



WOKINGHAM BOROUGH COUNCIL

A Meeting of an **INDIVIDUAL EXECUTIVE MEMBER DECISION** will be held in SF2 - Civic Offices on **TUESDAY 11 DECEMBER 2018 AT 11.30 AM**

Heather Thwaites

Heather Thwaites
Interim Chief Executive
Published on 3 December 2018

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WOKINGHAM BOROUGH COUNCIL

Our Vision

A great place to live, an even better place to do business

Our Priorities

Improve educational attainment and focus on every child achieving their potential

Invest in regenerating towns and villages, support social and economic prosperity, whilst encouraging business growth

Ensure strong sustainable communities that are vibrant and supported by well designed development

Tackle traffic congestion in specific areas of the Borough

Improve the customer experience when accessing Council services

The Underpinning Principles

Offer excellent value for your Council Tax

Provide affordable homes

Look after the vulnerable

Improve health, wellbeing and quality of life

Maintain and improve the waste collection, recycling and fuel efficiency

Deliver quality in all that we do

For consideration by

Philip Mirfin, Executive Member for Regeneration

Officers Present

Sara Allman, Senior Traffic Management Engineer

Callum Wernham, Democratic & Electoral Services Specialist

IMD NO.	WARD	SUBJECT	
IMD 2018/38	Wescott	TRAFFIC REGULATION ORDER - LUCKLEY PATH, WOKINGHAM, PROHIBITION OF DRIVING	5 - 78

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Agenda Item IMD38

INDIVIDUAL EXECUTIVE MEMBER DECISION

REFERENCE IMD: IMD 2018/38

TITLE	Traffic Regulation Order - Luckley Path, Wokingham, Prohibition of Driving
DECISION TO BE MADE BY	Executive Member for Regeneration - Philip Mirfin
DATE, MEETING ROOM and TIME	11 December 2018 SF2 at 11.30am
WARD	Wescott;
DIRECTOR	Director of Locality and Customer Services - Interim Sarah Hollamby

OUTCOME / BENEFITS TO THE COMMUNITY

The closure to motorised traffic of Luckley Path will improve the safety of pedestrians who currently have limited visibility when trying to cross this narrow road. It will improve the congestion in the town centre as vehicles will not block two lanes of traffic when trying to exit Luckley Path onto Peach Street.

RECOMMENDATION

That the Executive Member for Highways and Transport:

- 1) approve the making of the Wokingham Borough Council (Luckley Path) (Prohibition of Driving) Order 2018 and;
- 2) instructs the Director of Locality and Customer Services to inform those persons who objected accordingly.

SUMMARY OF REPORT

This report looks for approval to remove motor vehicles from exiting Luckley Path onto Peach Street, Wokingham.

Background

Further to the regeneration currently being carried out in Wokingham town centre, Luckley Path has been temporarily closed to vehicles to assist with the traffic flow within the centre. Following on from this temporary closure it has been requested by a number of Town Councillors and members of the public, that this closure become permanent. Pedestrians feel safer not having to look for vehicles in an area where visibility is not very good. It has also improved the use of the area for disabled wheelchair users and pushchairs.

The regeneration of Market Place area has also resulted in an extended pedestrian area which effects the exit path of vehicles onto Peach Street towards Broad Street.

Accident history has revealed that there have been 5 injury accidents within 20 metres of Luckley Path exit within the previous 5 years.

Objectives

It is proposed that the closure of the route to motorised vehicles will mean a short detour for local traffic and they will enter Peach Street via Easthampstead Road.

The Council advertised a Traffic Regulation Order proposing the alteration to the Luckley Path in the Wokingham Paper newspaper on 29th March 2018. Street notices were also erected along the route at the proposed restrictions. Letters were sent to all properties fronting onto this section of road and similar letters were sent to statutory consultees including the Police, Parish Councils and local ward members. The advert, notices and letters all stated that any objections or comments to the proposals should be sent to the council's Traffic Management Team no later than the 19th April 2018, which complies with the statutory 21-day objection period laid down in the regulations.

A number of local residents and Councillors have responded to this consultation and their comments are shown in full at Appendix 1.

The majority of objections refer to the additional time and environmental impacts of the extra travel, should Luckley Path be prohibited to vehicles, however, there is more impact of environmental issues where a vehicle is waiting to exit at Luckley Path, is held up by moving traffic along Peach Street and the vehicles emissions are then collected in a small area. This is not the case in Easthampstead Road as it is a full junction with a footway on each side of the carriageway which carries two way traffic. This is further compounded by the new layout of Market Place and the ability to exit Luckley Path towards Denmark Street, meaning vehicles will now need to use both lanes to turn left into Market Place, Eastern Arm towards Denmark Street.

A further consultation has been carried out with elected members delivering documents to all of the properties who may wish to use Luckley Path, but may not have objected to the proposal as part of the legal process, these comments are shown in full at Appendix 2. Elected members also consulted with members of the public using the route through Luckley Path at its junction with Peach Street, for a period of 2 days.

Conclusion

The 2nd consultation showed a 50/50 split with many of the local residents being concerned about the extra travel around the town centre, whilst the 50% in favour regarded the safety impacts far outweighed the disruption that it may create.

Following the 2nd consultation , Ward Councillors advised they would like to see the road re-opened to traffic, and that this should then be monitored and traffic counts collected before again consulting on a prohibition order. This was considered but consideration was also given to the number of non-motorised users who would not expect a vehicle to exit this junction and have become compliant with the current situation, many of whom no longer look for traffic.

It is the officer’s proposal that Luckley Path be prohibited to motor vehicles as proposed. Many local residents and visitors are now used to the detour and pedestrians expect that they can cross without the fear of vehicles. On this basis, this would be the safest option.

It is therefore proposed the decision of the Executive Member is to make the order as advertised.

Recommendation

That the proposed “Prohibition of Driving” along Luckley Path be approved and objectors be informed of the decision.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS OF THE RECOMMENDATION

The Council faces severe financial challenges over the coming years as a result of the austerity measures implemented by the Government and subsequent reductions to public sector funding. It is estimated that Wokingham Borough Council will be required to make budget reductions in excess of £20m over the next three years and all Executive decisions should be made in this context.

	How much will it Cost/ (Save)	Is there sufficient funding – if not quantify the Shortfall	Revenue or Capital?
Current Financial Year (Year 1)	£5,000	Yes	Revenue
Next Financial Year (Year 2)	-	-	-
Following Financial Year (Year 3)	-	-	-

Other financial information relevant to the Recommendation/Decision
None

Cross-Council Implications
None

SUMMARY OF CONSULTATION RESPONSES	
Director – Corporate Services	Sarah Hollamby- none received
Monitoring Officer	Andrew Moulton – none received
Leader of the Council	Pauline Jorgensen – none received

For Highways use only	
Town and Parish Councils	
Wokingham Town Council	None received
Local Ward Members	
Wescott	None received
Reasons for considering the report in Part 2	
N/A	
List of Background Papers	
None	
Contact Sara Allman	Service Customer and Localities
Telephone No Tel: 0118 974 6856	Email sara.allman@wokingham.gov.uk

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Appendix 1
 Consultation Comments – Luckley Path

<u>Object / Support</u>	<u>Comments</u>	<u>Officer Coments</u>
Object	<p>I am opposed to the closing of Luckley Path to traffic as this would create a problem to the only other access to Peach street, that of Eashampstead Road. Not only would this increase waiting time to get on to Peach Street this would have other 2 unforeseen complications.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The build-up of traffic when school is out, with parents picking kids up from Saint Crispins School. 2. Access to and from the car the car parks on either side of Easthampstead Road at rush hour. <p>Please reconsider your proposal.</p>	<p>A very low number of vehicles used Luckley Path before the temporary closure. Therefore we do not anticipate significant impact on Peach Street/Easthampstead Road junction at busy periods.</p> <p>There have been no additional reports of congestion from car parks on Easthampstead Road, which is where many parents park when collecting children from St. Crispins and other nearby schools.</p>
Object	<p>I am writing in consideration of the Luckley Path closure planned. It is a minor entrance which is generally used by locals. To not use this entrance involves putting enormous strain on Denton Road the road where the fire station is. Surely this will slow down the movement of fire engines getting out and returning from their calls. As for the argument of causing congestion, we have not witnessed this in the 25 years we have lived in Sturges Road and believe that it actually reduces congestion on Easthampstead Road, accessing Peach Street.</p>	<p>Due to the improvements to the alignment of Peach Street as part of the Market Place improvements, the kerblines of Luckley Path had to be altered. This means that when vehicles exist Luckley Path they will have to use both lanes of Peach Street. This maneuver is anticipated to impact the speed and volume of traffic and cause congestion on Peach Street, especially at busy periods. Also the kerblines alteration have contributed towards improvements of pedestrian safety at this junction.</p> <p>A very low number of vehicles used Luckley Path before the temporary closure. Therefore we do not anticipate significant impact on surrounding road network at busy periods.</p>

		The fire service have no objections to the proposals
Object	<p>The Council's proposal to stop vehicular access to Wokingham's Market Place using Luckley Path is not good. The proposal is illogical and environmentally hostile.</p> <p>The presumption that traffic delays are caused by vehicles trying to access Peach Street is wrong. Before the current road works started the norm was, in busy traffic, that vehicles in Luckley Path would wait for red traffic lights in Peach Street or for the traffic lights at the top of Denmark Street or the traffic lights in Broad Street to cause traffic to stop, and then move into the road at the invitation of drivers waiting for the traffic to start moving again out of Peach Street. So, delays were rare. When traffic was light there was no problem anyway. Have the results of any traffic surveys been made available to the public? Do they relate to the reality of the situation before the current road works began?</p> <p>The other reality currently, and as proposed by the Council for the future is that vehicles use Denton Road as the obvious alternative in not being able to use Luckley Path. So, the frequency of vehicles using Denton Road has increased. Denton Road is a narrow road with many resident's cars parked on the road, plus two 90 degree turns, plus traffic accessing or leaving the car park next to Curves.</p> <p>As compared to using the extremely short Luckley Path, drivers are using the more hazardous Denton Road to the busy Easthampstead Road near the fire station. They then wait to join the traffic in Peach Street to travel towards Market Place and past the point that could have been at earlier if they could have used Luckley Path. The</p>	<p>Due to the improvements to the alignment of Peach Street as part of the Market Place improvements, the kerblines of Luckley Path had to be altered. This means that when vehicles exist Luckley Path they will have to use both lanes of Peach Street. This maneuver is anticipated to impact the speed and volume of traffic and cause congestion on Peach Street, especially at busy periods. Also the kerblines alteration have contributed towards improvements of pedestrian safety at this junction</p> <p>There have been no traffic surveys undertaken, since the implementation of the temporary closure. However, it should be noted that there have been no additional reports of congestion from the surrounding road network.</p> <p>Denton Road is less hazardous to all road users than Luckley Path as it has footways for pedestrians on both sides of the road, whereas Luckley Path has none.</p> <p>It is noted that some drivers will have to travel further however, as very low number of vehicles used Luckley Path before the temporary closure, we do not anticipate significant impact on surrounding road network or the environment.</p>

	<p>other reality of course is that the traffic along Peach Street is increased by the number of vehicles no longer using Luckley Path. This alternative route is more than 30 times further, putting 30 times more CO2 fumes into the already unhealthy Wokingham air.</p> <p>We should all be doing things to make life easier. This Council's proposal does not do that.</p>	<p>All our proposals are carefully considered by the elected members and other stakeholders to ensure the measures are betterment for the community.</p>
Object	<p>I wish to object to the above closure as it is unnecessary. The closure of this road will increase road traffic on Murdock Rd, Easthampstead Rd and Peach Street. When the road was open my journey through the town centre was smooth, especially after the keep clear boxes were painted on the road in Peach St. I will now have to drive down Murdock Rd, Easthampstead Rd and part of Peach St to get to the junction of Luckley Path and Peach St. Not only will you increase the road traffic on these roads but also increase traffic passing St Theresa's School and the fire station. More road miles driven will increase pollution.</p> <p>Although the junction with Peach Street is not ideal but signage on the road surface could alert both pedestrians and drivers to the junction. Also when the new Peach Place development is open the pavement on the other side of the road will be more popular with pedestrians using the new shops and restaurants.</p> <p>I dispute the claim the traffic using the junction disrupts the flow in Peach St. The pedestrian lights at the start of Denmark St and the other set in Peach St. already stop the flow of traffic. Repainting the keep clear signs on Peach St will allow traffic to exit Luckley Path smoothly when gaps appear.</p>	<p>It is noted that some drivers will have to travel further however, as very low number of vehicles used Luckley Path before the temporary closure, we do not anticipate significant impact on surrounding road network or the environment.</p> <p>The surrounding roads to Luckley Path are more suitable alternatives due to the width of the carriageway and the provision of footways for non-motorised users, where Luckley Path has no separation for vehicles and pedestrians on a narrow road.</p> <p>Vehicles exiting Luckley Path to continue towards Broad Street block the lane access for traffic travelling towards Denmark Street, thus creating more congestion and problems with traffic flow.</p> <p>Nearby businesses are in support of the proposal.</p>

	<p>I also dispute your claim that the present closure has not affected business. No reliable analysis of this could possibly have been undertaken during the horrendous traffic disruption caused by the Market Place resurfacing and that in Rose St., with the Peach Place development.</p>	
Object	<p>We wish to object to the proposed closure of Luckley Path on the following grounds :</p> <p>1 After all the disruption over what seems like an age further unnecessary disruption is not needed</p> <p>2 There is no evidence that closure will improve pedestrian safety, to the best of my knowledge this junction has never caused any accidents.</p> <p>3 Closure will make it even more difficult for people in the Batty`s Barn/Langborough Conservation Area to access the north of the town resulting in even more traffic onto Murdoch Rd and Langborough. These roads already carry an excess amount of traffic being effectively used as a southern distributor road.</p> <p>It is not uncommon for both of these roads to have large traffic jams during the morning and peak times which can also result in grid lock. Has any consideration been given to a permanent one way system at Langborough Rd ? Further increases in traffic on these roads will also result in more air pollution which is already a matter of great concern.</p> <p>4 There is no evidence that this proposal is any part of an overall plan to improve traffic and general environmental improvement in the Town as a whole.</p> <p>5 The current proposals for the Town, of which the closure of Luckley Path forms a part, will do little to improve it`s attraction because TRAFFIC remains the main problem .What is needed are radical proposals to pedestrianise large parts of the Town by reintroducing two way traffic on Rectory rd. and Wiltshire Rd. allowing</p>	<p>There have been 5 injury accidents in the previous 5 years at or within 20 metres of this junction.</p> <p>It is noted that some drivers will have to travel further however, as very low number of vehicles used Luckley Path before the temporary closure, we do not anticipate significant impact on surrounding road network or the environment.</p> <p>The surrounding roads to Luckley Path are more suitable alternatives due to the width of the carriageway and the provision of footways for non-motorised users, where Luckley Path has no separation for vehicles and pedestrians on a narrow road.</p> <p>These improvements are in line with Wokingham Town Centre Masterplan objective namely:</p> <p>5.1.1(3) Enhance accessibility to and from the town centre, improving linkages for pedestrians, cyclists and vehicles within the town centre. Give greater pedestrian priority along town centre streets.</p> <p>5.3.1(4) Improve junctions to enhance public space and improve pedestrian movement and safety.</p>

	<p>streets like Peach St. And large parts of the Town Centre. We look forward to a response to the above.</p>	<p>5.4.1(3) Invest in the town centre's streets as places rather than just corridors for car traffic.</p> <p>Currently we don't have any plans for large areas to be pedestrianisation, however your comments are noted for future considerations.</p>
Object	<p>I oppose the proposed permanent closure.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This vehicle route through to Peach Street is one that is very useful for residents living in the nearby area who are heading north from the town or to the Waitrose car park. • The end to disruption to town traffic by the regeneration work and the re-opening of Luckley Path has been eagerly anticipated for some time. • Alternative routes are longer and therefore cause more CO2 and NOX pollution. • To make permanent this temporary closure is another frustration for residents. • The major interruption to traffic flow down Peach Street is actually caused by the pedestrian crossing further north and the vehicles exiting from Easthampstead Road. • Peach Street flow is not impeded by this exit, as cars joining from Luckley Path usually have to wait for the red signal at the pedestrian crossing to be able to be let out - often to join already very slow moving traffic already impeded by congestion in Denmark Street. 	<p>It is noted that some drivers will have to travel further however, as very low number of vehicles used Luckley Path before the temporary closure, we do not anticipate significant impact on surrounding road network or the environment.</p> <p>The surrounding roads to Luckley Path are more suitable alternatives due to the width of the carriageway and the provision of footways for non-motorised users, where Luckley Path has no separation for vehicles and pedestrians on a narrow road.</p> <p>Vehicles waiting to exit Luckley Path block pedestrian's route and sometimes this means they walk into the carriageway on Peach Street to get around, causing safety concerns. There have been 5 injury accidents in the previous 5 years at or within 20 metres of this junction</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Closure of this junction will mean more traffic from this area will need to join Easthampstead Road opposite Page's Croft or via Denton Road and then interrupt the flowing traffic at Peach Street which will cause greater disruption. Alternatively, the longer route via the station will put more pressure on Langborough Road and the junction with Denmark Street. • There has never been an accident to pedestrians or traffic at this junction. 	
<p>Object</p>	<p>I am concerned to find that there is yet another proposal which will work to the detriment of residents in the Great Langborough residential area. The vehicular access to Peach St. via Luckley path is a much missed route into the town centre which should certainly not be made permanent. It's closure does not result in reducing traffic congestion in the Market place as those wishing to get to Broad St. then have to take a dog-leg and come in via Easthampstead Road in order to join the same stream of traffic a bit sooner!</p> <p>The only other way into the town centre is to go down the already busy Langborough Road - then out further west along Wellington Road and on through the station yard, then back into town from there. These are all busy roads so it just contributes to the overall traffic congestion in the town.</p> <p>Clearly motorists exiting Luckley Path need to go carefully and be aware of pedestrians. I have found motorists to be pretty considerate in letting in vehicles wishing to exit there in order to go into Broad St. There are natural gaps which allow one to exit there when the</p>	<p>It is noted that some drivers will have to travel further however, as very low number of vehicles used Luckley Path before the temporary closure, we do not anticipate significant impact on surrounding road network or the environment.</p> <p>The surrounding roads to Luckley Path are more suitable alternatives due to the width of the carriageway and the provision of footways for non-motorised users, where Luckley Path has no separation for vehicles and pedestrians on a narrow road. Vehicles waiting to exit Luckley Path block pedestrian's route and sometimes this means they walk into the carriageway on Peach Street to get around, causing safety concerns.</p>

	<p>pedestrian crossing to the east on Peach St. halts the flow of traffic. If there are to be concerns about the safety of pedestrians in the town there are plenty of other roads with no pedestrian crossing where one just has to trust to the decency of motorists! eg. Carnival Pool roundabout and the Denmark St. / Langborough Road mini-roundabout all lack pedestrian crossings.</p>	
Object	<p>We write to object to the proposal to close Luckley Path to motor vehicles.</p> <p>Based on our experience of using Luckley Path by car and on foot most days for over 40 years we do not believe that the case for closure is adequately made-out and that the analysis of reasons provided by the Council does not reflect a complete picture of the situation.</p> <p>Cars exiting Luckley Path make only a very minor contribution to traffic congestion in Peach Street. The key causes of the slowness and weight of traffic at peak times are the effect of the many Pedestrian controlled traffic lights within a short distance of each other namely (i) outside the former M&S (ii) by the Town Hall outside Superdrug (iii) across the top of Denmark Street/Market Square by Barclays (iv) by the Post Office. We have no objection to these and indeed welcome them. In addition - and this is before the regeneration and Elms Field complications – there is often a back-up of traffic in Denmark Street from the Carnival pool roundabout and the notorious Finchampstead Road bottle neck around the Molly Millar Lane junction and the Tesco roundabout.</p> <p>We have not witnessed any significant safety issues over the years, as drivers, many of whom are local residents and familiar with the Luckley Path exit, take care to give pedestrians, pushchairs, disability scooters etc. due priority. Indeed if there were several cars waiting to exit,</p>	<p>Vehicles exiting Luckley Path to continue towards Broad Street block the lane access for traffic travelling towards Denmark Street, thus creating more congestion and problems with traffic flow.</p> <p>There have been 5 injury accidents in the previous 5 years at or within 20 metres of this junction.</p> <p>It is noted that some drivers will have to travel further however, as very low number of vehicles used Luckley Path before the temporary closure, we do not anticipate significant impact on surrounding road network or the environment.</p> <p>All our proposals are carefully considered by the elected members and other stakeholders to ensure the measures are betterment for the community.</p>

	<p>some pedestrians used their initiative and passed behind the first waiting car, with no problem.</p> <p>The erstwhile 'keep clear' road marking on Peach Street at the exit from Luckley Path was helpful and cars leaving could either turn immediately into the left hand lane to proceed down Denmark Street, or into the right hand lane for Broad Street.</p> <p>If Luckley Path is no longer available to motor vehicles the inevitable result will be longer motorised journeys in the town for local residents, and for those attending Corpus Christi church, and St Theresa's school, not to mention the concomitant increase in pollution.</p> <p>Congestion will also increase by vehicles having to turn left from Denton Road into Easthampstead Road and left from the town end of Easthampstead Road into Peach Street. This is already a difficult manoeuvre and will be more so, and potentially dangerous as there will be nothing to stop the two lane traffic which has merged from Wiltshire Road by All Saints church and the London Road/Bracknell/A329M direction. Drivers queuing in Easthampstead Road will be dependent on the goodwill of fellow drivers already on the main road to exit safely.</p> <p>We think that Luckley Path, if left open to traffic would be an asset to the town and certainly not add to the poor traffic flow. We cannot help wondering how much the planners have actually studied this junction in practice at various times of day before the Luckley Path closure in February 2017, rather than concentrating on a peak traffic flow paper exercise.</p>	
Object	<p>I wish to object strongly to the proposed closure, as a resident who has regularly used it by car and on cycle for decades (until the recent temporary closure).</p> <p>The proposal claims that the temporary closure has not inconvenienced business, but offers no evidence. Even</p>	<p>All nearby businesses were consulted on the proposals and none have objected to them.</p> <p>It is noted that some drivers will have to travel further however, as very low number of</p>

	<p>if there have been no complaints, that is no proof. People are grinning and bearing it, along with all the other traffic disruption, especially since we were assured to was temporary.</p> <p>The proposal does not mention inconvenience to residents. Do we not matter to the Council? The current closure is certainly inconvenient to us, adding significant extra distance to many journeys. Making the closure permanent would prolong that.</p> <p>The junction was not unsafe. Vehicles necessarily move slowly when emerging into Peach Street. Pedestrians crossing the junction only have a single line of traffic to negotiate, unlike for example Easthampstead Road (which is one of the routes that will have more traffic if Luckley Path is closed.</p> <p>Please restore normal access as soon as possible. Finally, I am aware that this email was sent after midnight and so technically was after the consultation period. However, I doubt that any Council employees are at work now, so it will be seen at the same time as objections sent before midnight.</p>	<p>vehicles used Luckley Path before the temporary closure, we do not anticipate significant impact on surrounding road network or the environment.</p> <p>All our proposals are careful considered by the elected members and other stakeholders to ensure the measures are betterment for the community.</p> <p>There have been 5 injury accidents in the previous 5 years at or within 20 metres of this junction</p>
<p>Object</p>	<p>I would like to raise an objection to the closing of Luckley Path to traffic.</p> <p>Having lived in Wokingham for over 50 years , and currently residing in Sturges Rd for around 20 years, I have become familiar with the pattern of usage via this exit and, more recently, - the effect of its closure on traffic flow in the roads one currently needs to use as an alternative .</p> <p>Historically,the traffic using the Luckley Path exit has always reduced traffic congestion at both of the other junctions (the end of Langborough Rd near the library and the left turn where Easthampstead Rd meets Peach</p>	<p>It is noted that some drivers will have to travel further however, as very low number of vehicles used Luckley Path before the temporary closure, we do not anticipate significant impact on surrounding road network or the environment.</p> <p>There have been 5 injury accidents in the previous 5 years at or within 20 metres of this junction.</p> <p>Vehicles exiting Luckley Path to continue towards Broad Street block the lane access</p>

	<p>street.) Ive noticed traffic flow has increased in both those places, particularly when schools are coming out, since cars have been unable to use the Luckley Path exit. Its even more noticeable now that Lanborough Rd is two way again. Whilst the increase is small, it seems illogical to close any option which impacts positively on traffic flow at busy junctions in our town centre.</p> <p>The traffic lights further down the road give a regular opportunity for anyone waiting at the Luckley junction to safely get out, to go either left or straight across. Those drivers going straight across towards Reading do not then have to add traffic to Denmark street which is helpful in terms of traffic volume on that strip of road.</p> <p>In terms of safety, my experience is that it honestly has never been an issue in all the time Ive lived here. Pedestrians occasionally step out across the road but when you come up to the exit you are always driving slowly because you need to check traffic to your right as in any T junction. If no accidents have apparently occurred in the twenty years we have lived here, one suspects pedestrian safety is not an issue which should be used as a rationale for closure.</p> <p>Please do reconsider this proposal. I think there is little to gain and more to lose in terms of maximising traffic flow. Thankyou for the opportunity to respond to the proposal.</p>	<p>for traffic travelling towards Denmark Street, thus creating more congestion and problems with traffic flow.</p> <p>There have been no significant impacts on congestion that have been reported to us.</p>
<p>Object</p>	<p>We would like to raise an objection to the closure of Luckley Path to motor vehicle traffic.</p> <p>Referring to the Statement of Reasons that have been issued we would comment as follows -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The road markings on Peach Street prevent the blocking of the junction and avoid congestion. At 	<p>Although there are KEEP CLEAR road markings, vehicles exiting Luckley Path to continue towards Broad Street still block the lane access for traffic travelling towards Denmark Street, thus creating more congestion and problems with traffic flow. There have been 5 injury accidents in the</p>

	<p>times of high traffic flow there is generally a 'give and take' approach to junction priority and in our experience traffic flows as freely as it does elsewhere in the town. Also the traffic flow is regularly disrupted by the pedestrian crossing to the east in Peach Street which enables the traffic to flow from Luckley Path.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • As vehicles on Luckley Path generally have to stop or significantly slow down to negotiate the junction with Peach street, there is absolutely no problem with pedestrian visibility as most of the traffic is either stationary or moving at less than walking pace. • As with any active road junction where pedestrian and traffic flows cross (and there are many in the town) pedestrians have right of way. This is the case at this junction and drivers give way to disabled persons and people with prams and pushchairs. We know this to be the case as we have often pushed a pushchair round the town ! • Whilst we find it difficult to believe that the temporary closure has not caused any disturbance to businesses, we can state quite categorically that it has had a major adverse effect on <u>residents</u> in the Murdoch Road area. <p>Closure of the junction will mean that residents in the Murdoch Road area who want to drive to the north of the town, for example to Waitrose or Cantley, will have a choice of two detours, either via Murdoch Road or Denton Road to join Easthampstead Road and then join</p>	<p>previous 5 years at or within 20 metres of this junction.</p> <p>It is noted that some drivers will have to travel further however, as very low number of vehicles used Luckley Path before the temporary closure, we do not anticipate significant impact on surrounding road network or the environment.</p> <p>The surrounding roads are more suitable to traffic as they are wider and have footways, whereas there is no separation between vehicles and non-motorised users along Luckley Path.</p> <p>There have been no objections from any of the emergency services or local businesses in relation to the proposals.</p>
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Peach Street. This will increase traffic flow in this area adding to pollution and disturbance to local residents.

The Murdoch Road / Easthampstead Road junction is already very congested at peak times leading to long tailbacks on Murdoch Road. The additional traffic will further exacerbate the situation.

Denton Road is very narrow and has two blind corners. The visibility is restricted by brick walling on both corners where it joins Easthampstead Road and, because the major road is also quite narrow at this point the junction could be regarded as somewhat hazardous. Increased traffic flow here could also cause additional problems.

Whichever diversion is used, the additional traffic joining Peach Street at Easthampstead Road will inevitably cause more congestion at this junction and longer tailbacks at peak times. Unlike the Luckley Path junction, there is no traffic control from this junction to the east along Peach Street so the flow of traffic on the main road is unhindered, making it very difficult to exit onto Peach Street.

As fire engines and crews are also being utilised as paramedics this additional congestion could be particularly concerning if fire engines were held up en route to medical emergencies. Failure to reach even one such emergency in time would be a very high price to pay.

In the 25 or so years that we have lived in our current house we have regularly used the Luckley Path junction with Peach Street, both as pedestrians and drivers, and also driven along Peach Street past the junction. We

	<p>have never seen any major issues at the junction nor any accidents. The traffic flows well and there are no issues with the junction.</p> <p>Overall we consider the reasons for closure overstated and the proposal to close the junction as a net loss for the residents of Wokingham.</p> <p>We would therefore request that the proposal be withdrawn.</p> <p>We would be grateful if you would acknowledge receipt of this email</p>	
Object	<p>Luckley Path Prohibition of Driving Notice</p> <p>I am writing to object to the proposed closure of Luckley Path set out in the Prohibition of Driving order dated March 29, 2018.</p> <p>As an introductory note I want to state that I work for the Council on the Town Centre Regeneration project and, whilst I have concerns that submitting comments might cause me issues in my day to day working relationships, I feel strongly enough about the above that I wish to submit my comments.</p> <p>In addition to my role working on the regeneration I also live on Sturges Road and have done for many years. As the Regeneration communications manager I am the officer who generally goes out to present to local groups, such as Residents Associations and societies, about the regeneration works. I am well known for my work role by many residents around the town centre, have been involved in the project since 2008, and am continually approached with questions and comments whilst out in</p>	<p>The Traffic Management Team have received no comments or complaints in relation to the closure of Luckley Path. These, if received, have not been forwarded for consideration. There have been no objections from any of the emergency services.</p> <p>Although there are KEEP CLEAR road markings, vehicles exiting Luckley Path to continue towards Broad Street still block the lane access for traffic travelling towards Denmark Street, thus creating more congestion and problems with traffic flow.</p> <p>There have been 5 injury accidents in the previous 5 years at or within 20 metres of this junction.</p> <p>Denton Road and Sturges Road are less hazardous to all road users than Luckley Path as it has footways for pedestrians on both</p>

<p>the town and volunteering. This has included many comments from residents about the Luckley Path closure since we closed it for Peach Place last year.</p> <p>I have heard from some of the residents, and Residents Association members that I know, that the Council have commented that they have received no complaints from residents about the closure and would like to confirm this is incorrect. Please note I only have this alleged comment from other residents who have supposedly been told this by officers so I take it with reservation. However, if it has been said, it's somewhat disingenuous as I can confirm that I have regularly fed back to colleagues in Highways that local residents are unhappy with the temporary closure, certainly any time the restriction has been raised in discussion and at meetings - I have also made it clear that I have a conflict of interest in this matter when discussing it.</p> <p>There was clear evidence of local dissatisfaction at this closure with the continued removal of the original moveable barriers and signage during the first four months of the closure being in place. This escalated so far that by the end of June 2017 the barriers were being removed on a daily, sometimes twice daily, basis - as I walk past it every day on my way to and from work I was continually reinstating it myself. It was becoming such an issue Highways required a more comprehensive solution be installed by the Peach Place contractors Dawnus, leading to the installation of the concrete blocks.</p> <p>Given all my conversations with residents, many whilst moving the traffic barriers, cones and A fram signage back into place, have been stressing the fact that this is a temporary restriction in place purely due to the current closure of the footpath adjacent to Peach Place, Im</p>	<p>sides of the road, whereas Luckley Path has none. Since the implementation of the temporary closure, there have been no additional reports of congestion from the surrounding road network.</p> <p>It is noted that some drivers will have to travel further however, as very low number of vehicles used Luckley Path before the temporary closure, we do not anticipate significant impact on surrounding road network or the environment.</p> <p>These improvements are in line with Wokingham Town Centre Masterplan objective namely:</p> <p>5.1.1(3) Enhance accessibility to and from the town centre, improving linkages for pedestrians, cyclists and vehicles within the town centre. Give greater pedestrian priority along town centre streets.</p> <p>5.3.1(4) Improve junctions to enhance public space and improve pedestrian movement and safety.</p> <p>5.4.1(3) Invest in the town centre's streets as places rather than just corridors for car traffic.</p> <p>These proposals have been carefully considered by the elected members and other stakeholders to ensure the measures are betterment for the community. There have been no objections from any of the emergency services or local businesses in relation to the proposals.</p>
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positive it's had the effect of discouraging people from taking it further and making a formal complaint about the closure at this time.

The road was restricted as part of the Peach Place regeneration works on 27 February 2017 as a temporary measure with an expected reopening date of March 2018 which has since been extended until later this summer to reflect the revised programme for the northern Peach Street footpath. At the time of the closure the temporary nature was emphasised and there was no mention of the plans to close it permanently. If this had been stated then I believe resident's reactions would have been very different at the time and over the following months.

In regards to the comments in the Statement of Reasons for the closure I would like to make the following comments.

- The route is a popular one to use as part of the highways network, increases network resilience, and reduces pressure on junctions at Langborough Road / Denmark Street Roundabout and at the Easthampstead Road / Peach Street junctions by offering an alternative route.
- Both the above junctions already have issues with the Langborough Road give and take system and the near zero visibility of traffic coming from the right when joining Peach Street from Emmbrook. The closure of Luckley Path, which has excellent visibility of approaching traffic from the right, would simply increase pressure on these junctions.
- The access point is popular for local emergency services who have used it as an opportunity to get past congestion pinch points at the above

	<p>junctions and its permanent closure could impact on local response times.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The impact on emergency services would be especially important if the council were to move forward with implementing the wider Environmental Improvements Programme projects which would see Peach Street converted to a single lane longer term which would increase delays for emergency vehicles. This single lane change has initially been proposed by the Council for after the northern and southern distributor roads are in place and pressure on the town centre is reduced.• I would disagree that vehicles exiting Luckley Path have a significant impact on traffic flow as, at busier times traffic is generally moving so slowly that there are no issues with people letting cars into the road, and at quieter times you rarely have to wait to get across either road.• The signalised pedestrianised crossing further down Peach Street also has impact of creating gaps in the traffic flow which allow people to easily merge without disruption. The original 'keep clear' area also made traffic merging very easy during busy and less busy times. As an aside, if disrupting the traffic flow this were a strong argument for road closures, you'd be looking at closing the majority of junctions that exist across the borough to stop restricting traffic flow.• In regards to pedestrian safety I have lived in Sturges Road for many years now and, as both a pedestrian and vehicle user, am unaware of any accidents to pedestrians or cars exiting this	
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	<p>junction. No actual statistics are provided to support this argument.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Drivers exiting this point are generally very aware that they are approaching a crossing and this could be easily reinforced through a highways design manner, such as changes to the road surfacing or textured materials etc• Being aware in detail of how the new 'pedestrian zone' being created with the Market Place Environmental Improvements project, and having been involved in the engagement and creation of the Public Realm Strategy in 2013 I'd like to see more evidence around how this closure 'assists' as neither this, or the adopted Town Centre Masterplan SPD call for the actual closure of this road. For detail the closure (absolute or suggested) is not referenced in any of the key points for the Market Place brief in Section 3.2 or in the key points relating to Section 3.7 Peach Street West.• The limited references to Luckley Path (3 including one on a street map) in the Public Realm Strategy groups it with the issues at Easthampstead Road and would imply that it needs assessing at the same time as the Peach Street section of the EIP rather than Market Place. <p>I would recommend that the current closure is not proceeded with for the above reasons and that it is considered in the longer term when/if the Council proceeds with the wider EIP works and the impact of the new distributor roads can be fully assessed.</p>	
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	<p>I would also request, if possible, that my address is restricted due to my role working on the Regeneration project. Whilst it is common knowledge amongst residents that I live in the town centre, and Sturges Road, I have generally tried to keep my exact address confidential as people can get quite aggressive over the works we are undertaking at Elms Field and other town centre sites.</p>	
Object	<p>The proposal to close Luckley Path to vehicles is quite unnecessary and just a cheap option to overcome allegations of safety issues at the junction with Peach Street.</p> <p>Having lived in Wokingham for 22 years I can not recall any deaths occurring at this junction nor any serious injuries to pedestrians over that time and if my memory serves accurately there is no need to block yet another road thereby forcing extra traffic on to the main road prior to entering the Town. There are enough traffic delays in Wokingham at the best of times and the proposal would just add to these delays.</p> <p>When vehicles emerge from Luckley Path they are very slow moving and invariably show consideration for pedestrians and the pedestrians usually show respect and consideration for the cars trying to emerge. Josie Wragg is overstating the safety issue and just pushing an anti vehicle agenda. Vehicles travelling through Peach, Broad and Denmark streets as well as Luckley Path give the town part of its character and keep it alive and vibrant. And after the appalling shut down the town has suffered in recent months thanks to poor</p>	<p>Due to the improvements to the alignment of Peach Street as part of the Market Place improvements, the kerblines of Luckley Path had to be altered. This means that when vehicles exist Luckley Path they will have to use both lanes of Peach Street. This maneuver is anticipated to impact the speed and volume of traffic and cause congestion on Peach Street, especially at busy periods. Also the kerblines alteration have contributed towards improvements of pedestrian safety at this junction.</p> <p>There have been 5 injury accidents in the previous 5 years at or within 20 metres of this junction</p> <p>Denton Road and Sturges Road are less hazardous to all road users than Luckley Path as it has footways for pedestrians on both sides of the road, whereas Luckley Path has none. Since the implementation of the temporary closure, there have been no additional reports of congestion from the surrounding road network.</p>

	<p>planning the town needs revitalisation and its vibrancy back..</p>	<p>It is noted that some drivers will have to travel further however, as very low number of vehicles used Luckley Path before the temporary closure, we do not anticipate significant impact on surrounding road network or the environment.</p> <p>These proposals have been carefully considered by the elected members and other stakeholders to ensure the measures are betterment for the community. There have been no objections from any of the emergency services or local businesses in relation to the proposals.</p>
Object	<p>I would like to register my objection to the closure of Luckely path</p> <p>To further improve pedestrian safety and appearance of Wokingham town centre, Wokingham Borough Council is proposes to prohibit motor vehicles from driving on Luckley Path between its junction with Peach Street and a point 22 metres south-east of that junction.</p> <p>I object to this statement that safety is compromised by vehicular access to Denmark St from Luckely path. Can you provide evidence of incidents which you are basing your statement of improved safety on.</p> <p>In relation to the appearance of the pedestrian area, closing the access will still mean it can be seen so there will be no difference in visual appearance whether used by cars or not. It is also a road junction so are others being closed to vehicular use.</p>	<p>Although there are KEEP CLEAR road markings, vehicles exiting Luckley Path to continue towards Broad Street still block the lane access for traffic travelling towards Denmark Street, thus creating more congestion and problems with traffic flow. There have been 5 injury accidents in the previous 5 years at or within 20 metres of this junction.</p> <p>The junction is not a suitable placed for a zebra crossing as the inter-visibility between vehicles and pedestrians is not clear.</p> <p>Denton Road and Sturges Road are less hazardous to all road users than Luckley Path as it has footways for pedestrians on both sides of the road, whereas Luckley Path has none. Since the implementation of the</p>

	<p>"Vehicles exiting Luckley Path cause congestion build up at busy times". Can you show the traffic data on which this statement is based. In my experience it doesnt add to any congestion as the traffic flow down the path is negligable in comparison to the flow up Denmark St. and can also block other vehicles trying to access Denmark Street via Market Place". Luckley path is nowhere near the market place to Denmark street junction so I can't see this as a valid point. Also if a boxed junction was painted on Denmark st it would prevent any blockages.</p> <p>Also, due to the narrowness of the road and building alignments alongside it, this makes it difficult for pedestrians to see oncoming vehicles." Instead of closing the road why don't you consider a proper crossing not too dissimilar to the one next to Tudor house, It is also a challenge for disabled persons and people with pushchairs/prams. Why it it a challenge? Why is this different to any other road junction. This could be improved by making an official crossing/zebra crossing</p> <p>Whilst current roadworks are on-going, the temporary closure of this exit has not caused any disturbance to businesses, so we feel that a permanent prohibition of driving will create a safer environment for all non-motorised users. Can you show the survey data on which this statement is based. Also, The disturbance to business is one factor to be considered. The closure of Luckely path and making Langborough road one way has caused considerable disturbance to residents of the Langborough area myself included as we have had to drive all the way round by the station to cross town.</p>	<p>temporary closure, there have been no additional reports of congestion from the surrounding road network.</p> <p>It is noted that some drivers will have to travel further however, as very low number of vehicles used Luckley Path before the temporary closure, we do not anticipate significant impact on surrounding road network or the environment.</p> <p>These proposals have been carefully considered by the elected members and other stakeholders to ensure the measures are betterment for the community. There have been no objections from any of the emergency services or local businesses in relation to the proposals.</p>
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	<p>This also assists in the pedestrian zone that is currently being created in the town centre. How does this assist a zone which is across Denmark St.</p> <p>I feel that no consultation with the local residents has been undertaken in this application and therefore it is not done in the best interests of people living on the town centre.</p>	
Object	<p>I am writing to object to the closure of Luckley Path. It appears that this idea is being suggested without any obvious assessment.</p> <p>I understand that the reasons cited include pollution and pedestrian safety. It is being suggested that <i>"Vehicles exiting Luckley Path cause congestion build up at busy times and can also block other vehicles trying to access Denmark Street via Market Place"</i></p> <p>However in reality the traffic flow down Peach Street has not previously been seriously impeded by this exit as cars from Luckley Path usually wait for the red signal at the pedestrian crossing to be let out amongst already stationary traffic. I would say rather that the pedestrian crossings throughout the town centre and traffic in Wellington Road and up Denmark Street cause more obstruction than that from Luckley Path.</p> <p>Also if there are more than a few cars waiting most residents will take another option anyway.</p>	<p>Although there are KEEP CLEAR road markings, vehicles exiting Luckley Path to continue towards Broad Street still block the lane access for traffic travelling towards Denmark Street, thus creating more congestion and problems with traffic flow.</p> <p>There have been 5 injury accidents in the previous 5 years at or within 20 metres of this junction.</p> <p>Denton Road and Sturges Road are less hazardous to all road users than Luckley Path as it has footways for pedestrians on both sides of the road, whereas Luckley Path has none. Since the implementation of the temporary closure, there have been no additional reports of congestion from the surrounding road network.</p> <p>It is noted that some drivers will have to travel further however, as a very low number of vehicles used Luckley Path before the temporary closure, we do not anticipate</p>

<p>The rational of avoiding accidents is not really made as even the police have acknowledged that there had not been any accidents at this point prior to its closure.</p> <p>What does not appear to have been considered is the effect on residents in the immediate vicinity for whom it is in fact a significant inconvenience or the longer journeys for all users of Sturges road including those for the school and church.</p> <p>This will clearly cause pollution in its own right and it is already plain to see that the traffic is having to detour around other roads so as to access the centre of town. It funnels instead up and down</p> <p>Easthampstead road with pressure point access in and out of Denton and Murdoch roads. The amount of traffic trying to exit from Easthampstead road on to Peach street was already problematic when Peach street was 2 lane and a return to that will make exiting more difficult than it currently is.</p> <p>The pollution is therefore created at those junctions and at the Easthampstead road egress into Peach street instead.</p> <p>I would ask if any traffic modelling has been done to explore the effect of the proposed closure of Luckley path and would welcome results of such modelling before any decision is taken.</p> <p>If none has been done, would it not make more sense to allow the road to reopen, carry out modelling and review the situation.</p>	<p>significant impact on surrounding road network or the environment.</p> <p>These proposals have been carefully considered by the elected members and other stakeholders to ensure the measures are betterment for the community. There have been no objections from any of the emergency services or local businesses in relation to the proposals.</p>
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	<p>I would point out also that the suggestion that no-one has objected to the closure does not mean we do not object .</p> <p>The closure was a sensible action to cope with the regeneration works and we could not object to that.</p> <p>Permanent closure is a very different matter and should have a more considered view than a few weeks of 'consultation'.</p> <p>I reiterate my view that this is closure is not being given sufficient exploration and oppose the closure on those grounds and at the least until more concrete evidence is available.</p>	
Object	<p>You've got to hand it to the council they are using every trick in the book to boost use of the white elephant car park at Carnival Pool. The permanent closure of Luckley Path means a long detour for anyone from the east of the town returning home from the car park, they can't park at the Paddocks as that is now closed, access to the Elms multi-storey will also require a long diversion once Elms Road is closed, Rose Street car park has gone and as for the former M&S one WBC has no plan (or if they have it's secret). Parking restrictions are being extended northwards along Wiltshire Road to prevent free parking and maybe elsewhere.</p> <p>Closing this historic route should NOT be for political expediency. There are no statistics to justify it on grounds of congestion. There are no statistics to prove that the temporary closure has not affected local trade. The closure will result in longer journeys on residential roads and create more congestion and of course more pollution.</p> <p>I strongly object to closing this road.</p>	<p>The primary reason for the closure of Luckley Path is to improve road safety for pedestrians. This also improves the traffic flow on Peach Street and thus reduces pollution.</p> <p>There have been 5 injury accidents in the previous 5 years at or within 20 metres of this junction</p> <p>Denton Road and Sturges Road are less hazardous to all road users than Luckley Path as it has footways for pedestrians on both sides of the road, whereas Luckley Path has none. Since the implementation of the temporary closure, there have been no additional reports of congestion from the surrounding road network.</p>

		<p>It is noted that some drivers will have to travel further however, as very low number of vehicles used Luckley Path before the temporary closure, we do not anticipate significant impact on surrounding road network or the environment.</p> <p>These proposals have been carefully considered by the elected members and other stakeholders to ensure the measures are betterment for the community. There have been no objections from any of the emergency services or local businesses in relation to the proposals.</p>
Objects	<p>I wish to object to the pointless and unjustified proposed closure of Luckley Path. Does the Council have the agenda of making life increasingly tiresome for its residents - based on this proposal it certainly appears so. The path has always been open to cars so what has changed to justify residents locally and Cockpit car park users in particularly, being forced to drive 600m through narrow local roads and past both sides of the fire station, instead of 50m to gain access to the town centre. The proposal has no concrete analysis to back it up - closing any road in Wokingham centre would obviously make it easier for pedestrians but surely there has to be some evidence of a net benefit to residents at large. As for businesses not being affected by such a closure, this is an insult to our intelligence - how could that be judged, given the overwhelming impact of the chaos caused by the Council's attempt to beautify the market square. Nothing in the proposal seems to have given any thought to the impact on the local residents of the streets around the area.</p>	<p>The primary reason for the closure of Luckley Path is to improve road safety for pedestrians. This closure, also improves the traffic flow on Peach Street, thus reduce pollution.</p> <p>There have been 5 injury accidents in the previous 5 years at or within 20 metres of this junction</p> <p>Denton Road and Sturges Road are less hazardous to all road users than Luckley Path as it has footways for pedestrians on both sides of the road, whereas Luckley Path has none. Since the implementation of the temporary closure, there have been no additional reports of congestion from the surrounding road network.</p>

		<p>It is noted that some drivers will have to travel further however, as very low number of vehicles used Luckley Path before the temporary closure, we do not anticipate significant impact on surrounding road network or the environment.</p> <p>These proposals have been carefully considered by the elected members and other stakeholders to ensure the measures are betterment for the community. There have been no objections from any of the emergency services or local businesses in relation to the proposals.</p>
<p>Object</p>	<p>When Luckley Path was recently closed because of the road restrictions on Peach Street, we were told that it would open again in a few months and so users would have put up with that inconvenience during the disruptions in the town. However to close it permanently is a very different decision and for no reason that bears inspection. What concerns me about this decision is that it appears to be an opportunist action and not supported by quantified evidence.</p> <p>To my knowledge there have been no accidents to either vehicles or pedestrians at this useful junction and it has worked safely for many years to the benefit of residents south of the town. The traffic flow down Peach Street has not been impeded by this exit as cars from Luckley Path usually wait for the red signal at the pedestrian crossing to be let out amongst already stationary traffic – it's these traffic lights if anything that cause the traffic disruption . Closure of this junction will mean that more traffic from this area will need to join Easthampstead Road opposite Page's Croft or via Denton Road and then interrupt the flowing traffic at Peach Street earlier, which will cause</p>	<p>The primary reason for the closure of Luckley Path is to improve road safety for pedestrians. This closure, also improves the traffic flow on Peach Street, thus reduces pollution.</p> <p>There have been 5 injury accidents in the previous 5 years at or within 20 metres of this junction</p> <p>Denton Road and Sturges Road are less hazardous to all road users than Luckley Path as it has footways for pedestrians on both sides of the road, whereas Luckley Path has none. Since the implementation of the temporary closure, there have been no additional reports of congestion from the surrounding road network.</p> <p>It is noted that some drivers will have to travel further however, as very low number of</p>

	<p>greater disruption and congestion. I would be interested to see what if any traffic modelling is behind this decision. Frankly I think we've had enough of the road closures in town and just want to get back to normal as soon as possible without thinking of other schemes to shut access and create more diversions. The right order for doing this is surely to leave Luckley Path open and wait until the Southern Distributor Route is completed, when we have been assured that the town through-traffic should be reduced significantly (by up to 80% has been stated). Only then should WBC measure traffic flow and decide whether further action is needed on safety grounds.</p> <p>On the above basis I oppose the proposed closure of Luckley Path.</p>	<p>vehicles used Luckley Path before the temporary closure, we do not anticipate significant impact on surrounding road network or the environment.</p> <p>These proposals have been carefully considered by the elected members and other stakeholders to ensure the measures are betterment for the community. There have been no objections from any of the emergency services or local businesses in relation to the proposals.</p>
<p>Object</p>	<p>I live in Murdoch Road and the use of Luckley Path from Sturgess Rd into Peach/Broad St s is vital to us to reach Waitrose and disabled parking bays We have managed a significant detour for a year now with its environmental consequences With the pedestrian crossing/traffic lights at the top of Denmark street with the keep clear area as access there is no affect on the traffic flow There have been no accidents because of the access Please do not close Luckley Path and create a new area for young people to hang about in Kind regards. Philip Robinson</p>	<p>The primary reason for the closure of Luckley Path is to improve road safety for pedestrians. This closure, also improves the traffic flow on Peach Street, thus reduces pollution.</p> <p>There have been 5 injury accidents in the previous 5 years at or within 20 metres of this junction</p> <p>Denton Road and Sturges Road are less hazardous to all road users than Luckley Path as it has footways for pedestrians on both sides of the road, whereas Luckley Path has none. Since the implementation of the temporary closure, there have been no additional reports of congestion from the surrounding road network.</p>

		<p>It is noted that some drivers will have to travel further however, as very low number of vehicles used Luckley Path before the temporary closure, we do not anticipate significant impact on surrounding road network or the environment.</p> <p>These proposals have been carefully considered by the elected members and other stakeholders to ensure the measures are betterment for the community. There have been no objections from any of the emergency services or local businesses in relation to the proposals.</p>
Object	<p>As residents of Wokingham based in South Drive we object to the closure of Luckley Path to vehicles on the basis that we do not consider that any of the reasons in the statement of reasons are accurate or supported by evidence:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The statement claims that the closure will improve pedestrian safety. We have used both Luckley Path and Peach Street as drivers and pedestrians and can see no evidence for this. In our experience drivers are cautious when exiting Luckley Path and are very aware of pedestrians; drivers and pedestrians behave reasonably and politely. We note that the statement of reasons does not quote examples of injury to pedestrians and suspect that is because no-one has actually suffered injury. To the extent that the Traffic Management Team has perceived concerns about safety, this could easily be addressed by a stop sign just before the pavement, and by slight 	<p>The primary reason for the closure of Luckley Path is to improve road safety for pedestrians. This closure, also improves the traffic flow on Peach Street, thus reduces pollution.</p> <p>There have been 5 injury accidents in the previous 5 years at or within 20 metres of this junction</p> <p>Denton Road and Sturges Road are less hazardous to all road users than Luckley Path as it has footways for pedestrians on both sides of the road, whereas Luckley Path has none. Since the implementation of the temporary closure, there have been no additional reports of congestion from the surrounding road network.</p>

	<p>alterations to the pavement on Peach Street either side of Luckley Path that would make pedestrians more aware that vehicles are exiting that road.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> . The statement claims that vehicles existing Luckley path cause congestion build up at busy times and block other vehicles trying to access Denmark Street. Again, in our experience of over 20 years of using both roads, the congestion is caused by other factors, in particular timing of the pedestrian crossings. In addition, our experience is that if there is temporary congestion on the Broad Street branch and not the Denmark Street branch, drivers in the Broad Street lane of Peach Street are usually very accommodating to drivers exiting Luckley Path. . The statement claims that closing the road to vehicles will “improve...the appearance” of Wokingham town centre. This is a matter of opinion and one that we and many other residents do not share – we do not consider that there is sufficient evidence of an improvement in appearance to justify the closure of a well-established right of way. . The statement claims that the temporary closure of the exit has not caused disturbance to businesses. Given the huge disruption to businesses caused by the current town centre works (which in our opinion has been exacerbated by their poor sequencing and management), we do not consider that the Traffic Management Team are able to judge whether the closure of Luckley Path has added to this disruption. We also do not see why the fact that businesses have not been disturbed should carry 	<p>It is noted that some drivers will have to travel further however, as very low number of vehicles used Luckley Path before the temporary closure, we do not anticipate significant impact on surrounding road network or the environment.</p> <p>These proposals have been carefully considered by the elected members and other stakeholders to ensure the measures are betterment for the community. There have been no objections from any of the emergency services or local businesses in relation to the proposals.</p>
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	<p>any particular weight – the issue is also one of inconvenience to residents which we list below.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">. The statement claims that the closure will assist with the pedestrian zone which is being created in the town centre. There is no evidence for this assertion. Peach Street, Denmark Street and Broad Street will remain open. Luckley Path is on the other side of Peach Street from the pedestrian zone – closing the road will have no effect on the pedestrian zone. <p>.</p> <p>We consider that the closure will have the following detrimental effects:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">. Since the closure most traffic to the south of the town centre wanting to go to the north or west of the town (such as from us to Waitrose) has had to go via Langborough Road, Carnival Pool Roundabout and, with the new changed road layout, via the station with the following effects:<ul style="list-style-type: none">o During the period of closure we have found this route to be frequently congested. Any small disruption – volume of traffic, cars blocking the station whilst they are trying to pick up or drop off, a break down or road works on Finchampstead Road – has caused a significant traffic jam. The closure of Luckley Path has meant that cars have not been able to escape. The result in our view has been a significant additional volume of traffic on the circular route, and an increase in pollution caused by idling cars.o Langborough Road is unsuitable for the volumes of traffic that use it. This proposal	
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	<p>will add to the volume of cars using that road to the detriment of residents and pedestrians using the road.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Drivers have to travel a considerable additional distance to visit Waitrose, significantly adding to the volume of cars that have to go via the station, which is not well designed as a through road because of the lay by that drivers use to drop off and pick up passengers. · The alternative route is for drivers to use Denton Road or Murdoch Road to enter Peach Street – this adds to the volume of traffic on Denton Road and Easthampstead and will simply move congestion caused by existing vehicles, to the extent it exists, further up Peach Street. · The proposed works to the bottom of Denmark Street will cause further disruption to long suffering residents – closing Luckley Path now will deny them a way of mitigating the disruption that the ongoing works will cause. · The closure of Luckley Path will lead to delivery vehicles using the road to park causing difficulties for pedestrians seeking to use the road. There has been evidence of this during the temporary closure. 	
Object	<p>When Luckley Path was recently closed because of the road restrictions on Peach Street, we were told that it would open again in a few months and so users would have put up with that inconvenience during the disruptions in the town. However to close it permanently is a very different decision and for no reason that bears inspection. What concerns me about this decision is that</p>	<p>The primary reason for the closure of Luckley Path is to improve road safety for pedestrians. This closure, also improves the traffic flow on Peach Street, thus reduces pollution.</p>

	<p>it appears to be an opportunist action and not supported by quantified evidence.</p> <p>To my knowledge there have been no accidents to either vehicles or pedestrians at this useful junction and it has worked safely for many years to the benefit of residents south of the town. The traffic flow down Peach Street has not been impeded by this exit as cars from Luckley Path usually wait for the red signal at the pedestrian crossing to be let out amongst already stationary traffic – it's these traffic lights if anything that cause the traffic disruption . Closure of this junction will mean that more traffic from this area will need to join Easthampstead Road opposite Page's Croft or via Denton Road and then interrupt the flowing traffic at Peach Street earlier, which will cause greater disruption and congestion. I would be interested to see what if any traffic modelling is behind this decision.</p> <p>Frankly I think we've had enough of the road closures in town and just want to get back to normal as soon as possible without thinking of other schemes to shut access and create more diversions. The right order for doing this is surely to leave Luckley Path open and wait until the Southern Distributor Route is completed, when we have been assured that the town through-traffic should be reduced significantly (by up to 80% has been stated). Only then should WBC measure traffic flow and decide whether further action is needed on safety grounds.</p> <p>On the above basis I oppose the proposed closure of Luckley Path.</p>	<p>There have been 5 injury accidents in the previous 5 years at or within 20 metres of this junction</p> <p>Denton Road and Sturges Road are less hazardous to all road users than Luckley Path as it has footways for pedestrians on both sides of the road, whereas Luckley Path has none. Since the implementation of the temporary closure, there have been no additional reports of congestion from the surrounding road network.</p> <p>It is noted that some drivers will have to travel further however, as very low number of vehicles used Luckley Path before the temporary closure, we do not anticipate significant impact on surrounding road network or the environment.</p> <p>These proposals have been carefully considered by the elected members and other stakeholders to ensure the measures are betterment for the community. There have been no objections from any of the emergency services or local businesses in relation to the proposals.</p>
Object	With regards to the proposal to permanently close Luckley Path to through traffic.	The primary reason for the closure of Luckley Path is to improve road safety for

	<p>As a resident of Sturges Road for 40 Years I would like voice my objection to this proposal. When the road was closed for the redevelopment of the town centre it was my understanding that this was a temporary measure.</p> <p>I see that this proposal is on the grounds of safety but I would be very interested to know of any statistics to back this up. Have there in fact been any incidents involving cars and pedestrians where Luckley Path meets Peach Street. I certainly am not aware of any in all my years here.</p> <p>By closing Luckley Path you are only going to divert through traffic either down Denton Road and Easthampstead Road (pass the Fire Station, which can't be a good idea) or down Langborough Road, which everyone knows is already a bottle neck at the best of times.</p> <p>I trust that this proposal will be carefully considered.</p>	<p>pedestrians. This closure, also improves the traffic flow on Peach Street, thus reduces pollution.</p> <p>There have been 5 injury accidents in the previous 5 years at or within 20 metres of this junction</p> <p>Denton Road and Sturges Road are less hazardous to all road users than Luckley Path as it has footways for pedestrians on both sides of the road, whereas Luckley Path has none. Since the implementation of the temporary closure, there have been no additional reports of congestion from the surrounding road network.</p> <p>It is noted that some drivers will have to travel further however, as very low number of vehicles used Luckley Path before the temporary closure, we do not anticipate significant impact on surrounding road network or the environment.</p> <p>These proposals have been carefully considered by the elected members and other stakeholders to ensure the measures are betterment for the community. There have been no objections from any of the emergency services or local businesses in relation to the proposals.</p>
Object	I am writing to register my objection to the proposed closure of the road junction at the end of Luckley path as it joins Denmark Street.	The primary reason for the closure of Luckley Path is to improve road safety for pedestrians. This closure, also improves the

	<p>As a resident of Sturges Road (town centre, joined to Luckley path), I have already been suffering the impact of having this junction closed and am very much looking forward to it being re-opened.</p> <p>With the junction closed my only options for getting to Waitrose by car (which I do regularly for large shops), will either be via Langborough Road or Easthampstead Road. Both roads are already very congested and forcing even more local traffic to use them is unnecessary when we have a perfectly good junction at the end of Luckley Path.</p> <p>I have lived in Sturges Road for the last 20 years and so can address some of the points you have made which are incorrect:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Vehicles exiting Luckley Path cause congestion build up at busy times and can also block other vehicles trying to access Denmark Street via Market Place. <p>This is incorrect. The congestion is caused by the 2 sets of traffic lights on Denmark Street and Broad Street, which are in constant use by pedestrians during busy times. The traffic always moves very slowly past the end of the Luckley Path junction and it is therefore quite easy to merge in with this slow moving traffic. If there are occasions where a car moving across to the right hand lane, blocks for a minute or two the flow of traffic in the left hand lane, then they are only being held up from joining the traffic queue progressing down Denmark Street, so really has no impact on their overall journey.</p>	<p>traffic flow on Peach Street, thus reduces pollution.</p> <p>There have been 5 injury accidents in the previous 5 years at or within 20 metres of this junction</p> <p>Denton Road and Sturges Road are less hazardous to all road users than Luckley Path as it has footways for pedestrians on both sides of the road, whereas Luckley Path has none. Since the implementation of the temporary closure, there have been no additional reports of congestion from the surrounding road network.</p> <p>It is noted that some drivers will have to travel further however, as very low number of vehicles used Luckley Path before the temporary closure, we do not anticipate significant impact on surrounding road network or the environment.</p> <p>These proposals have been carefully considered by the elected members and other stakeholders to ensure the measures are betterment for the community. There have been no objections from any of the emergency services or local businesses in relation to the proposals.</p>
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	<p>2. due to the narrowness of the road and building alignments alongside it, this makes it difficult for pedestrians to see oncoming vehicles.</p> <p>Having lived in Sturges Road for 20 years I have also crossed this junction many times. Both pedestrians and drivers approach the junction with care and I have never witnessed or experienced anything that has made me concerned for pedestrians safety at this junction. I think a road sign for drivers approaching the junction would be adequate, 'Drive slowly. pedestrians crossing'.</p> <p>3. It is also a challenge for disabled persons and people with pushchairs/prams.</p> <p>The way this junction works is typically as cars approach they are looking out for pedestrians and if any are visible, the cars tend to hold back and allow them to cross. This junction is much safer for disabled persons and people with prams to cross than the Easthampstead Road junction, a little further down the road. If they have managed to get across that - I usually have to run myself - then the Luckley Path junction will be a lot easier.</p> <p>So to sum up, your reasons for closing the junction are incorrect and by closing the junction you will be forcing a lot of local town centre residents to use two very congested alternative routes. Please consider the needs of your local residents, not only people who are just looking to drive through as quickly as possible.</p>	
<p>Supports</p>	<p>I'd like to give my support to this Traffic Regulation Order that is looking to permanently close Luckley Path.</p>	

	I agree with the reasons that WBC have given and see the benefits of the closure outweigh the benefit of it being open.	
Supports	<p>A good move.</p> <p>Better that a few residents of Sturges and Crescent Roads (includes me) are inconvenienced by having to use Easthampstead Road for the benefit of the majority of traffic being unimpeded on the main road, Peach Street.</p> <p>However, Easthampstead Road will then take more traffic, northbound, so suggest attending to lane control on Peach Street between the Ship and Easthampstead Road junction: Left lane must turn left and right lane must go straight on (left lane to be obstructed at Easthampstead Road junction).</p> <p>(Would have worked better if you could have closed Cross Street but that is not possible now with the new Broad Street/Rose Street junction layout but may still be worth considering.)</p>	
Supports	<p>This Path is in Wescott Ward. As one of the two Councillors elected for this ward I confirm my full support for the permanent closure to vehicles of Luckley Path.</p> <p>I hope that the entrance can be integrated into the Market Place refurbishment project.</p>	
Supports	The temporary closure of Luckley Path onto Peach Street has greatly improved safety for pedestrians and causes little inconvenience for car drivers.	

	<p>A successful trial period of many months has proved this to be so.</p> <p>Once the current major disruption of work to Wokingham town centre road system is complete, the permanent closure of this access for cars should improve traffic flow on Peach Street.</p> <p>I am in favour of this closure becoming permanent.</p>	
Supports	<p>I support the closure of Luckley Path to vehicles for the reasons that you give. However, I would suggest that Goatley Way (which is non-residential) is promoted/signposted as the main way for traffic coming from Peach Street to access Cockpit Path car park to reduce the pressure on Denton Road as this is a residential street. Goatley Way also has a turn right sign at the end (where it meets Luckley Path) so this, along with the ahead only sign on Luckley Path, will need to be removed.</p>	
Supports	<p>I am in favour of Luckley Path remaining closed to vehicles for several reasons:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Luckley Path has been closed for one year with no apparent problems, but with benefits to pedestrians. 2 It is better for pedestrians walking along Peach Street/Market Place not to have traffic crossing their path and interrupting the pedestrian flow at what is already a narrow pavement area. Vehicles exiting Luckley Path have to edge out across the path of pedestrians in order to see what road traffic there is, and when it is clear for them to enter Peach Street/Market Place. 	

3. The pavement in Luckley Path is narrow by the side of M&Co and pedestrians will risk being hit if Luckley Path is reopened to vehicles.
4. The only legal pedestrian exit from Luckley Path will be through the private passage by M&Co.
5. The road width is restricted at the exit from Luckley Path and vehicles regularly hit the bollards installed to protect the Subway window.
6. Taking into account the above problems, opening up Luckley Path to pedestrians only would enhance the appearance of that area and it can be integrated into the Market Place refurbishments taking place.
7. Cars generally have to wait in Luckley Path to enter Market Place either for a gap or for a car to stop and let them out. Either way engines are left running and the air is polluted. Cars giving way also hold up traffic which increases the queues and pollution in Peach Street.
8. The Air Pollution work undertaken by the Council recommends that Luckley Path be permanently closed to vehicles. Anything that can be done to reduce pollution in the town centre (which is at an unacceptably high level) should be encouraged.

There are a few who would like Luckley Path to be reopened to vehicles to provide them with a short cut into the Market Place. In my opinion it is far better for these vehicles to enter Peach Street via Murdoch Road and Easthampstead Road where proper provisions are made for pedestrians and all vehicle sizes.

I do not think keeping Luckley Path closed is enough, however, and I believe the whole traffic flow through the town centre and the pedestrian controlled lights need reassessing. I would be happy to expand on my ideas to

	achieve a better flow of traffic through the town centre and reduce pollution levels.	
Supports	<p>Your letter dated 28th March 2018 refers In reply as one of the owner occupiers @ 1 Peach Street with direct frontage to the proposed closure area I would like to make the following observations :</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) The closure area as proposed leaves insufficient room for delivery vehicles using Luckley path as a drop off point for nearby retailers 2) This is already proving a problem with the temporary blockade in place as said drivers are using what remains open of Luckley path for this purpose and in doing so are frequently blocking totally all access to the car park at the rear of our building (where there are eight spaces) <p>This being the case can we request this be duly taken into account and accommodated accordingly Otherwise for the record I have no objection to the proposal going ahead</p>	
Supports	<p>With reference to the consultation for the closure of Luckley Path, Wokingham I have the following observations -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> . Luckley Path is currently closed due to the ongoing regeneration of Wokingham town centre and has not caused any issues. . I understand that vehicles using Luckley Path enter Peach Street and cause further congestion at periods of high traffic flow. . The sight lines for pedestrians is very limited due to the alignment of the buildings in Peach Street 	

and, if vehicles are waiting at the junction to enter Peach Street, this will impact the pedestrian flow and may cause pedestrians to enter the live carriageway to pass vehicles. *See photo below*



- . In the last five years there have five been injury collisions at or near this junction. It is not clear if any of these collisions are attributable to vehicles waiting to exit Luckley Path onto Denmark Street, however it is clear that 3 of them involve LGV's travelling on Peach Street that have struck pedestrians with their wing mirrors.
- . The current proposal is to close Luckley Path from the junction of Peach Street for a distance of 22 metres and prevent vehicular traffic entering

	<p>the road, allowing vehicles with exemptions access through collapsible bollards.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> . I am concerned that if the closure is not self-enforcing that an undue burden may be placed on the police by way of enforcement of any breaches to the closure, especially motorcycles. This combined with the poor view for pedestrians on the pavement who would not be expecting vehicles to emerge from the road, may actually put pedestrians in this area at greater risk. . Whilst Thames Valley Police will make no objection to this proposal I would advise that if the risk of vehicles, primarily two wheeled, is not 'engineered out', enforcement will be a very low priority for the police. 	
<p>Supports</p>	<p>We have lived in South Drive, Wokingham for over 30 years. We both regularly walk into the town centre via Luckley Path and, when it was open to traffic, drove into the centre via this route. As drivers we found it awkward to exit by this route and potentially dangerous to pedestrians. Whilst it would be slightly less convenient to drive into the centre if Luckley Path was closed we consider that such slight inconvenience is greatly outweighed by safety considerations. We also consider that the closure would improve traffic flow.</p> <p>We, therefore, support the permanent closure of Luckley Path.</p>	

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Consultation Comments – Luckley Path
Appendix 2

1= Support, 2= Objects

Q1	Q2
1	Why not
1	Although during the regeneration works traffic has been severely disrupted, I do not believe that Luckley Path has contributed to this. Moreover traffic exiting Luckley Path under normal road routing causes hold ups on Peach Street. If the problem can be resolved do do.
1	Traffic from Luckley Path into Peach Street had to wrestle with traffic from the right (which is in 2 lanes) as well as being aware of pedestrians crossing. Highly dangerous to both drivers and pedestrians. Also prohibited left turn from Goatley Way into Luckley Path was regularly flouted and was an accident waiting to happen. Closure should have been done years ago!
1	Safety reasons. There would need to be proper enforcement of the use of Goatley Way though as during the temporary closure period traffic is frequently turning left towards Denton Road.
1	to reduce the traffic in the local roads and ensure Peach Street traffic moves better
1	As a resident living just to the south of Luckley Path I have considerable experience, extending over many decades, in using Luckley Path to exit into the town centre as a motorist and in crossing Luckley Path as a pedestrian. As a motorist I found it difficult and potentially dangerous to exit into the centre of town as a result of the narrowness of the road, attempting to cross two lanes of traffic whilst being careful to avoid crossing pedestrians. As a pedestrian I have found it can be difficult and potentially dangerous to cross Luckley Path. In order to see whether it is safe to pull out motorists have to pull out and block the path of pedestrians. Now that Luckley Path is closed I find It no great hardship to use alternative routes and as a pedestrian I find the area much safer. I strongly support the proposal to permanently close Luckley Path - my views are based on many years of usage as a motorist and pedestrian

1	<p>As a resident inconvenienced by the temporary closure of Luckley Path, the traffic has now got much heavier on Easthampstead Road and Denton Road throughout the day which has slowed journey times considerably, increasing it by upto 10-15 minutes as we wait to join the flow of traffic in the town centre. It is especially bad at the moment with the closure of 2 way traffic in Langborough Road and closure of Denmark street. Having used Luckley Path in the past to access the town centre traffic flow, the use of Keep Clear road markings meant little improvement in being able to join the traffic flow safely. Often this would mean moving halfway out into the centre of the lane leading to Denmark Street to move over to get into Peach Street, which ultimately slows both traffic lanes down. However, I do not agree that Luckley Paths is the only factor in creating congestion in the town centre, and would ask consideration of sychronising the traffic lights between the lights outside the town hall and the lights at the Post Office. As soon as the pedestrian crossing is returned to red and cars are given the green to go, often, the Post Office traffic lights subsequently turn to red causing traffic to stop again. This is particularly bad at the moment with temporary traffic lights outside the town hall (as the time for activation on this crossing is now far too long), but the same situation was arising with the permanent traffic lights in place. If the lights were sychronised to stop together, the traffic would surely flow better? In addition, the reconfiguration of the Rose Street junction with Broad Street also slows traffic as cars stop to let traffic infront of them depsite the Give Way markings. Rather than a Give Way junction, perhaps consideration should have been given to traffic lights at this junction, not only to reduce its use as a rat run avoiding town centre queuing, but to provide a safer crossing for pedestrians between Clarks and NATWEST. Denton Road is not really a safe alternative for larger volumes of traffic, due to the double bends in the road, and lack of visibility that results from this. Also, the number of parked cars on the left entering the junction by the Denton Vetinary Surgey also causes issues when vehicles need to pass. It is also being used as a rat run to avoid lengthy queuing in Easthampstead Road (queues happening throughout the day) during the ongoing closure of Denmark Street/Lanborough Road. I only support the closure of the road if the flow of traffic can be improved through the town centre, to enable us to join the town centre traffic from Easthampstead Road more efficiently. The reason being that although many residents in the local press say it is a safe junction (which on the whole I have used safely for 5 years). On 2 occasions, I have almost come into contact with pedestrians who are not looking out for cars emerging from the junction, and due to the width restriction, often squeeze behind (through the bollards) or infront of the emerging cars by walking in the road whilst cars are waiting to join Peach Street/Denmark Street. Although inconvenient in the long term, the high street pedestrian safety gain I think is a very important one.</p>
1	Traffic through the town moves much better
1	As a pedestrian, the town centre has felt too dangerous prior to the roadworks with unnecessary advantages to motorists. The town centre will be more pleasant to use with limited access for cars. It also means that the traffic situation on the junction between Denton Road and the Cockpit Car Park will be easier to navigate.
1	It was always awkward trying to turn out of Luckley Path into Peach Street and dangerous for pedestrians. The extra time taken for vehicles to travel via Denton Road and Easthampstead Road is trivial. The look of the area will be improved - perhaps consider an ornamental iron fence across the road between M&Co and Subway
1	The traffic coming out of Luckley Path is always a hazard and an impediment to pedestrians along Peach Street. If permanently closed the path could be developed as an attractive area leading to the car park and the public garden beyond.

1	Traffic emerging from Luckley path used to be a real problem for pedestrians and did not help traffic flow in Peach Street. If closed to traffic the path area could be very attractively developed and would help Wokingham become a user and pedestrian friendly town.
1	Hazard to pedestrians and delays traffic when people pull out of Luckley path
1	Closing makes sense as I think it will help with traffic flow through town and i think it is a dangerous pedestrian crossing.
1	Over the past 50 years, the Town Centre has become progressively more and more difficult to get through. The nature of Luckley path has changed from benevolent cut-through to get home to the west - into a pernicious outlet where cars and vans put pedestrians at risk and block one lane of traffic much of the time, frequently two lanes.
1	The road is very narrow and unsuitable for pedestrians and cars at the same time. One if the offices opens directly on to the road. The alternative route only extends your journey by a minute or two at the most. When cars turn out of luckley path on to the main road it often blocks the lane on traffic heading for Denmark street. Pedestrianise it
1	As a powered wheelchair user it will be less dangerous to use a wider approach to Peach street rather than the narrow footpath. However the temporary blockade leaves too narrow a gap to be of use to me, make the gaps wider please.
1	Traffic flow around the side of M&Co has improved. Pedestrians are in less danger as are drivers who try to push into the main traffic flow trying to get out of Luckley Path. My only concern is it has, and will continue, to enhance problems for traffic coming out of Easthampstead Road to join the main flow of traffic. That junction needs some thought.
1	To reduce congestion; improve pedestrian safety along Luckley Path and particularly Peach Street, where previously cars coming out of Luckley Path blocked pedestrians as they pushed forward to see the vehicle traffic, and then blocked traffic as they entered into the Market Place; contribute to reducing air pollution; avoid re-establishing a short cut for residents of a few local roads.
1	I support this with certain provisos. As a resident of Denton Road I suggest in the light of backing up on Easthampstead Road that there should be a keep road clear area at the end of Denton Road. It is also essential that a similar area should be designated on Peach Street at the junction with Easthampstead Road, as was the case at the end of Luckley Path. This will enable residents who live to the south of Peach Street to safely access the one Way system.
1	It has always been a nightmare trying to get on to Peach Street and dangerous for anyone trying to cross from adjacent footpaths. Since it has been closed I haven't heard anyone local complain. any one complain.
1	It would make it safer and easier for pedestrians walking in that part of town if it was closed to traffic.
1	It is seldom used by motorists and when it was it was difficult to see clearly pedestrians and motorists when turning left at the main road.
1	safety. traffic flow
1	it reduces the incentive for thoughtless, speeding drivers to race along the backstreets of wokingham. It makes it safer for pedestrians to cross from Denton Road to the voting hall and the park
1	walking along the footpath is an awful lot safer with it closed - it may have been used as a short cut for some drivers but that doesn't mean that it's a good idea to open it and it certainly doesn't mean that it's safe for pedestrians to open it

1	I believe that it had a dangerous junction. I always tried to avoid using it because there was no view of approaching pedestrians when trying to emerge into Peach Street. You just had to edge slowly forward and hope that people on the pavement were aware that traffic might be there.
1	Reduced traffic in Sturges Rd
1	As a regular visitor to Wokingham town centre, I have used Luckley Path before and after the temporary closure. I have found the temporary closure to be considerably safer for pedestrians. In addition, it has encouraged me to walk from Market Place/Broad Street towards Peach Street, to visit the shops and restaurants there. Permanently closing Luckely Path will make walking around the town more pleasant, safer and healthier (through reduced emissions being released from cars that would have otherwise used this route).
1	Whilst I am happy with the idea in principal as the joint owner of 1 Peach Street we have experienced major disruption in gaining access to our adjacent car park due to delivery vehicles constantly parking next to the temporary concrete bollards and preventing us from getting into or out of it.If the closure is to be made permanent then it is critical that steps are taken to prevent this happening by limiting access perhaps to those with rights to park in our car park - essentially us our tenants and our visitors.If this is not done you will be leaving us with a permanent problem. S E Griffin Pennicott Chartered Surveyors 1 Peach Street Wokingham
1	
1	Although it will undoubtedly add to the traffic along Easthampstead Road/Peach Street or Langborough Road/Station Approach/Broad Street it will eliminate potential hazards for pedestrians and reduce build up of fumes from waiting cars in this enclosed space.
1	
1	Even though I live in Denton Road and have regularly used Luckley Road to access the route through town, I agree with this proposal. It will be an appropriate measure for a safer environment. I am pleased to see that invalid carriages will be exempt. It will also prevent motorists from using Denton Road as a rat run.
1	It will help cars and pedestrians move along Peach Street easier. I acknowledge that certain business my experience slightly longer journeys but on balance I believe the benefits out weigh this.
1	It is safer for pedestrians
1	It was dangerous to cross the road before
1	Seems like a good idea.
1	Good idea as it always was a pain for cars to get out.
1	It got too congested
1	Safer for people
1	It has always been a pain to get out, causing traffic jams.
1	Vehicle traffic makes it unsafe for pedestrians.
1	Better safety for pedestrians.
1	It makes sense, safety wise, but I hope there are some good alternative plans for traffic coming from the formerly accessible areas.
1	It would be safer for pedestrians.
1	I think there has been less accidents from that area as it is dangerous when vehicles join the traffic on the main road. I am all for closing the Path.
1	Helps with traffic
1	Safer for pedestrians
1	Don't drive pedestrianising a good idea

1	Easier for pedestrians
1	Cars blocking traffic, put some plant tubs
1	Traffic flows better
1	Safer
1	Flow of traffic
1	No need holds up traffic
1	Safer
1	
1	Dangerous,
1	Was a pain before
1	
1	Annoying when open
1	Difficult getting out
1	Too much mess with cars
1	Whole town centre pedestrianised
1	Pain with traffic coming out onto junction blocking road.
1	Nightmare to get out bad for pedestrians
1	Nicer for pedestrians since been closed
1	Alternative ways for traffic and previously blocked traffic and will be better for pedestrians
1	Used as a rat run so safer
1	Better for pedestrians
1	Cars regularly blocked the road making it difficult to cross as i have mobility problems
1	As much as I have used it in the past and miss doing so now there is too much risk to pedestrians who sometimes just walk out. It would be better served to be a pedestrian only route in to the town centre.
1	It would be safer for pedestrians if it were closed.
1	Dangerous for cars pulling out
1	Was hard to get out, keep traffic flowing
1	Causes problems for pedestrians
1	Better without traffic, not very user friendly to cars
1	Traffic would flow better in town
1	Safer without traffic
1	Through flow of traffic would be better
1	Safer
1	Helps our business not having traffic outside
1	More traffic flow
1	It is a bad through road to begin with
1	Having open to traffic doesn't give a benefit to anyone, traffic through town is the main issue but closing this road won't help that
1	It clogs up the town center with traffic trying to exit it and is dangerous for pedestrians. I have had several near misses with vehicles where the driver is looking for a gap in the traffic in Peach street and not looking at the pedestrians.
1	Traffic flows better without It, remove parking from Langborough Road and give them parking behind the library
1	People been hit by cars
1	Increase safety and flow of traffic

1	Causes a hold up and not necessary, safer for pedestrians
1	Better for pedestrians and getting from car park and make it an attractive walkway.
1	
1	Dangerous for pedestrians people drove down quite quickly
1	Awkward for cars
1	Been closed for so long found another way round
1	Less traffic coming through
1	Moving out of the area so doesn't bother me
1	Dangerous when pulling out looking right and people walk across from the left
1	Stops using the rat runs to get to town centre
1	Causes a bottleneck, dangerous for pram and not missed it while closed
1	Worrying for cars and pedestrians as cars come down it quickly so would support closure
1	So congested nice to be able to walk somewhere
1	Difficult to get through and feeding more traffic onto main road
1	Least traffic pushed through town centre then better
1	Difficult to get out
1	Hard to get out before
1	Dangerous
1	Very difficult to get out
1	Better for pedestrians and difficult to out
1	Other ways round
1	Causes people to cut through residential roads as a shortcut
1	Nightmare getting out and it's only a short way to go around, also it's bad for pedestrians when open
1	Live locally just as easy to go down Denton road, make it look better if you close it
1	Safer for it to stay closed
1	Safer
1	The exit for this road is just before pedestrian crossings on both Denmark Street and Peach Street. When lights are red, some vehicles try to cross over lanes to get into traffic lane for Reading/Bracknell. This causes unnecessary congestion and is a hazard for pedestrians.
1	because of the behaviour of selfish and arrogant motorists bullying pedestrians and other road users
1	Less to no traffic along Luckley Path, good for pedestrians.
1	This road has always been a hazard for pedestrians walking through the centre on this side.
1	I have used this path most days as a resident of Sturges Road for nearly 22 years as both a pedestrian and motorist. I support the closure on the grounds of safety for both pedestrians and motorists. There is a danger for pedestrians along Peach Street and also for motorists meeting oncoming traffic exiting the service road by turning left instead of right. I understand that the resulting increase in traffic along Langborough Road would eventually be reduced by other road improvements around the town. I fully support this proposal.
2	It has been a useful road for decades. To my knowledge its use has not caused any problems. Why change something that has served the town well.
2	This the most direct route for me to drive via the centre of Wokingham. Anything else involves a detour and is currently exacerbated by the one way system at the end of Langborough Rd/bottom of Denmark St.

2	<p>As a long term resident of Howard Road - Luckley Path provides us with access to the town centre. Otherwise we have to go down Denton Road which is effectively one way due to the parking there and access via Eadhampstead Road which has long queues and often is obstructed by service vehicles parking at the town end. Then we have to try to filter in to the quite fast moving stream of traffic in Peach Street. With the keep clear that was by the exit from Luckley Path and the flow of pedestrians causing the lights to stop traffic it was perfectly easy to filter in. You state that the current closure has not caused problems for businesses - why would it. The problem is for the drivers who have had a miserable few months - particularly if they live near to the town centre - trying to find a way around the town. If your plan years ago - 45 years ago in fact when we chose to move to the then delightful little market town - had been to pedestrianise the town centre and ban vehicles completely - that would have been good. Even then the idea of a Southern Distributor Road around the Clay Lane was being mooted. Getting there but far too slowly and after all traffic is increased due to the extra housing already in place. But I digress - leave Luckley Path as it was with access for traffic into the Market Place, suggest that pedestrians and drivers recognise it is a road that people cross, ban huge lorries from going through the gap and lets try to get the town back to what it was!</p>
2	<p>The use of Luckley Path provides a convenient route to access the town centre for residents of Crescent Road, Sturges Road, Langborough Road, South Drive and Murdoch Road. It prevents additional congestion on Easthampstead Road, and reduces journey times and hence CO2 emissions. The roadworks in the town centre have been ongoing for almost a year. Disruption to all businesses have been significant. It is not possible to separate the effect to local businesses from the temporary closure of Luckley Path from the overall effect of the roadworks.</p>
2	<p>There isn't a suitable alternative vehicular route into the town centre for Langborough residents. The alternative is to take a detour along the very bendy (residential) Denton Road to Easthampstead Road from where entry into Peach Street is blocked by the flow of through-town traffic resulting in a tail-back down Easthampstead Road. The advantage of the Luckley Path exit is that there is a pedestrian crossing up-stream which enables one to exit safely.</p>
2	<p>From our home in Crescent Road it takes a minute to drive along Luckley Path and join the traffic into Broad Street. With the closure of Luckley Path we now have to drive along Denton Road onto Easthampstead Road and then join the traffic to proceed through the town centre. This means we are now spending 10+ minutes in the car to get to the same point, exit of Luckley Path. This is causing more emissions and adding to the poor air quality in the town centre. This is 1 car, add up all the emissions from the cars of the people living in the town centre and it becomes a lot. It would be beneficial to narrow Luckley Path to the point where it meets Goatly Road to stop large vans and lorries using it.</p>
2	<p>Not until the work on Elms Field has been completed, then I would be happy for Luckley Path to close. I live in Crescent Road, and have been seriously affected by the town centre road closures, most recently the enforced one-way along Langborough Rd, disallowing traffic to drive down the road towards the Carnival Pool roundabout. Luckley Path should temporarily re-open until works are completed. With the current road closures, traffic is being forced to join Peach St via Easthampstead Rd, adding to the congestion and chaos in the town centre. The work on Elms Field should have been better-timed. We currently cannot cope with any more road closures in the town centre. Luckley Path should reopen once the work in the Market Place is completed, to alleviate some of the chaos. Once The Elms Field work is complete, then I would be happy for Luckley Path to close on a permanent basis. I have given up going to Tesco now to do my shopping - way too difficult. The same applies for me to drive to the station. The patience of local residents is wearing thin. WBC needs to LISTEN to the views of local people.</p>

2	<p>The path is a very quick route to the town centre. It's closure would put more pressure on other routes to the centre and through Wokingham. I dont think safety is an issue. Perhaps some warning notices advising pedestrians and drivers to take care would be helpful.</p>
2	<p>The reasons put forward by the council for this intended closure are spurious. Please define how you separate the 'lack of impact on business' from the temporary closure of Luckley Path from the near 70% reduction in business which has been suggested by shops and restaurants I have spoken to around the town. The issues of pedestrian safety can easily be managed by marking clear give way lines ahead of the pavement so that drivers give way accordingly. This road offers tax-paying residents convenient access to essential town centre facilities such as the train station and supermarket shopping at Waitrose or direct access to Broad Street and the A329 Reading Road without having to detour through Denton Road in order to access the town centre. The closure will increase pressure on Denton Road (and possibly also Goodchild Road). I would further suggest that any queues on Luckley Path would be easily resolved by requiring traffic on Peach Street to give way to the smaller volume of cars emerging from Luckley Path. Considerate drivers already do this and, with the previous road layout, it was possible to emerge from Luckley Path and use the width of the road ahead of the Market Place pedestrian crossings to merge right towards Broad Street without blocking the route of traffic proceeding towards Denmark Street. The council should have thought his through properly before narrowing all the roads in the town centre to one vehicle width.</p>
2	<p>No roads should be closed while the centre of Wokingham remains in traffic chaos.. Any consultation with businesses about how they have been affected by its temporary closure is useless as it cannot be separated from the general downturn in trade due to above, Some businesses are near bankruptcy. I live in South Drive and at the best of times it is difficult to get across town without closing a short cut for us in the South of the town whilst the relief roads have not even been started let alone open. The queues in Luckley Path were never as long as those in Easthampstead Road are to get into Peach Street are now and will remain so without a third entrance into the town. Dozens of new houses have been and continue to be built some way from the town, are very expensive and need at least one car - most will have two. Where are they all supposed to go? There is no traffic planning whatsoever except for a passion for closing roads and building little used cycle paths reducing road space even further. Langborough Road has the traffic capacity of a Scottish Highland narrow lane. The current traffic system of allowing upward only one way results in me having to go via Bell Foundry Lane to get to St. Pauls Church Rooms. Why on earth were not traffic light put in place at the bottom of Denmark Street? Or even stopping parking in Langborough Rd. whilst chaos reigns in the town? A lot of people have stopped coming into the town and it will be very difficult to wean them back after such a long time, so closing Luckley Path should not be considered for many years.</p>
2	<p>As a resident of Howard road this road enables me to get into the town without having me to drive all the way round near the ship pub causing me to sit in traffic</p>
2	<p>The current roadworks are a perfect example of why it should be kept, with Langborough Road closed to 'outgoing' traffic local residents have to drive into Easthampstead Road and then Peach Street, or Westcott or Goodchild Road to London Road to get through town. The tailback on Easthampstead Road would simply not exist if local traffic could drive down Luckley Path straight onto Peach Street. I totally oppose the idea.</p>

2	It provides a short route to the town centre Broad St or Peach St for motorists resident in Crescent Road, Sturges Rd, Gipsy Lane, Langborough Rd and adjoining roads. The longer alternative via Denton Rd adds to the high flow in Easthampstead Rd at peak times. Exit from Luckley Path into Peach St is safely enabled by the periodic operation of the pedestrian crossing further north. No accidents are logged. WBC should open Luckley Path for a monitored trial period to establish its effect.
2	It is a useful exit for residents in the area and closing this path will only lead to further congestion and delays on Peach street and Easthampstead Road.
2	I have used this junction for 30 years and do not recognise the validity or accuracy any of the arguments above. For local residents it is quicker, shorter, easier and more convenient than using a combination of other roads to get to the same place on Peach Street. The alternative junction at Easthampstead Road/Peach Street is more congested and more difficult to negotiate. Terrible proposal that does not enhance the town centre or the life of local residents.
2	WBC are ONLY doing this to force cars to park at the White Elephant multi-storey at Carnival Pool. Closing Luckley Path will create jams on residential road, impact on businesses as the Cockpit car park will be difficult to exit, also their deliveries will be affected with more lorries using the narrow Denton Road with its two 90 degree bends. There have never been any accidents in Luckley Path EVER to my knowledge. WBC for once listen to those who know not the officer in the back office who has never been there.
2	Makes no sense to close the road at all.
2	There are many reasons but in short we need as many routes as possible to navigate round the town centre. closing off this route will only add to the congestion rather than improve it. Pushing more vehicles onto the major roads will exacerbate the problem. whilst this route is narrow by its very nature it is self regulating as far as speed and safety is concerned. All drivers approach this junction with caution and as far as I know there has never been an accident reported at the junction. Citing Health and Safety as a reason to consider this road closure is yet another example of poor decision making and being overly cautious when there is no justification.
2	1) It's an extremely useful route into Peach Street. Particularly, for those living in Murdoch Rd, Crescent Rd, Sturges Rd, Denton Rd, and those using the car park by The Salvation Army. It is especially useful good when travelling North to schools, Waitrose, Reading, or Twyford. 2) Traffic lights both for Denmark St and Town Hall regularly halt traffic permitting Luckley Park traffic easy access without disruption to the flow of Peach Street traffic. 3) Closure of the Luckley Path traffic means ALL traffic must ARRIVE and DEPART via Murdoch, Sturges, Crescent and Denton Roads. This will increase already heavy traffic in these residential areas, with consequential, and unnecessary, increase in pollution to these areas. The queues of traffic at rush hour has increased pollution markedly, particularly since the temporary closure of Luckley Path. 4) All traffic from these areas will now be obliged to join at Easthampstead Rd. opposite, Pages Croft, or via Denton Rd to travel to Waitrose. All unnecessary pollution added to Residents in Easthampstead Rd. Furthermore, it adds to the impediment of the Fire Brigade with queues of traffic outside their exit. 5) The extra traffic caused since the temporary closure of Luckley Path and that traffic attempting to entering Peach Street has already served to add to delays making sure that the queues extend down Easthampstead Rd even further than they did before it was closed. 6) There has never been an accident to my knowledge caused by traffic from Luckley Path into Peach Street.
2	As a resident I find this Road very useful to access the north of Wokingham. The delays in the town are caused by the pedestrian crossing - not traffic entering at the town hall. The closure will simply divert traffic to Easthampstead road which in due

	course will interrupt traffic flow. No accidents have occurred to my knowledge in this area so safety as a Council concern is irrelevant.
2	Your closure survey may show that it hasn't affected local businesses but the residents need it. It has no impact on pedestrians as one waits to make sure all is clear. South Wokingham has been sorely affected by your recent traffic systems - give us a break. Attending a recent residents meeting we were told that the Luckley Path traffic added to the high level of fumes in Wokingham. This is hysterical - there is nothing but lines of traffic in Wokingham and always has been.
2	Luckley Path provides an excellent access point to the town centre for the residents in and around the Murdoch Rd area and gives substantial relief to the junction of Murdoch Rd and Easthampstead Rd. I have used Luckley path for 40 + years and have had no incidents with traffic nor pedestrians. Essential that it is kept open for at least one year to assess impact of new developments in centre of town. KEEP IT OPEN TO SMALLER VEHICLES.
2	The disruption to traffic for those of us living within the town centre has been barely tolerable for too long. I have very much looked forward to being able to use Luckley Path again as it would mean I would stop rat-running through Denton Road which is currently the only sensible way for me to leave the Langborough Road area in order to get to work or in fact anywhere in Wokingham. It hardly seems fair to the residents that they have had to put up with so much extra traffic. In addition, I am amazed there have not been more accidents in Denton Road considering the parked cars and tight bends. You talk about the difficulty of cars exiting from Luckley Path dividing the traffic but seem to ignore the problems we frequently experience in attempting to exit from Seaford Road into London Road (currently the most sensible way of getting to the M4) This junction is time-consuming and dangerous to navigate, especially with the illegal parking of those using (and even supplying) the Co-op store. If Luckley Path were opened it would be much easier for those of us living in the Langborough Road area to follow the one-way system as intended. How does this closure fit with other road-building schemes in the locality - won't the distributor roads reduce town centre traffic? Don't those of us living in the centre deserve the same degree of planning and access as those in the newer estates? Once there is a footway on the other side of the road, there will surely be no need to 'protect' the pedestrian access on the Luckley Path side of Denmark Street as has apparently been necessary during the road works. Given the draw of all the shops that will, I am assured, be opening in the regenerated Peach Place keeping pedestrians on the regenerated side of the street, won't the majority of pedestrians want to be on the other side of the road. I notice that you feel the current closure has had no negative impact on businesses - how can you possibly tell given the general malaise in the town centre over recent months? What about the negative impact on local residents EVERY SINGLE DAY?!! If you are worried about there being a problem in Luckley Path at peak times, why not think more imaginatively and install a rising bollard allowing you to control the traffic flow when needed and allow access when traffic flow is lighter? Whilst I take your point that the alignment is tricky for those with access issues, the area is hardly inaccessible as you could easily use the cut-through by the Red Lion if you wished to go from the Market Square towards Denton Road, which seems to render your access issue as a moot point.
2	Very useful for residents

2	Because this is a very useful route for traffic from the Langborough Road area. There is not too much traffic using it and there has never been the least question of any problem for pedestrians while it was open. Without it being open traffic has to go a longer way round and join Peach Street before the pedestrian crossings. This giving no possibility of utilising safe haults in the traffic. He join with Radthamsted Road is far greater and far more likely to cause pollution while traffic waits to join Peach Street.
2	There is nothing to be gained from closing this road and much to be lost. There is no safety issue associated with this junction. It provides an important through way for local residents.
2	I can understand the thought while Peach Street is limited to one lane but that won't last forevermore . We have few roads through the town centre and this access is handy from the Langborough Road area. What would be good would be to put some road markings (Keep Clear ?) on the left hand lane only where Cockpit Path comes out. The other thing is this route would also be available for cyclists
2	The reasons put forward by WBC are largely erroneous and don't take account of the inconvenience to local residents and increased congestion in Denton Road and the access to Peach Streat from East Hampstead Road Many of us need to gain access frequently to Waitrose and disabled parking in Broad Street Just because we have put up with the closure for over a year did not mean it should be allowed to be permanent
2	
2	THUS FURTHER INTERRUPTING THE FLOW OF TRAFFIC ON PEACH ST. 4 IN ALL MY 40 YEARS LIVING IN WOKINGHAM I AM NOT AWARE THAT THIS JUNCTION HAS EVER CAUSED PROBLEMS. 5 NOTWITHSTANDING ALL THE WORK TAKING PLACE NO CONSIDERATION HAS BEEN GIVEN TO THE MAJOR PROBLEM OF THE TOWN WHICH IS THE LACK OF PEDESTRIANISATION EVEN ON A LIMITED HOURS BASIS. THE COUNCIL WOULD BE BETTER EMPLOYED LOOKING AT WAYS TO ACHIEVE THIS RATHER THAN CONCERNING THEMSELVES EITHTHE CLOSURE OF LUCKLEY PATH
2	If Luckley Path were to be closed to traffic our ability to enter the town centre or to cross the town from east to west would: 1. add 5 - 15 mins to a typical journey 2. significantly add to car pollution in an area heavily used by pedestrians (Peach Street) 3, significantly add to congestion in Peach Street and thereby further exacerbating the very negative consequences of 1 & 2 above. Having lived in the close proximity of Luckley Path for close to 40 years, I am unaware of any historic accidents at the junction and would very much like to see any evidence of such danger given that such decisions absolutely must be evidence based. Any such danger could be further mitigated by junction design, signage and other passive traffic management systems.
2	As a resident of the Langborough Road area, the closure of Luckley Path adds significantly to my journey times getting out of Wokingham, especially with the persistent road closures elsewhere throughout the town centre due to the so-called regeneration. Pedestrian access is readily available via the walkway by the Red Lion, so I cannot see any reason to make Luckley Path pedestrianized as well. A possible compromise would be to install a raised bollard, cutting off vehicular access from - say - 8am until 6pm. This would ensure that residents would still be able to use Luckley Path at convenient times, but making it pedestrian-only at busier times during the day. It would be good if Wokingham Borough Council could also accomodate the needs of the longer-term residents within the town centre area, as well as the new residents on the estates further out.
2	B4 the school term ends, please count the number of cars using our Denton Rd. , then turning left into Easthampstead Rd in order to join Peach St presumably to go towards Emmbrook, Winnersh etc. Sometimes there is gridlock. Thanks.

2	<p>When Peach Street was fully open (before the works started) Luckley path helps to ease congestion which would otherwise stem from further down Peach Street with Easthampstead road junction. Although the road is narrow and difficult for pedestrians (and with a pushchair, I did find it tricky) I also think that it is important to consider all road users. We have been immensely affected by the long-term road works and lack of thought as to organisation. With the alternate one-way use of Langborough road, my journey either out of or into Gipsy Lane has been extended by at least twenty minutes (longer in rush hour) and I have consumed a huge amount of petrol as a result of the detour. Consideration has to be given to ALL road users and residents of the area.</p>
2	<p>Below we respond to the letter set to residents by Ms Rebecca Bird, dated 28/06/2018 re possible Luckley Path permanent closure. We have referenced paragraphs from Ms Bird's letter and delivered comments on these, as follows: We have the following comments on your paragraph 3 starting "The reason for closing the road.....: Paragraph 3 • "to improve connectivity" is meaningless • "to improve safety for pedestrians." This is difficult to understand. We have lived in Wokingham for 44 years, using Luckley path daily as a pedestrian and motorists, and have never seen or heard of any sort of accident involving a pedestrian there • "In addition to helping traffic flow and improving.....town centre traffic". It does not improve the traffic flow - any traffic that is stopped from using Luckley Path path is diverted to Easthampstead Road where it will have exactly the same problem of integrating into the traffic flow, plus the additional exhaust pollution • "In addition, due to thedifficult for pedestrians to see oncoming vehicles". On the face of it, this sentence is nonsense, people would have to be blind to be unable to see oncoming traffic • "it is also a challenge.....non-motorised users". There is a wide enough pavement for pushchair/disabled persons to navigate safely. Please supply me, in accordance with the Freedom of Information Act, with copies of any complaints, from Luckley Path pushchair/disabled person users, about difficulties in navigating Luckley Path. Paragraph 4 "During themotorised users" It would be difficult in the extreme to differentiate between the difficulties suffered by businesses because of the upheaval in the town centre, and those difficulties caused by the closure of Luckley Path. Perhaps you could explain how you came to your conclusion? Additionally, if the closure were to have no effect on business, why close it? My wife and I maintain that you have not made a case for closing Luckley Path. We think the closure of Luckley Path to traffic would be completely unjustified and an imposition on the residents on this side of town. Mr & Mrs Wesley Christie 44 Howard Road Wokingham Berks. RG40 2BX</p>
2	<p>I am unsure how this would assist and how much it would cost. No detail is provided as to the numbers of cars and pedestrians that use Luckley Path so no considered opinion can be made. Please provide a lot more detail on why we should spend money pedestrianising a road that leads nowhere as far as I can tell.</p>
2	<p>My answer depends on what the Council decides to do about the traffic up and down Langborough Road. If this is re-instated as a two -way road I would be in agreement with the closure of Luckley Path. Having lived here for 35 years I am well aware of safety issues and traffic issues involved with Luckley Path. However if Langborough Road is made one-way I would definitely not support the closure. Many residents have to travel around Wokingham town centre adding to the dreadful traffic congestion...and it is highly inconvenient.</p>

As residents of Wokingham based in South Drive we object to the closure of Luckley Path to vehicles on the basis none of the reasons in the statement of reasons or in paragraph three of the letter from Rebeca Bird requesting views are accurate or supported by evidence:

- The statement and letter claims that the closure will improve pedestrian safety. We have used both Luckley Path and Peach Street as drivers and pedestrians for over 20 years and can see no evidence for this. In our experience drivers are cautious when exiting Luckley Path and are very aware of pedestrians; drivers and pedestrians behave reasonably and politely. We note that the earlier statement of reasons does not quote examples of injury to pedestrians and suspect that is because no-one has actually suffered injury. To the extent that the Traffic Management Team has perceived concerns about safety, this could easily be addressed by a stop sign just before the pavement, and by slight alterations to the pavement on Peach Street either side of Luckley Path that would make pedestrians more aware that vehicles are exiting that road.
- Letter from Rebecca Barr claims that the closure will “improve connectivity”. We do not see how this can be claimed - closing a road will be detrimental to connectivity as we point out below.
- The letter from Rebecca Barr claims that cars back up along Luckley Path and that this “create s a divide in the town centre”. The letter appears to repeat the claim in the statement that vehicles existing Luckley path cause congestion build up at busy times and block other vehicles trying to access Denmark Street. Again, in our experience of over 20 years of using both roads, the congestion is caused by other factors, in particular timing of the pedestrian crossings. In addition, our experience is that if there is temporary congestion on the Broad Street branch and not the Denmark Street branch, drivers in the Broad Street lane of Peach Street are usually very accommodating to drivers exiting Luckley Path. In all our time of using the road as motorists and pedestrians we have not seen any evidence of the town centre being divided by this – any back up along Luckley Path is usually temporary and does not interfere with the flow in the roads – if anything it relieves the traffic that would otherwise flow allow Denton Road, a narrow road unsuitable for heavier traffic flows.
- The letter and statement claim that closing the road to vehicles will improve the appearance of Wokingham town centre. This is a matter of opinion and one that we and many other residents do not share – even if true we think this highly subjective reason should not be sufficient in any event to justify the closure of a well-established right of way.
- The letter and the statement claim that the temporary closure of the exit has not caused disturbance to businesses. This is a breathtakingly ridiculous statement to make in the context of the huge disruption to businesses caused by the current town centre works (which in our opinion has been exacerbated by their poor sequencing and management). We do not consider that the Council is able to judge whether the closure of Luckley Path has added to this disruption. We also do not see why the fact that businesses have not been disturbed should carry any particular weight – the issue is also one of inconvenience to residents which we list below.
- The statement claims that the closure will assist with the pedestrian zone which is being created in the town centre. There is no evidence for this assertion. Peach Street, Denmark Street and Broad Street will remain open. Luckley Path is on the other side of Peach Street from the pedestrian zone – closing the road will have no effect on the pedestrian zone. We consider that the closure will have the following detrimental effects:
- There will be with three possible alternative routes for those from south of the town centre wanting to go to the north or west of the town (such as from us to Waitrose):
 - o Denton Road – this is a narrow residential road with two 90 degree turns in quick succession, and not suitable for higher volume of traffic. Traffic will then turn onto Easthampstead Road and will contribute to traffic backing up along there – all that will happen is that it will simply move congestion caused by existing vehicles, to the extent it exists, further up Peach Street and potentially lead to congestion on Easthampstead Road.

o Along Murdoch Road and then on Easthampstead – there is a school on this road with parents dropping off their children – traffic diverting this way will arrive on Easthampstead behind the chicane of parked cars that is there at busy times, contributing to the bottle neck and exacerbating the safety issues there. o Via Langborough Road (when it is open again!), Carnival Pool Roundabout and, with the new changed road layout, via the station. Langborough Road is unsuitable for the volumes of traffic that use it. Wellington Road where it passes the station is not well designed as a through road because of the lay by that drivers use to drop off and pick up passengers. These roads are already congested as a result of the new road layout. Our experience during the closure of Luckley Path and the disruption or closure to one of these routes is that many of these roads is that there have frequently been a significant traffic jam. The closure of Luckley Path has meant that cars have not been able to escape. The result in our view has been a significant additional volume of traffic on the circular route, and a huge increase in pollution caused by idling cars to the detriment of all. The net result is that drivers have to travel a considerable additional distance to get to the north or west of town (including Waitrose). • The higher volumes of traffic on neighbouring roads that the closure of Luckley Path will cause are also detrimental to pedestrians outside of the town centre, because of the risk caused by frustrated drivers trying to navigate the narrow and unsuitable alternative routes and because of the increased pollution that will result. • The closure of Luckley Path will lead to delivery vehicles using the road to park causing difficulties for pedestrians seeking to use the road. There has been evidence of this during the temporary closure. As residents we have suffered from considerable disruption caused by the unnecessarily prolonged (and in our view badly managed) town centre works. Businesses in the town centre have had it much worse, and on top of this have had what for many of them will be unsustainable business rate increases. There is a real risk that irreparable damage will be done to the town if these works are not finished soon – we will have lots of shiny new buildings with no traders left in the town centre. The closure of this path will be yet another blow to most residents and traders. We are deeply unimpressed that the Council is engaging in ill-considered changes like the proposed closure of Luckley Path, instead of concentrating its energies on regaining control of the existing projects, and on trying to minimise the damage to tax payers from the costs of the variation claims that contractors will be making in relation to the overrunning town centre works. Robert Dow and Dawn Clewer 11 South Drive Wokingham

2

I do not support the complete closure of Luckley Path. I understand and support the closure to vehicles however as a bike user i would like to see it kept open for cyclists.

2	<p>1. This vehicle route through to Peach Street is one that is very useful for residents living in the Gipsy Lane/Langborough Road/Murdoch Road are who are heading north from the town or to the Waitrose car park. This is a journey I make most days.</p> <p>2. As a regular user of this route, it is clear that the biggest disruption to traffic flow down Peach Street is caused by the pedestrian crossings adjacent to the old town hall. Cars exiting Luckley Path are rarely the cause of delays because they usually wait for the red signal at the pedestrian crossing to be let out amongst already-stationary traffic.</p> <p>3. Closure of this junction will mean more traffic from the area will need to join Easthampstead Road opposite Page's Croft or via Denton Road and then interrupt the flowing traffic at Peach Street which will cause greater disruption.</p> <p>4. The Easthampstead Road/Peach Street junction will see more traffic. Under normal conditions - when Peach Street is fully open and with traffic flowing freely in both lanes - this is a more difficult one to negotiate due to the difficulty seeing around the edge of the Teak House frontage to what is coming up from The Ship end of Peach Street. Often traffic is switching lanes after merging up from The Ship and, with this happening at 30 mph, it is not always clear to drivers merging from Easthampstead Road that it is safe to do so, causing extra delay and risk.</p> <p>5. Following on from point 4, the longer queues and idling of traffic at Easthampstead Road and stop-start nature of the flow during busy times is likely to pose a greater environmental risk than restoring Luckley Path to its previous state.</p> <p>6. To the best of my knowledge there has never been an accident to pedestrians or traffic at this junction and this junction has worked satisfactorily for all parties up to its recent closure.</p> <p>7. The end to disruption to town traffic by the regeneration work had been eagerly anticipated for some time and to make permanent this temporary closure is another frustration for residents.</p>
2	<p>I have had to queue on Luckley Path to access Denton Road and wait to get down Denton and then on to Easthampstead Road. After that queue on Easthampstead Road and wait to access the main road through Wokingham. Once Denmark Street is open to traffic again users on the main road will be reluctant to let anyone on. When the keep clear on to the main road from Luckley Path it worked very well and the majority of car users were cautious when coming to end on to main road.</p>
2	<p>It is a useful access point in the town centre. I often used to use it when the town centre was open.</p>
2	<p>The closure of Luckley path will not improve connectivity as the traffic would the use Denton road and back up onto Easthampstead Rd trying to gain access to Peach Street. I do not understand the relevance of the authors reasoning regarding disturbance to local businesses. The only disturbance and wrecking of local business is being caused by the interminable delay in completing the works in the town centre.</p>
2	<p>If Luckley Path were closed, the traffic would move to Easthampstead Road to gain access to Peach Street and it would be necessary to put double yellow lines on the road because of the volume of traffic, there is a school on the road and another school very close by (Wescott). Also I'm not sure where residents would park. Children's safety has to be paramount. Shopowners would be unable to tell if the road being closed has an impact on their business as there has been so much disruption. To maximise the traffic around the fire station is also a hazard. Shutting a road to traffic does not reduce the traffic it just means it will create a problem elsewhere. Feel very strongly this idea is dangerous.</p>

2	I accepted the inconvenience of the "temporary closure" of Luckley Path and being unable to travel along Langborough Road residents in Crescent Road and all other roads in this area are forced to to travel via Denton Road and join the chaos in Easthampstead Road, if only travelling to the Reading Road or Finchampstead area however I and many others often need to visit Rose Street causing us to then turn in to Goodchild Road passing Westcott Infant School and eventually to turn left in to London Road. I feel sure the "Planners" realised the risk of forcing often irate drivers via such a dangerous route and in their wisdom decided to even consider this closure until at least Langborough Road is returned to two way traffic. Despite our patience with the council who decided to close the town for such a long period by starting so many projects together they should not conclude that this is in any way an indication of approval
2	The temporary closure of Luckly Path has not been seen to cause inconvenience to local businesses because its effect fades into insignificance when compared to the general chaos that has been a feature of Wokingham traffic management for the past two years. If there are any businesses left in Wokingham Town Centre once the work is complete and traffic starts to flow once more no doubt the effect of closing Luckly Path will be noticeable.
2	From the south east of the town there are only two ways vehicles can directly access the town centre, Easthampstead Rd and Luckley path. Heavy vehicles are limited to Easthampstead Rd. Closing Luckley Path has greatly increased traffic congestion on Easthampstead Rd and presents a danger hazard to vehicles turning on to the road from Goodchild and Wescott roads. A serious concern is the access from the Fire Station onto Easthampstead Rd at congested times. Two primary schools use both roads to access Peach St, Wescott and St Teresa's, increased funnelling of school traffic onto Easthampstead Rd presents another major problem to the safety and health of this vulnerable age group. I cannot accept the argument you make about no damage to local business. It is impossible to assess the impact of the closure during a time when the town centre is being redeveloped. We are aware that local businesses are suffering from the redevelopment works and, once completed, it would be foolhardy to introduce more restrictions to entering the town centre.
2	I live on Howard Road so to have to get over to Broadstreet I would have to go all the way round and get onto oneway at Easthampstead road, it is about 4 mins longer however rush our proves to be very long winded and annoying. Luckley Path is a good cut through and a personal decision if you want to queue to get out there. The path is wide enough to take pedestrians and the disabled, please keep it.
2	We live close by and the current closure has impacted travel times and traffic congestion. We are now forced to continue down Denton Road to Easthampstead and enter Peach Street further along. The closure is adding to traffic congestion by pushing cars further round town unnecessarily. Luckily Path is used by locals that live this side of town. There is no reason to close this road permanently that would improve the town.
2	It would lead to more congestion in Easthampstead Road, that could lead to difficulties for the Fire Service getting out. What would be the point of Cockpit Path car park if cars cannot exit through Luckley Path, Denton Road is not designed for the traffic that would use it.
2	Easiest path from Cockpit Car Park to the center to avoid useless and log alternatives.

2	<p>You really have to be kidding. What does connectivity mean. This is a road that I have used almost every day during my 20 years or so of living in this area - now on Murdoch Rd. It is relatively narrow but I have never seen any issues pertaining to pedestrian safety. People walk on the pavement. Cars drive on the road. Not too difficult. There is simply no safety issue whatsoever and to suggest so is embarrassing. You mention appearance of the town centre. Hilarious. You have spent the last 13 months gouging great big chunks out of the town centre and making it almost impossible for residents to get around in either cars or on foot. You have brought local businesses to the edge of bankruptcy for the sake of laying a few York stone slabs that look completely out of place vs the red brick core of a traditional town centre. How you have the cheek to suggest that Lucky Path reopening is an appearance issue I have no idea. There is no issue with pushchairs or prams. I have used both over the years and I have to say have never felt in fear on my or my children's' lives! You mention the closure of the road has not caused any disturbance. It has caused me inconvenience. You really need to get a grip. Have you lost all touch with the local community and what we really want. In closing, your letter on this subject suggests you really think we, as residents, are stupid. you may feel flushed with success at having ruined our town centre and brought local businesses to the brink of disaster. well you can jolly well leave Lucky Path as it was. Open.</p>
2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This useful route through to the town centre for local residents has been there for ever and to my knowledge there has never been a recorded accident involving pedestrians or vehicles. As this is the prime measure that is considered by police and planners when taking a major decision to close a road, for WBC to state “we [] think a permanent closure of this road an appropriate measure to create a safer environment” is disingenuous. • Closure of this route will put more traffic through Denton Road and on to Easthampstead Road. This is already a difficult junction slowing traffic flow down Peach Street. • Reference to “the backup of cars along Luckley Path creates a divide in the town centre” is just fanciful as there are never more than two or three cars waiting to merge into Peach Street. • Frankly I think we’ve had enough of the road closures in town and just want to get back to normal as soon as possible without thinking of other schemes to shut access and create more diversions. The right order for doing this is surely to leave Luckley Path open and wait until the Southern Distributor Route is completed, when we have been assured that the town through-traffic should be reduced significantly, before considering this option”.
2	<p>I have already responded to the original consultation and hope that those views are still taken into account as we were told they would be. My views are that the case has not been made for closure simply because businesses have not been affected by the current closure. I cannot see how that can be taken as positive given that the whole town has been effectively closed by the Regeneration works. From the point of view of residents, the closure has been extremely inconvenient and traffic has had to shift through Denton Road and Murdoch Road putting significant pressure on those points and the exit of Easthampstead Road onto Peach Street. Recently Denton road was so blocked by the traffic on Easthampstead road that a driver decided to drive down the wrong side of the road to turn right! Into the face of my husband cycling in the correct direction. Clearly there could be queues building up on Luckley Path when it is open but past experience suggests drivers avoid queuing beyond Denton Road. The issue of pollution cannot be substantiated or has not... and it has to go somewhere. It will certainly affect Easthampstead Road. Further information is also needed regarding the comment that closing the Path would improve the area... what is the council planning to do? Build in more residential housing or shops? Regarding safety, while exiting the Path can be awkward to negotiate, no evidence has been given for accident figures and I am not aware of any</p>

	<p>such and have lived in Sturges road for 25 years. I genuinely hope that this is a serious consultation and our views will be taken into account.... why is it called a survey?. I am fully aware that opinions can only be taken into account if there is a formal consultation so I hope this is not a fudge on the part of the council. Pat Smith. 58 Sturges Road</p>
2	<p>The closure would force drivers leaving the Cockpit car park (and others locally) wanting to go to south and west Wokingham (ie via the carnival pool roundabout), to go via Crescent and Langborough roads instead. Langborough road is already a nightmare</p>
2	<p>wish to object to the above closure as it is unnecessary. The closure of this road will increase road traffic on Murdoch Rd, Langborough Road, Easthampstead Rd and Peach Street. When the road was open my journey through the town centre was smooth, especially after the keep clear boxes were painted on the road in Peach St. I will now have to drive down Murdoch Rd, Easthampstead Rd and part of Peach St to get to the junction of Luckley Path and Peach St. Not only will you will increase the road traffic on these roads but also increase traffic passing St Theresa's School and the fire station. More road miles driven will increase pollution. Although the junction with Peach Street is not ideal but signage on the road surface could alert both pedestrians and drivers to the junction. Also when the new Peach Place development is open the pavement on the other side of the road will be more popular with pedestrians using the new shops and restaurants. I dispute the claim the traffic using the junction disrupts the flow in Peach St.. The pedestrian lights at the start of Denmark St and the other set in Peach St. already stop the flow of traffic. Repainting the keep clear signs on Peach St will allow traffic to exit Luckley Path smoothly when gaps appear. I also dispute your claim that the present closure has not affected business. No reliable analysis of this could possibly have been undertaken during the horrendous traffic disruption caused by the Market Place resurfacing and that in Rose St., with the Peach Place development and additionally making Langborough Road one way on various occasions</p>
2	<p>No consideration of where the traffic goes when it can't go down luckley path. Pushing it elsewhere will be worse.</p>

I am a resident on Denton Road and over the last nine years of residence and frequent use of Luckley path here are my observations. "primarily to improve connectivity and safety for pedestrians" - This would appear to directly reduce my connectivity to the town centre. I have not seen or heard or or seen reported in our local paper ANY difficulties or concerns for the safety of pedestrians at the junction between Luckley Path and Peach Street. "in addition to helping traffic flow and improving the appearance of the town centre" - It would appear from the newly designed junction of Peach Street and Broad street that the closure of Luckley path was always on the card. If there were concerns about the traffic flow surely the installation of checker-ed box markings would have done the job..... but would not have looked as nice. "the back up of cars along Luckley Path creates a divide in the town centre" - This does not make sense! How does it create a divide in the town centre? The divide in the town centre is the junction between Beach street and Broad street with the town hall in the middle. My experience and observation of frequent use of Luckley path over nine years is that THIS IS NOT AN ISSUE. 1. Drivers are not approaching the junction with Peach street at speed. You are proposing that drivers do not take sufficient care or have the appropriate knowledge of road conditions. A little bit condescending. 2. I have rarely been held up in a large back up of cars on Luckley Path. This is based upon frequent us over nine years 3. The major issue has ALWAYS BEEN, the number of delivery vehcles who either park on Luckley Path.....on the pathways. And the number of delivery vehicles and other drivers who drive against the flow of traffic from Goatley Way into Luckley path. This despite the clearly marked Road markings and signage. This is an issue of access into the back of the main shops on Peach street "It is difficult for pedestrians to see oncoming vehicles. It is also a challenge for disabled persons and people with pushchairs/prams." Again I refer to the complete lack of published reports of issues between vehicles and pedestrians at this junction. ALL junctions and road crossing points can be considered a challenge for disabled people and those with pushchairs/prams. This is not a justifiable argument and appears to have no bases in my nine years of observation and experience. "We have not found that this closure has caused any disturbance to local businesses" - How can this be stated without also repeating the obvious. We have had significant and frequent reports in the local press about the disturbance that our town redevelopment has caused to the local businesses; to a significant reduction of visitors to the centre of town and the frequents changes to the road systems over this continuing period. Not to mention that significant delays and changes to the End date of this development. It is completely unrealistic to join these two issues together and assume that this is a fair reflection of "normal" use. In addition it has caused significant disturbance to myself as a local resident in Denton Road. I do not believe that you, as my council, have given me the opportunity to express my concerns over this situation. "appropriate measure to create a safer environment for all pedestrians and other non-motorised users." - Surely there are other measures that might be considered IF THIS IS AN ISSUE? 1. Reduce the speed of traffic through the town centre to 20mph. With signage and appropriate enforcement. 2. Find a solution to shop front deliveries on Peach street which often reduce traffic to a single lane and increase driver frustration through the town. 3. Review and adapt the timing of traffic management systems; traffic lights, etc across the whole of the town centre and surrounding areas. At times this does not appear to be very "joined up" 4. Install a cross hatched area at the junction of Luckley Path and Peach street to ease traffic joining the main flow. My observations and experienced based upon nine years of local residence is that there is not significant issues with regard to traffic on the Luckley Path. I have not heard of any reported issues of pedestrian safety at this junction over this period. My observation from the new road layout is that it was never intended to reopen Luckley path. I base this on where the new brickwork and

	road junction has been situated. This for me is a major perceived concern. Therefore I oppose the closure of Luckley Path against the reasons stipulated in this document.
2	During the current temporary closure of Luckley Path traffic is stacking up right along Denton Road and Easthampstead Road as they try to join Peach Street, the only route to travel from east to west of Wokingham. On occasions Denton Road has become a dual carriageway with traffic trying to turn left and right into Easthampstead Road. This obviously causes more congestion at the junction. I do not think the closure of Luckley Path can be a viable consideration until there are ring roads in operation both north and south of Wokingham. The air pollution in Wokingham Town centre must far above acceptable levels with traffic queuing along Denton Road, Easthampstead Road and Peach Street!
2	It would be very inconvenient
2	AS A RESIDENT OF SOUTH DRIVE FOR 39 YEARS I VIEW IT AS A RIGHT TO ACCESS THE TOWN VIA LUCKLEY PATH. PEDESTRIANS ALWAYS LOOK AND THERE HAVE BEEN NO ACCIDENTS. AT RECENT RESURFACING OF PEACH STREET SPECIAL WHITE WARNINGS WERE WRITTEN ON THE ROAD. ALTERNATE ACCESS WILL BE DIFFICULT AS PEACH STREET, WITHOUT DUE REASON, IS TO BE SINGLE ;LANE AND TRAFFIC WILL BE MOVING SPEEDILY WHEREAS IT SLOWS FOR THE EXIT FROM THE PATH
2	It is handy to get around town and having alternative routes are helpful.
2	Regular user of the road
2	Not a proportionate response to the problem it proposes to solve.
2	It is a useful through route for those such as myself who live on the other side of town. Alternatively, Closing the entire town centre to vehicular traffic would be welcome.

2	Easy commuting access and saves time.
2	Easy access from work
2	Caused too much disruption already
2	Easier access parking for work
2	Access to work
2	More convenient
2	Access to town centre, cause issues down on Langborough
2	Use car park and gives me better access home
2	Will put more pressure on peach street
2	Increased pollution because of longer journey times
2	No not as currently planned because the existing temporary arrangement in place has resulted in almost daily problems with the car park to our office and shop premises at 1 Peach St being blocked by delivery vans and others chancing their arm whilst parking in Luckley Path immediately alongside ie parallel to our on site car park Suggest therefore the solution is to provide designated ' loading only ' space either in Luckley Path itself alongside our building - but not our car park - or elsewhere preferably Happy to discuss further if required - John C Hemsley BSc FRICS (co-owner 1 Peach Street RG40 1XJ)
2	The permanent closure of any of the roads through the town centre will contribute to traffic delay, especially in this case to residents to the area south of this junction. Many of their driving journey distances will be increased by the need for diversion via Denton Road and Easthampstead Road with the consumption of more fuel contributing additional pollution at all times of day. The previous suggestion that the reopening of Luckley Path might in result delay to traffic in Peach Street and increased atmospheric pollution in the locality has not been shown - to my knowledge - to be supported by objective evidence. Indeed past experience was that traffic from Luckley Path was generally able to enter Peach Street with some ease because of the "Keep Clear" area demarcated, while at rush hour times Peach Street is anyway so consistently jammed with traffic causing local pollution that a few cars waiting briefly in Luckley Path are unlikely to significantly exacerbate the problem. If you wish to reduce atmospheric pollution in the town please cut down the number of internal combustion engines passing through, and speed the progress of those that have to travel through the town. Don't withdraw from use a road of great convenience to the local population.
2	As a reasonable judgement on the temporary closure and its effect on business and local traffic cannot possibly made during the present road closures in central Wokingham the path should be reopened and a proper study undertaken after market, Peach Place and Elms field roadworks have finished.
2	Access limitation would cause congestion elsewhere and inconvenience residents living on adjoining roads.
2	Quick way from one end of town to the other
2	Useful used a lot when it was open
2	Town will die
2	The road makes it easier to get through into town from adjoining roads
2	Never caused a problem for me before
2	Can't see why you would close it, can't see a positive reason behind it
2	It would cause more pressure for driving residents in the adjoining roads.
2	Because I use it and it is handy to have
2	Whilst I think it's a good idea would need to see a traffic survey for use of Luckley Path and the effect it would have on traffic on alternativebroutes such as Denton road etc

2	Enough conjection, more exit routes the better
2	Useful for traffic
2	Detour would be too far out of the way
2	Alternative route too far
2	Good route through from car park no viable alternative
2	Good route through
2	Better cut through for town
2	No other way through
2	Whole town is a disgrace at the moment and closing this won't make a bit of difference
2	Much easier route through town
2	Useful way out otherwise have to go all the way round
2	Overcrowded town and ruined it's character.
2	Can see the problem but will just move the traffic somewhere else
2	Congestion in Denton road.
2	Added conjection to Denton Road
2	Good route through town
2	Good access through town centre
2	Good route through, would be too far round never seen an accident here
2	Best access into town and beyond from local streets
2	Cause more traffic on local roads
2	I have lived in Sturges Road for 20 years and have been a regular user of Luckley Path, which provides easy access to the route through Wokingham. I have never found this junction to be congested and I do not agree that it interferes with the flow of traffic through the town centre. The traffic flow is interrupted by the many pedestrian crossings placed along it. As traffic passing by Luckley Path is often stationary (due to the 2 pedestrian crossings), joining this flow/queue of traffic is never a problem. The alternative junction on Easthampstead Road has always been something I have tried to avoid due to the lengthy queues that are usually found there. This has been notably worse since the Luckley Path junction has been closed, with cars now unable to turn left or right out of Denton Road due to this queue of traffic. I would also grade this a more dangerous junction than Luckley path, as you have 2 lanes of cars entering the town centre at speed at this point. I see nothing to be gained by closing Luckley Path, a lot of disappointed residents if you do, plus a lot more congestion on Easthampstead Road and Denton Road. Regards, Wendy (52 Sturges Road)
2	Retain flexibility near traffic light controlled junction Avoid excess congestion at top of Easthampstead Road
2	Extra journey times means greater pollution from vehicles more traffic past fire station and junior school. Statement about no effect on business during current road closures can't possibly be quantified and is just an assumption
2	Local resident that uses the road
2	It is a nuisance driving around to access peach street

I strongly object to the proposal for a permanent closure of Luckley Path on several grounds. 1. You say that this will improve 'connectivity'. This is meaningless: how can a closure improve connectivity? 2. You refer to improved safety for pedestrians. As far as I am aware – and I have lived in Crescent Road for over 30 years - there have been no accidents involving pedestrians at the junction with Market Place in this period. I am also not aware of any accidents involving vehicles. (The occasional over-sized vehicles which attempt to use the junction could be deterred by better signage.) 3. Closing the junction with Market Place may or may not improve traffic flow – although I would like to see any evidence you have that the junction has, in the past, caused problems or any assessment which has been made of traffic flows around the junction. The pedestrian crossings in Peach Street and Market Place, while obviously essential, do far more to disrupt the traffic than the relatively small number of vehicles using Luckley Path. The closure would force more traffic down Murdoch Road, Langborough Road and Denton Road, all of which have suffered from traffic problems for many years, not just during all the recent disruptions. Closing Luckley Path would also push extra traffic onto Easthampstead Road. The Easthampstead Road/Peach Street junction frequently suffers from the more-or-less stationary traffic along Peach Street which has been a feature of the town since long before the regeneration work started and is not going to change until the distributor roads are completed, if then. 4. The closure would result in considerably extended journey times for a range of people – not only residents but also those accessing businesses and residential homes in Sturges Road and Crescent Road, those using Cockpit Path car park, and those attending one school (St Teresa's) and three places of worship (St Teresa's, the Quaker Meeting House and the Salvation Army). Surely increasing road traffic is not part of Wokingham's vision for the future! 5. Permanent closure of Luckley Path will create a dead space between 'Subway' and 'M&Co' which could create an increased risk of crime and anti-social behaviour. You say that there would be improvements to the area but provide no details of this: money would be better spent on improving the junction. 6. Given all the work currently going on in the town centre, it is logically impossible to say whether the current closure of Luckley Path has 'caused any disturbance to local businesses' and it is misleading to suggest that you have any evidence that the closure would not have an impact.

2

There are many constraints on entering and leaving the Langborough, Denton, Howard Crescent Sturges, Murdoch roads caused by traffic pinch points at Langborough / Denmark (Traffic volume & "you go I go" thoroughfare), Denton and Easthampstead (queues in Easthampstead) and Easthampstead / Peach Street (No traffic merge arrangement). The Junction Easthampstead into Peach Street is particularly bad as there is no arrangement for Easthampstead traffic to filter in at this frustratingly busy junction that sees frequent altercations between motorists from Easthampstead who are forced to nudge in to traffic or duck in quickly and sometimes unsafely when a car turns from Peach into Easthampstead. Luckley path allows a "local road" user in the area defined above quick access to proceed more conveniently and quickly to Broad Street and beyond. Yes it is a win win short cut for local road users who would otherwise have to queue up with other Wokingham through traffic. I have used Luckley path road for 3 years up to its temporary closure. In that time I notice that cars always give way to pedestrians and the narrow entrance into Peach street. I would rather this road be kept open or at least until WBC can put together a plan to significantly relieve traffic in Peach Street and implement measures to improve traffic flow from Easthampstead into Peach Street and resolve the complex problems of two way traffic and parking bays in Langborough Road. Yours Sincerely, J T (Tim) Rollinson, 3 Denton Road, WOKINGHAM, RG40 2DX.

2

2	<p>1. Connectivity and Safety of Pedestrians: This is a false concern. There never has been a problem at the Luckley path exit with cars and pedestrians. If the previous road and footpath warning markings are returned to the original state on Peach street with warning signs to slow down on Luckley Path and the exit width narrowing controls, there is no reason to believe there would be a problem in the future. As far as I know there have been no reported accidents at this junction. If the Peach Street 'keep clear' road marking box is restored, then there is little queuing at the exit and private vehicles, small ambulances and small vans can exit without problems, giving way to crossing pedestrians.</p> <p>2. Traffic Improvement: There is little effect on Peach street traffic of keeping the Luckley Path open, as this traffic usually exits when the Peach street traffic is stationary queuing for the Peach street pedestrian lights, so closure would give no particular benefits.</p> <p>3. Wokingham Traffic and Rat Runs. Wokingham needs more roads, not less. Every new restriction puts more pressure on other roads, so unless there is a proved safety issue here, the permanent closure should not go ahead. Traffic from south Wokingham is diverted by the temporary closure down Denton Road which is very residential, unsuitable to heavy two way traffic and used by many school children walking or cycling to school. This is more dangerous and polluting than by keeping the Luckley path exit open. Goatley way is also changed into a rat run being unofficially used as a two way exit onto Peach street. . A number of essential vehicles such as ambulances are forced to take a long deviation to get onto the Reading Road to access the hospitals by the temporary closure. Please read out the contents of this answer to the survey at any planning meetings held to consider this matter in the future 50 Sturges Road, RG40 2HE</p>
2	<p>For those people living directly in Wokingham Town Centre as we do in Murdoch Road, Luckley Path is a vital means of accessing the town centre by car. There is no logic to your argument that the closure of Luckley Path has not had any affect on local businesses as that is not the point of Luckley Path. It is there to allow access to the very busy Peach Street from another access point other than the Easthampstead Road. Easthampstead Road access into the town centre is already very busy. Increasing the amount of traffic entering the town centre by that route as would result if you close Luckley Path is not only counter-productive but also dangerous. There is a considerable amount of parking allowed on the road itself as you approach the junction which causes a considerable problem if you are trying to queue to reach the junction. There is the school to consider, and the safety to children if there are queues of cars trying to get onto Peach Street by what would then become the only access point. ALL the residents of Crescent Road, Murdoch Road, Sturges Road etc would end up on the Easthampstead Road access into town. It will cause longer delays onto the one way system which will then back up towards the M4 motorway. Easthampstead Road is not wide enough to cope with all the parking aswell as the increase in traffic that would result and the whole area will become gridlocked. I have NEVER known of any problem with pedestrian safety with Luckley Path being open to cars and it has worked extremely well for the past 15 years I have lived here. I see no sensible reason to keeping it closed and the sooner it is reopened the better for all the town centre residents.</p>
2	<p>You say the back up of traffic causes a divide in the town centre. I never noticed this. Instead the traffic is diverted to Easthampstead road, causing more chaos and traffic jams there. Or, vehicles go illegally up Goatley Way! This is very dangerous. What's the point? It just makes it even harder to get from one side of town to the other I strongly oppose this road closure</p>
2	<p>Will cause even more traffic jams Unnecessary</p>

2	<p>The recent closure of Langborough Road has emphasised the difficulty for residents face in exiting the south east of the town in the direction of Reading. Our only access to Finchampstead Road, Barkham Road, the station, Reading Road or towards Twyford was via Easthampstead Road and Peach Street with attendant queues at busy times of many minutes. With Luckley Path open and the Keep Clear markings opposite in Peach Street there was usually much less delay in my experience, and I used to go that way into the one way system and out on London Road to avoid long queues trying to turn right out of Westcott Road or Rances Lane. If you close Luckley Path then pressure on Langborough Road and Easthampstead Road increases and could indeed get much worse once the southern road is built with its junction with Easthampstead Road. Please don't close the Path.</p>
2	<p>Cars queueing along Luckley Path do not create any greater problem for pedestrians than many other minor obstructions in Wokingham town centre. This is no reason to close the road.</p>
2	<p>It will not make a positive change to the traffic flow through the town. Since its "temporary, short term closure !" all that has happened is the traffic flow has increased on Peach Street to the Luckley Path junction and Langborough Road.</p>
2	<p>Thank you for inviting me to participate in your consultation about the proposal to permanently close Luckley Path.. My opinion is that it should be reopened as soon as possible and should remain open. It is an important route for residents who live to the south of the town. Their only other route is Easthampstead Road and I think you will find that its junction with Peach Street has all the problems that you attribute to Luckley Path, long queues, narrow uneven pavements, difficult for pedestrians to cross etc. In addition there are two car park entrances and the fire station emergency access traffic lights. The congestion at this junction (which is near the town's hotspot for NOX emissions) will not be eased by permanently closing the alternative route Your reasons for closing it do not stand up to close scrutiny. For example, what does disturbance to local business mean? Vehicles using Luckley Path are probably on their way to Reading, or somewhere north anyway and have nothing to do with local businesses. As to the safety of pedestrians, I am not aware of any accidents in Luckley Path caused by vehicles. Many of the roads in Wokingham present hazards of one sort or another, it is a consequence of being an old market town.. I do not understand what is meant by "improving connectivity" and how can a queue of cars in Luckley Path possibly divide the town centre? The appearance of the town centre is a matter of personal judgement. Many people enjoy quaint narrow streets and pavements with a flavour of history about them. I think it would be unjustified to close this much used thoroughfare, simply because some people consider it to look untidy. I'd be very interested to know the result of this exercise, the number of respondents, the number in favour and those against.</p>
2	<p>Closure would be very inconvenient for those who live to the south of the town</p>
2	<p>The Luckley Path/Peach Street junction is a safe junction - in my thirty-plus years living in Wokingham I have never heard of an accident there. Much of the traffic displaced would divert to Easthamstead Road. The Easthamstead Road/Peach Street junction has not been accident free, and increasing traffic flows there must make that junction more dangerous.</p>

Rebecca Bird entering these comments received via email: I am pleased that you have decided to engage the local community on this issue. I trust that you will really listen to the feedback you get from the local residents affected and not close Luckley Path. The proposed closure of Luckley Path is unjustified and pointless. Does the Council have the agenda of making life increasingly tiresome for its residents - based on this proposal it certainly appears so. The path has always been open to cars so what has changed to justify residents locally and Cockpit car park users in particular, being forced to drive 600m through narrow local roads and past both sides of the fire station, instead of 50m to gain access to the town centre. The proposal has no concrete analysis to back it up - closing any road in Wokingham centre would obviously make it easier for pedestrians but claiming that its purpose is motivated by a desire to improve the connectivity for pedestrians is somewhat disingenuous given the pavement opposite has been closed for nearly a year and residents currently need a constantly changing map just to cross the market place. As for businesses not being affected by such a closure, this is an insult to our intelligence - how can that be claimed, given the overwhelming impact of the chaos caused by the Council's attempt to beautify the market square, obviously the temporary closure of Luckley must have added to this damage to the town centre businesses. The Council clearly did not anticipate (or did not care about) the scale and length of disruption and negative reaction caused by market place redevelopment in order to improve the town centre appearance, closing Luckley to try to improve the 'appearance' would be to add insult to injury. Surely us local residents have suffered enough all ready. Peter Roper

Once again I, and I assume the rest of the residents in Gipsy Lane, didn't receive notification about the proposed permanent closure of Cockpit Path (the entrance into Peach Street by M & Co - I am not sure if that is its official name). This has been closed for 18 months when it was originally to be closed for 3 and involves much more driving and use of other roads, not to mention inconvenience. In addition to this there have been lengthy closures of Langborough Road. The residents of Langborough road are informed of all of this, but Gipsy Lane residents aren't. By and large, what affects them affects us and we should at least be given a voice on Cockpit Path. I, for one, would object to its closure.