

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 deposite 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 Eadthampstead 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

	<p>course will interrupt traffic flow. No accidents have occurred to my knowledge in this area so safety as a Council concern is irrelevant.</p>
2	<p>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.</p>
2	<p>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.</p>
2	<p>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.</p>
2	<p>Very useful for residents</p>

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
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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

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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 Easthampsted 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

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	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.