce vehicle traffic on the A414.
    - The suggestion included a new roundabout on the A414 at the Old Crabtree Lane or a new connecting road into the Tesco car park.
  - iii. Item Number ATF1577
    - The respondent expressed concerns about the safety of the proposed new toucan crossing over the A414 located off the roundabout. They suggested including measures to slow vehicle traffic, such as a raised table.
    - They asked why the maintenance of the bridge was necessary if the new toucan crossing was deemed the safer option.
  - iv. Item Number ATF1582
    - The respondent asked the reasons behind the proposals, and primarily the requirement for the proposed new toucan crossing over the A414.
- 3.1.3. No responses were received on behalf on an organisation regarding the proposals at Jarman Park.

## 4 RESPONSES TO ISSUES RAISED

### 4.1. Introduction

- 4.1.1. We have considered all comments received through the consultation. This section summarises the key themes that emerged.
- 4.1.2. Responses have been provided to the most frequently occurring codes, where the proportion accounts for 3% or more of the total coded comments received (also detailed in Table 2 above)
- 4.1.3. Responses to these key questions and issues are detailed in [Table 3](#) below.

### 4.2. Responses

Table 3 Responses to issues raised

Theme	Response
In favour of proposals (general support)	We welcome these comments in support of the scheme. They have been noted as part of the process to determine the outcome taken forward.
Opposition to new crossings based on traffic concerns	<p>The proposed new crossings have been developed to assist the movement of people walking and cycling and are an important part of improving access across and along the A414 St Albans Road.</p> <p>The signalised crossing over A414 will include special sensors to detect users waiting to cross once the button has been pressed. The sensors detect those waiting to cross and those crossing. These detectors determine the length of time given to those crossing and are not fixed. They will cancel any calls for traffic to stop that are no longer required (e.g. if a pedestrian has walked away or already crossed in a gap of traffic). This will prevent any unnecessary stops for highway users.</p>
Support – scheme will improve accessibility	Improving accessibility is one of the key aims of the proposals. The A414 St Albans Road currently presents a significant barrier between residential areas to the north and key local destinations, including shops and leisure facilities at Jarman Park. The proposals include installing a new signalised toucan crossing on the A414 to provide a step-free crossing option with direct access to and from Jarman Park.
Suggestion for further cycling improvements in the area	The Active Travel Fund programme supports the council's aims and objectives set out in the Local



	<p>Transport Plan and Sustainable Hertfordshire strategy to promote active travel and encourage more walking and cycling across the county, as well as the local district or borough council policies such as Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plans (LCWIPs).</p> <p>Hertfordshire County Council is delivering a number of walking and cycling improvements across the county following successful funding from Active Travel England. We continue to monitor opportunities to enhance and extend the cycle network across the county.</p>
Suggestion to reduce speed limit or introduce traffic calming measures on the A414	The A414 St Albans Road is not considered suitable for a change of speed limit due to the environment and classification of the road.
Suggestion to reconsider location of proposed crossings (e.g. move further away from roundabouts/junctions)	<p>The location of the crossing has been chosen because it is a prime location linking Adeyfield Estate to Jarman Park facilities. The current stepped footbridge in the location is not suitable for all users and the nearest accessible crossing is over 500m away.</p> <p>New road markings and signs will clearly indicate crossing points for highway users.</p> <p>Multiple road safety audits (RSAs) will be completed throughout the design process and following the scheme construction which assess the safety of the scheme for all highway users.</p>
Request to maintain or upgrade existing footbridge	While improvements to the existing footbridge over the A414 are not part of these proposals, the bridge has now been refurbished whilst further assessment of the structure is completed.
Support – scheme will improve safety	Improving safety is an important part of the proposals. The proposed new toucan crossing over the A414 would provide a safe and accessible crossing option for those who walk, wheel and cycle.
Opposition to new crossings based on safety concerns	<p>Improving safety for all users is one of the key aims of the proposals and is at the forefront of our design development.</p> <p>Multiple road safety audits (RSAs) will be completed throughout the design process and following scheme</p>

	<p>construction which will assess the safety of the scheme for all highway users.</p>
<p>Oppose – scheme is not needed / waste of money</p>	<p>The proposals have been developed following successful funding from Active Travel England. The ATF programme is in place to provide new, and improvements to existing, cycling and walking infrastructure for communities across Hertfordshire.</p> <p>The A414 St Albans Road currently presents a significant barrier between residential areas to the north and key local destinations, including shops and leisure facilities at Jarman Park, particularly for vulnerable users and for people pushing prams. A new step-free crossing option over the A414 would significantly improve accessibility in this area.</p> <p>We have also proposed new shared-use paths for people walking and cycling as evidence from across the UK indicates that people will only consider taking up cycling if they have a safe, protected space away from vehicles. By introducing more facilities and improving the one already in place, cycling becomes a safer and easier option for travel.</p> <p>With more and better active travel options, and encouraging more walking and cycling in communities, using the car for shorter journeys becomes less attractive. This in turn, will help reduce congestion, improve air quality and create more pleasant places in which to live, work and do business.</p>
<p>Partial opposition – safety concerns regarding shared-use paths</p>	<p>New signage will be installed where shared-use paths are being introduced, clearly indicating the space is for cyclists use as well as pedestrians. Where possible, white line segregation will be introduced on shared paths, providing dedicated space on the route for pedestrians and cyclists.</p>
<p>Suggestion for additional measures to stop people running across the A414</p>	<p>The proposed new toucan crossing will provide a safe crossing option over the A414. The step-free crossing will make this an easier choice for people looking to cross the road.</p>

<p>Opposition to new crossing based on air quality concerns</p>	<p>The ATF programme provides investment in dedicated walking and cycling facilities across the county, offering more active travel choices for communities.</p> <p>By encouraging more walking and cycling, particularly for shorter journeys, we can support the Sustainable Hertfordshire Strategy objectives to encourage walking and cycling over car travel resulting in reduced congestion, improved air quality and create safer, more pleasant places in which to live, work and do business.</p> <p>It is part of our commitment to inspire residents and businesses to act in making Hertfordshire cleaner, greener, and more sustainable.</p>
<p>Partial opposition – concern about traffic build-up at adjoining roads</p>	<p>We expect minor and infrequent impact to the traffic flow as there will be the occasional signals being called. Signal detectors at the crossing will determine the length of time given to those crossing and are not fixed. They will cancel any calls for traffic to stop that are no longer required (e.g. if a pedestrian has walked away or already crossed in a gap of traffic). This will prevent any unnecessary stops for highway users.</p>

## 5 SUMMARY AND NEXT STEPS

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### 5.1. Feedback summary

- 5.1.1. During the consultation period 321 responses (317 responses to the online survey and 4 emails) were received regarding the proposals at Jarman Park.
- 5.1.2. Analysis of the responses shows that, overall, the proposals were supported by those who participated in the consultation exercise. A number of respondents expressed their support for the scheme to increase accessibility, particularly for vulnerable users, and improve safety.
- 5.1.3. The results did raise some concerns about the impact of the proposed new toucan crossings on traffic and safety concerns related to these new toucan crossings.
- 5.1.4. Related to the concerns raised about the safety of these proposed new toucan crossings, some suggestions were made to consider relocating the crossing points further away from key road junctions. Suggestions to reduce vehicle speeds on the A414 were also raised.

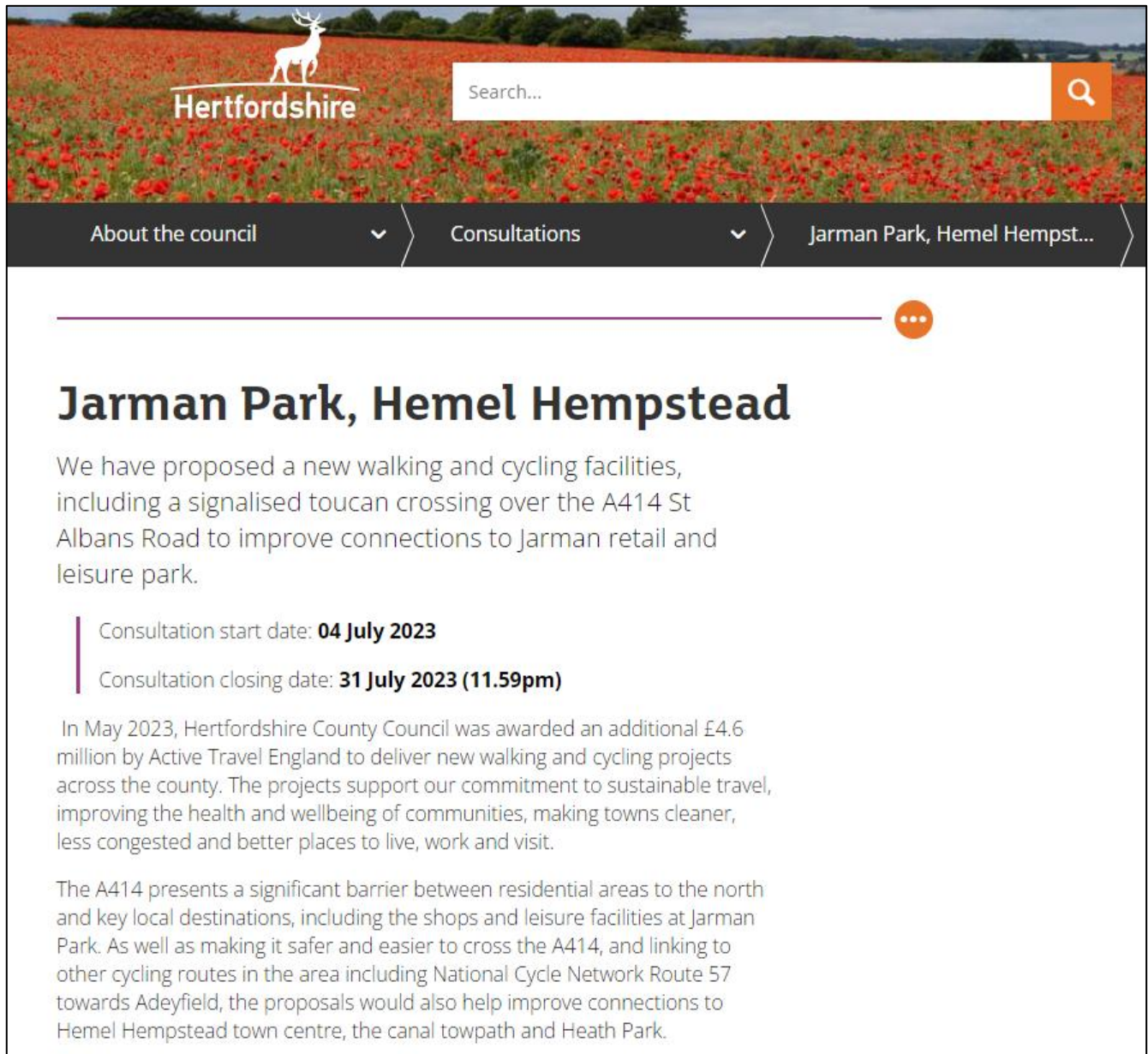
### 5.2. Next steps

- 5.2.1. All comments received during the consultation will be considered to help inform a decision about the scheme and any changes to the design.
- 5.2.2. Once a decision has been made, further statutory processes may be necessary such as the publication of Traffic Management Orders. These will be published on the council's website.

## 6 APPENDICES

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## 6.1. Appendix 1 – Consultation page



The screenshot shows the top navigation bar of the Hertfordshire County Council website. It features a search bar, a navigation menu with 'About the council', 'Consultations', and 'Jarman Park, Hemel Hempstead', and a main content area with the title 'Jarman Park, Hemel Hempstead' and a consultation notice.

**Hertfordshire** Search...

About the council Consultations Jarman Park, Hemel Hempst...

---

## Jarman Park, Hemel Hempstead

We have proposed a new walking and cycling facilities, including a signalised toucan crossing over the A414 St Albans Road to improve connections to Jarman retail and leisure park.

Consultation start date: **04 July 2023**

Consultation closing date: **31 July 2023 (11.59pm)**

In May 2023, Hertfordshire County Council was awarded an additional £4.6 million by Active Travel England to deliver new walking and cycling projects across the county. The projects support our commitment to sustainable travel, improving the health and wellbeing of communities, making towns cleaner, less congested and better places to live, work and visit.

The A414 presents a significant barrier between residential areas to the north and key local destinations, including the shops and leisure facilities at Jarman Park. As well as making it safer and easier to cross the A414, and linking to other cycling routes in the area including National Cycle Network Route 57 towards Adeyfield, the proposals would also help improve connections to Hemel Hempstead town centre, the canal towpath and Heath Park.

The proposed improvements include:

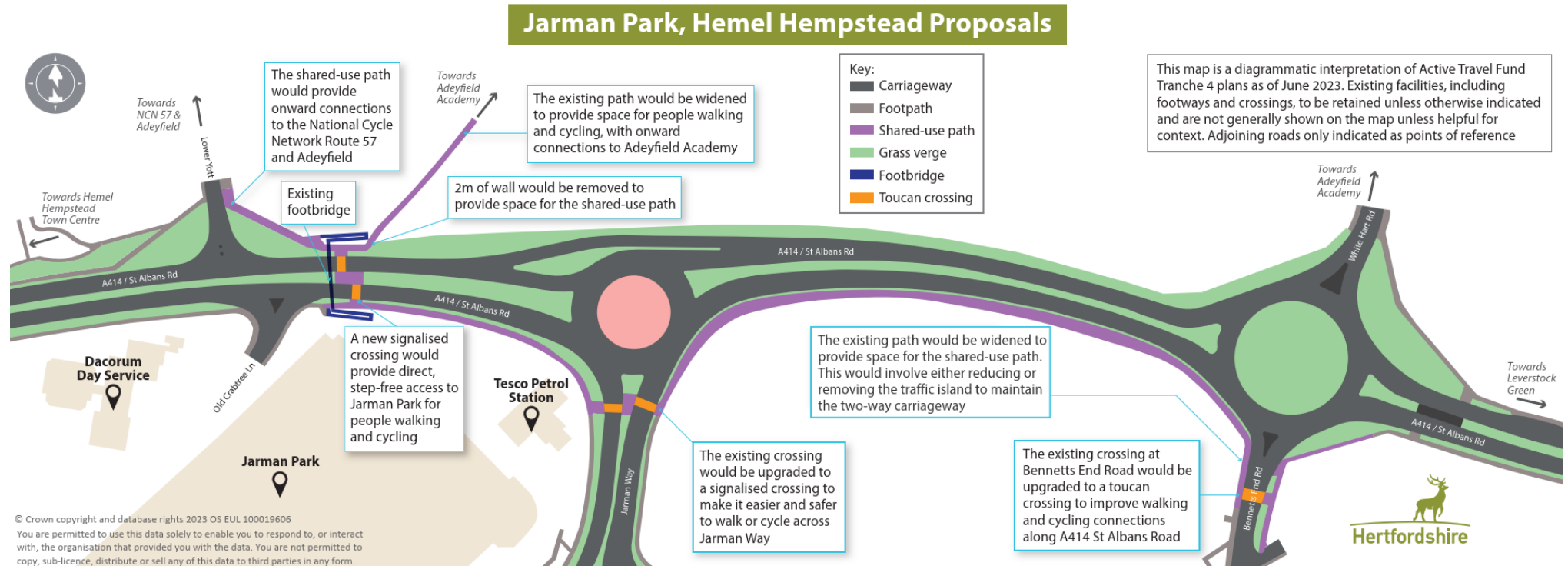
- A new signalised toucan crossing on the A414 St Albans Road to provide a step-free crossing option with direct access to and from Jarman Park;
- upgrading the existing informal crossing at Jarman Way to a new toucan crossing to improve connections along the A414;
- new shared-use paths for people walking, wheeling and cycling on both sides of the A414, to improve connections towards Hemel Hempstead town centre, Leverstock Green and Adeyfield;
- widening of the existing footpath on the northern side of the A414 to provide space for the shared-use path (this would involve remove approximately 2m of the wall near the footbridge);
- widening of the existing footpath where possible on the southern side of the A414 between Jarman Way and Bennetts End Road to provide space for the shared-use path. The crossing at Bennetts End Road would also be upgraded to a toucan crossing so that people cycling can cross safely alongside those walking or wheeling (this would involve either reducing or removing the existing traffic island on Bennetts End Road at the junction with the A414 to maintain the two-way carriageway).

While improvements to the existing footbridge above the A414 are not part of these proposals, we are planning to refurbish the bridge later this year whilst further assessment of the structure is completed.

## Supporting documents

- [Consultation overview map \(PDF 1.22MB\)](#)

## 6.2. Appendix 2 - Public facing map





### 6.3. Appendix 3 – Email to MP

**From:** <ATFConsultation@hertfordshire.gov.uk>  
**Sent:** 04 July 2023 13:22  
**To:** mike.penning.mp@parliament.uk  
**Subject:** Hertfordshire County Council – Jarman Park consultation

Dear Sir Mike,

#### **Hertfordshire County Council – Jarman Park consultation**

We are writing to inform you that the County Council have started public consultation on proposed walking and cycling improvements at Jarman Park, Hemel Hempstead.

The consultation is open from **4 July to 31 July 2023**.

Following the additional £4.6 million funding received from Active Travel England in May this year, we are proposing a series of improvements, including a new signalised toucan crossing over the A414 St Albans Road to improve walking and cycling access to Jarman retail and leisure park.

The A414 presents a significant barrier between residential areas to the north and key local destinations, including shops and leisure facilities at Jarman Park. As well as making it safer and easier to cross the A414, and linking to other cycling routes in the area including National Cycle Network Route 57 towards Adeyfield, the proposals would also help improve connections to Hemel Hempstead town centre, the canal towpath and Heath Park.

The proposed improvements include:

- A new signalised toucan crossing on the A414 St Albans Road to provide a step-free crossing option with direct access to and from Jarman Park
- Upgrading the existing informal crossing at Jarman Way to a new toucan crossing to improve connections along the A414
- New shared-use paths for people walking, wheeling and cycling on both sides of the A414 to improve connections to Hemel Hempstead town centre, Leverstock Green and Adeyfield
- Widening the existing footpath on the northern side of the A414 to provide space for the shared-use path (this would involve removing approximately 2m of the wall near the footbridge)
- Widening the existing footpath where possible on the southern side of the A414 between Jarman Way and Bennetts End Road to provide space for the shared-use path. The crossing at Bennetts End Road would also be upgraded to a toucan crossing so that people cycling can cross safely alongside those walking or wheeling (this would involve either reducing or removing the existing traffic island on Bennetts End Road at the junction with the A414 to maintain the two-way carriageway)

While improvements to the existing footbridge over the A414 are not part of these proposals, we are planning to refurbish the bridge later this year whilst further assessment of the structure is completed.

More information about the proposals, including an overview map, is available online:  
[www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/JarmanPark](http://www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/JarmanPark)

We are using various methods to encourage participation in the consultation, including a letter to residents located in the vicinity of the works, physical banners for pedestrians, and social media

channels. We are encouraging people to share their views on the proposal via a short online survey accessible via the website address detailed above.

We would be grateful for any support you could offer in promoting the consultation locally as well as providing any feedback you may have.

If you require any further information about the proposals or would like to discuss the consultation in greater detail, then please do not hesitate to get in touch.

Yours sincerely,

**Active Travel Fund Team**



**Active Travel Fund Team**

County Hall, Pegs Lane, Hertford, SG13 8DE, Postal Point: CHN115

**T:** 0300 123 4047

**E:** [ATFConsultation@hertfordshire.gov.uk](mailto:ATFConsultation@hertfordshire.gov.uk)

Our vision is to create a cleaner, greener and healthier Hertfordshire, guided by our RISE values

We improve  
Residents' lives

We work with  
Integrity

We act  
Sustainably

We champion  
Equality & fairness

## 6.4. Appendix 4 – Stakeholder email

**From:** Consultation <ATFConsultation@hertfordshire.gov.uk> ATF  
**Sent:** 04 July 2023 13:06  
**Subject:** Have your say on proposed walking and cycling improvements near Jarman Park

Good afternoon,

### Have your say

Hertfordshire County Council is proposing walking and cycling improvements along A414 St Albans Road at Jarman Park, Hemel Hempstead, and would like to hear your views.

Please submit your feedback via the online survey before 31 July 2023 at [www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/JarmanPark](http://www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/JarmanPark)

### About the proposals

The A414 presents a significant barrier between residential areas to the north and key local destinations, including shops and leisure facilities at Jarman Park. As well as making it safer and easier to cross the A414, and linking to other cycling routes in the area including National Cycle Network Route 57 towards Adeyfield, the proposals would also help improve connections to Hemel Hempstead town centre, the canal towpath and Heath Park.

Information about the proposed improvements can be found online: [www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/JarmanPark](http://www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/JarmanPark)

As well as providing your feedback, we would be grateful for any support you could offer in promoting the consultation with your network, such as through a newsletter update, social media, or intranet page. Please let us know if you need information in a different format. We want to make sure that your community has the opportunity to hear about the proposals and have their say.

For any further enquiries, please reply to this email or call us at 0300 123 4040.

Kind Regards,

Kevin Wallace

Senior Engineer



### Active Travel Fund Team

County Hall, Pegs Lane, Hertford, SG13 8DE, Postal Point: CHN115

T: 0300 123 4047

E: [ATFConsultation@hertfordshire.gov.uk](mailto:ATFConsultation@hertfordshire.gov.uk)

Our vision is to create a cleaner, greener and healthier Hertfordshire, guided by our RISE values

We improve  
Residents' lives

We work with  
Integrity

We act  
Sustainably

We champion  
Equality & fairness

## 6.5. Appendix 5 – School email

**From:** Consultation <ATFConsultation@hertfordshire.gov.uk> ATF  
**Sent:** 04 July 2023 13:13  
**Subject:** Have your say on proposed walking and cycling improvements near Jarman Park

Good afternoon,

### Have your say

Hertfordshire County Council is proposing walking and cycling improvements along A414 St Albans Road at Jarman Park, Hemel Hempstead, and would like to hear your views.

Please submit your feedback via the online survey before 31 July 2023 at [www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/JarmanPark](http://www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/JarmanPark)

### About the proposals

The A414 presents a significant barrier between residential areas to the north and key local destinations, including shops and leisure facilities at Jarman Park. As well as making it safer and easier to cross the A414, and linking to other cycling routes in the area including National Cycle Network Route 57 towards Adeyfield, the proposals would also help improve connections to Hemel Hempstead town centre, the canal towpath and Heath Park.

Information about the proposed improvements can be found online: [www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/JarmanPark](http://www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/JarmanPark)

### School newsletter

As well as providing your feedback, we would be grateful for any support you could offer in promoting the consultation with staff and parents, such as through your school newsletter or intranet. Please let us know if you need information in a different format.

For any further enquiries, please reply to this email or call us at **0300 123 4040**.

Kind Regards,

Kevin Wallace  
Senior Engineer



### Active Travel Fund Team

County Hall, Pegs Lane, Hertford, SG13 8DE, Postal Point: CHN115

T: 0300 123 4047

E: [ATFConsultation@hertfordshire.gov.uk](mailto:ATFConsultation@hertfordshire.gov.uk)

[Our vision](#) is to create a cleaner, greener and healthier Hertfordshire, guided by our RISE values

**6.6. Appendix 6 – List of schools contacted**

School
Boxmoor Primary School
St Rose's Catholic Infants School
Lockers Park School
The Collett School
Heath Lane Nursery School
South Hill Primary School
The Hemel Hempstead School
Gade Valley Primary School
Laureate Academy
St Cuthbert Mayne Catholic Junior School
Broadfield Academy
The Adeyfield Academy
Dacorum Education Support Centre
Leverstock Green Church of England Primary School
George Street Primary School
Hobletts Manor Infants' School
Hobletts Manor Junior School
Jupiter Primary School
Yewtree Primary School
Hammond Academy
Two Waters Primary School
Saint Albert the Great Catholic Primary School
The Reddings Primary School
Hobbs Hill Wood Primary School
Longdean School
Chambersbury Primary School
Woodfield School
Tudor Primary School
Lime Walk Primary School
Belswains Primary School
Nash Mills Church of England Primary School

## 6.7. Appendix 7 – Letter to residents/businesses

Highways Service



To Residents/Businesses

Highways Service  
Hertfordshire County Council  
County Hall  
Pegs Lane  
Hertford, Herts SG13 8DF  
[www.hertfordshire.gov.uk](http://www.hertfordshire.gov.uk)

Tel: 0300 123 4040

Email: [ATFConsultation@hertfordshire.gov.uk](mailto:ATFConsultation@hertfordshire.gov.uk)

Ref: Active Travel Fund (ATF) – Jarman Park

Date: 3 July 2023

Dear Sir / Madam,

### Jarman Park: Have your say on proposed walking and cycling improvements

We are proposing walking and cycling improvements along A414 St Albans Road at Jarman Park, Hemel Hempstead, and would like to hear your views.

Please submit your feedback via our online survey before **31 July 2023** at [www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/JarmanPark](http://www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/JarmanPark)

Following the additional £4.6 million funding received from Active Travel England in May this year, we are proposing a series of improvements, including a new signalised toucan crossing over the A414 St Albans Road to improve walking and cycling access to Jarman retail and leisure park.

The A414 presents a significant barrier between residential areas to the north and key local destinations, including shops and leisure facilities at Jarman Park. As well as making it safer and easier to cross the A414, and linking to other cycling routes in the area including National Cycle Network Route 57 towards Adeyfield, the proposals would also help improve connections to Hemel Hempstead town centre, the canal towpath and Heath Park.

The proposed improvements include:

- A new signalised toucan crossing on the A414 St Albans Road to provide a step-free crossing option with direct access to and from Jarman Park
- Upgrading the existing informal crossing at Jarman Way to a new toucan crossing to improve connections along the A414
- New shared-use paths for people walking, wheeling and cycling on both sides of the A414 to improve connections to Hemel Hempstead town centre, Leverstock Green and Adeyfield
- Widening the existing footpath on the northern side of the A414 to provide space for the shared-use path (this would involve removing approximately 2m of the wall near the footbridge)
- Widening the existing footpath where possible on the southern side of the A414 between Jarman Way and Bennetts End Road to provide space for the shared-use path. The crossing at Bennetts End Road would also be upgraded

**County of opportunity**

to a toucan crossing so that people cycling can cross safely alongside those walking or wheeling (this would involve either reducing or removing the existing traffic island on Bennetts End Road at the junction with the A414 to maintain the two-way carriageway)

While improvements to the existing footbridge over the A414 are not part of these proposals, we are planning to refurbish the bridge later this year whilst further assessment of the structure is completed.

The project supports our commitment to sustainable travel, improving the health and wellbeing of communities, making towns cleaner, less congested and better places to live, work and visit.

Find out more and have your say at: [www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/JarmanPark](http://www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/JarmanPark)

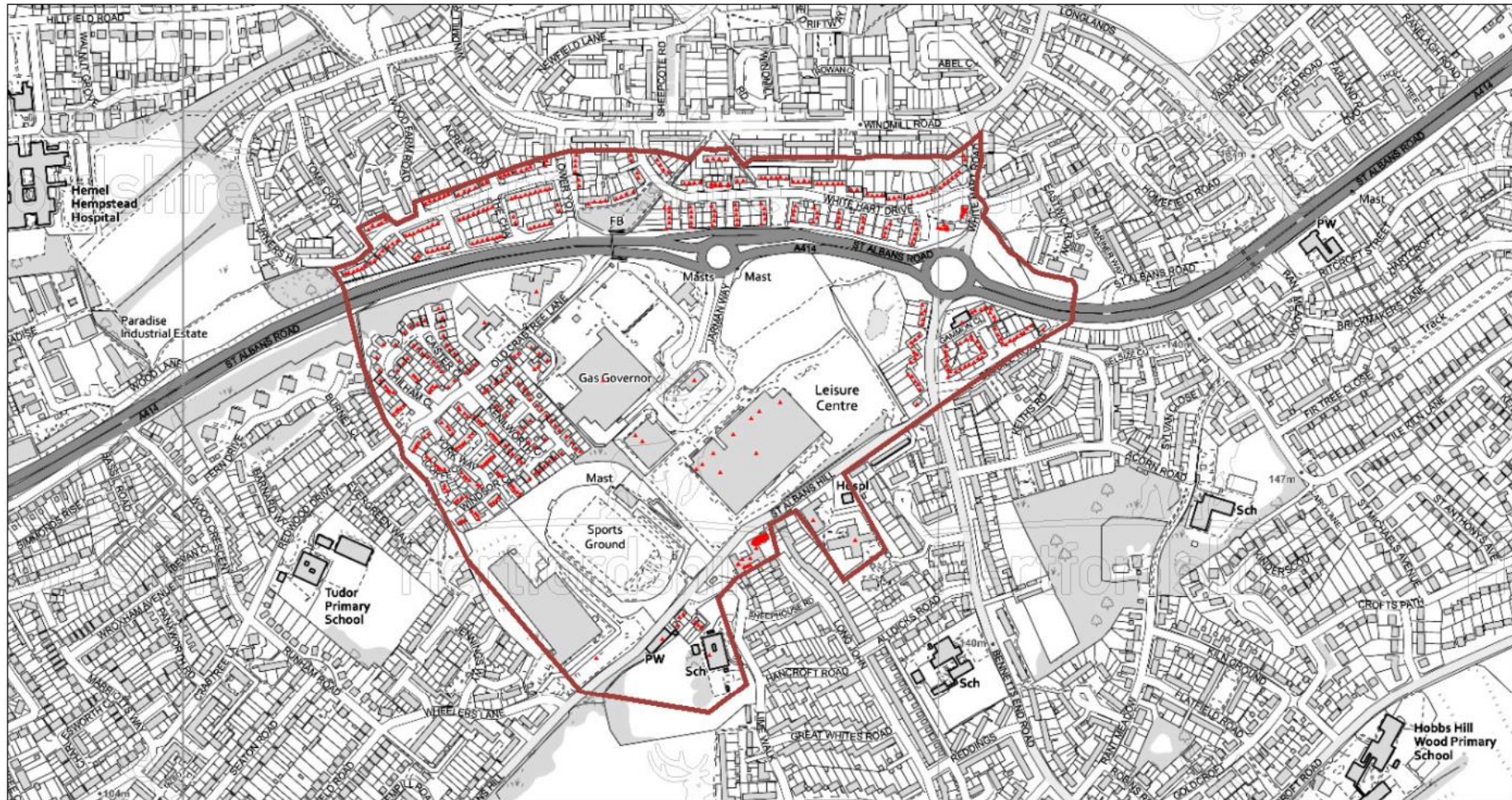
For any further enquiries, or to receive a physical copy of the survey, please contact us at **0300 123 4040** or email: [ATFConsultation@hertfordshire.gov.uk](mailto:ATFConsultation@hertfordshire.gov.uk)

Yours faithfully,

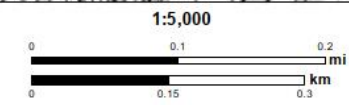
Kevin Wallace  
Senior Engineer

**County of opportunity**

### 6.8. Appendix 8 - Letter distribution area



▲ Addressbase\_Query result



from Highways Webmaps-extra Viewer; 6/14/2023  
© Crown copyright and database rights 2023 OS EUL 1000 19606



## 6.9. Appendix 9 - Example social media posts



Hertfordshire Highways

25 July at 16:30 · 🌐

We're proposing walking & cycling facilities in #HemelHempstead that will include a toucan crossing at A414 St Albans Road to make it easier for you to safely visit #JarmanPark. Your thoughts matter, please visit <https://bit.ly/3rd0kBN> for info and to have your say.



Hertfordshire Highways

30 July at 12:30 · 🌐

Closes Monday! We're proposing walking & cycling facilities in #HemelHempstead that will include a toucan crossing at A414 St Albans Road to make it easier for you to safely visit #JarmanPark. Your thoughts matter, please visit <https://bit.ly/3rd0kBN> for info & to have your say.



## 6.10. Appendix 10 – Banner design

Would you like to see a new  
step-free crossing here?



---

Share your views on new walking and cycling  
facilities before 31 July  
[www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/JarmanPark](http://www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/JarmanPark)



## 6.11. Appendix 11 – Copy of questionnaire



### **Hertfordshire County Council Jarman Park: consultation questionnaire**

#### **Share your views**

Hertfordshire County Council has been awarded an additional £4.6 million by Active Travel England to deliver new walking and cycling projects across the county.

As a result, we are proposing walking and cycling improvements at Jarman Park, Hemel Hempstead, including a new signalised toucan crossing over the A414 St Albans Road to improve connections to and from Jarman retail and leisure park. As well as making it safer and easier to cross the A414, and linking to other cycling routes in the area including National Cycle Network Route 57 towards Adeyfield, the proposals would also help improve connections to Hemel Hempstead town centre, the canal towpath and Heath Park.

Please ensure you have reviewed the information about the proposals before completing the questionnaire. The information is available on our website:

[www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/consultations](http://www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/consultations)

The consultation is open until 31 July 2023.

#### **Further information**

If you have any questions about the consultation, you can contact us by email at [ATFconsultation@hertfordshire.gov.uk](mailto:ATFconsultation@hertfordshire.gov.uk) or call us on 0300 123 4047.



### Jarman Park, Hemel Hempstead

1. To what extent do you agree or disagree with the proposed walking and cycling improvements at Jarman Park? Please select one option.

Strongly agree	Tend to agree	Neither agree nor disagree	Tend to disagree	Strongly disagree	Don't know
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

2. To what extent do you agree with the following key features of the proposal, which are integral to the overall design? Please select one option per feature. This question is optional.

	Strongly agree	Tend to agree	Neither agree nor disagree	Tend to disagree	Strongly disagree	Don't know
A new signalised toucan crossing on A414 St Albans Road to provide a step-free crossing option with direct access to and from Jarman Park	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Upgrading the existing informal crossing at Jarman Way to a new toucan crossing to improve connections along the A414 St Albans Road	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
New shared-use paths for people walking, wheeling and cycling on both sides of the A414, to improve connections towards Hemel Hempstead town centre, Leverstock Green and Adeyfield	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Widening the existing footpath where possible on the southern side of the A414 between Jarman Way and Bennetts End Road to provide space for the shared-use path	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Upgrading the existing crossing at Bennetts End Road to a toucan crossing so that people cycling can cross safely alongside those walking or wheeling (this would involve either reducing or removing the existing traffic island on Bennetts End Road at the junction with the A414 to maintain the two-way carriageway)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>



**3. Do you have any additional comments about the proposal?** *Please describe these below. This question is optional.*

## 6.12. Appendix 12 – Full frequency coding table

Code	Code description	No. of coded comments	% of coded comments
SUPP-001	In favour of proposals (general support)	40	13%
SUPP-002	Support – scheme will improve safety	15	5%
SUPP-003	Support – scheme will improve accessibility	24	8%
SUPP-004	Partial support – support toucan crossing only	1	<1%
SUPP-005	Partial support – support improvements to footpaths for people walking and cycling only	5	2%
OPP-001	Oppose – scheme is not needed / waste of money	14	4%
OPP-002	Opposition to new crossings based on traffic concerns	28	9%
OPP-003	Opposition to new crossings based on safety concerns	15	5%
OPP-004	Opposition to new crossings based on air quality concerns	8	3%
OPP-005	Partial opposition – concerns about loss of vegetation along the verge	1	<1%
OPP-006	Partial opposition – safety concerns regarding shared-use paths	13	4%
OPP-007	Partial opposition – concern about traffic build-up and safety at adjoining roads (e.g. Lower Yott and Old Crabtree Lane)	8	3%
SUGG-001	Suggestion to reconsider location of proposed crossings (E.g. further away from roundabouts and junctions)	18	6%
SUGG-002	Suggestion to further consider safety	2	1%
SUGG-003	Suggestion to reduce speed limit or introduce traffic calming measures	20	6%
SUGG-004	Suggestion for additional parking restrictions	2	1%
SUGG-005	Suggestion for crossing improvements at White Hart Drive	3	1%
SUGG-006	Suggestion for new walking routes from Caister Close, Redrow Housing development and Old Crabtree Lane	4	1%
SUGG-007	Suggestion for additional measures to stop people running across the A414	10	3%
SUGG-008	Suggestion for further cycling improvements in the area	25	8%
SUGG-009	Other suggestion	7	2%
OTH-001	Request to maintain or upgrade existing footbridge	17	5%
OTH-002	Request to remove footbridge (not needed if new toucan crossing is in place)	4	1%
OTH-003	Maintenance needed	5	2%
OTH-004	Other comment unrelated to the scheme	14	4%
Q-001	Question regarding arrangements for pedestrians whilst footbridge is closed.	7	2%
Q-002	Question regarding traffic flow and footfall analysis	4	1%
	<b>Total</b>	<b>314</b>	<b>100%</b>