

REPORT TO PLANNING, TOWN & ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE – 17 July 2009**TOWN ACCESS PLAN - UPDATE**

1. The Stakeholder Workshop held on 2nd July 2009 was well attended by Members from County, District and Town Councils, members of the Town Plan Transport Focus Group and representatives from Ringwood School (including student advisors).
2. Attendees were separated into three groups and were invited to provide input on issues such as
 - Locations of poor physical infrastructure such as lack of pedestrian and cycle crossing facilities, dropped kerbs, narrow footways and poorly maintained surfaces;
 - Lack of transport facilities such as community or public transport services or cycle routes;
 - Locations where there are safety issues;
 - Ways that information can be provided and awareness raised so that people are aware of what transport options are available to them.
3. As expected, the majority of issues raised at the Workshop were issues that have previously been identified through work on the Town Plan and the Walking and Cycling Strategy. These included safety issues around the schools, lack of and narrow pavements in some areas, possible introduction of pedestrianisation or restricted access in the High Street, safe crossing of Christchurch Road both for pedestrians and cyclists, improvements to the Castleman Trail and Avon Valley Path and changes to bus routes and timetables.
4. Officers at Hampshire County Council will now put together the draft Town Access Plan. The draft document will be presented to this Committee at its October meeting for approval prior to public consultation.

For further information please contact:

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