WinACC walking questionnaire

Results in brief

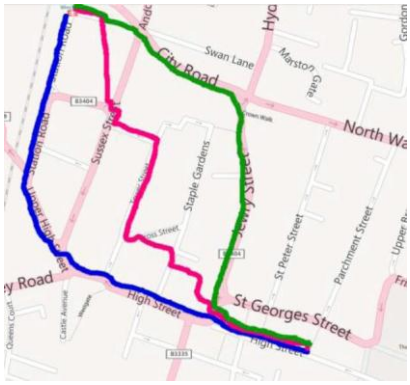
The main barriers to walking in central Winchester are reported to be the volume and speed of traffic, followed closely by the poor quality of the pavements and road crossing facilities.

Method

People were invited to complete the questionnaire at two events:

1. Winchester Museum's Service Leg-It exhibition in Winchester `Discovery Centre March-April 2012
2. St Paul's Church Fulflood Community Fair on 19 May 2012.

The survey was accompanied by a short photographic display showing the blue walking route from Winchester station to the High St . This display is in the appendix to this report.



Some responses refer to the colours of the different routes on this map.

Responses

1. **How often do you get around Winchester by walking?**

Every Day	2 to 4 times a week	Once a week	Occasionally	Never
8	12	6	2	0

In summary, most of the respondents walked regularly in Winchester

Individual responses:

- Always, plus my bicycle
- All the time along Christchurch Road to city centre

- Every day (6 respondents)
- Virtually every day
- Almost every day
- At least 4 days in the week
- Every other day
- `` I live in St Cross and normally cycle in, park and then walk - 2-3 times a week
- 2 - 3 times a week (x 2)
- Regularly - at least a couple of times a week
- Twice weekly (x 3)
- More than once a week
- Once or twice a week
- Once a week/ weekly (x 2)
- About 25% of the time I walk into town. I cycle most the other times
- 10% of time
- When I take my sister to the park, I walk but, when I go to school, I take the car, as it is quite far away.
- Not often - usually drive
- Sometimes shopping in the centre

2. What types of route do you like to walk along?

In summary people were drawn to green spaces, quiet streets and beautiful/historic streets:

- By the river, or across green spaces (11)
- Where there is little or no traffic (8)
- Where the buildings are beautiful/historic (4)
- Along the shortest/fastest route (3)
- Along named specific routes (5)
- High Street (2)
- Where it is flat (1)

Individual responses:

- The least trafficked by motor cars and heavy vehicles
- Strong support for route with no cars
- Least traffic
- Traffic-free or traffic light routes, e.g. through the water meadows or along Southgate Street past the old college buildings
- Scenic
- Small streets with little or no traffic. The footpaths - water meadows and St Catherine's Hill
- Those with nice stone/flint walls; or older shops; or older homes; or vegetation; short cuts

- River and interesting buildings
- By the river, Cathedral Close
- River, cathedral
- River and town
- River
- By the river and meadows
- The water meadows, St Cross. From Hyde by the river into town
- The water meadows, Orams Arbour, St Cross
- In the centre, water meadows
- On suburban streets in the middle of the road as there is no traffic, the pavements and vistas poor. Otherwise it depends on time. BUT the city streets are not designed for pedestrians
- Quiet back streets, with historic buildings, greenery
- Quiet, green
- I like to walk on nice flat roads because it is bumpy and it is very annoying, so I prefer flat roads
- Parks, High Street. All the little alleyways and back streets
- High Street
- From Fulflood I walk down Stockbridge Road and Jewry St. or Orams Arbour
- From Fulflood via Westgate
- Cheriton Road to St Paul's, St Matthews, into town
- Christchurch Road, through Peninsula Barracks then down Southgate Street. If I am working in Sainsbury's (three days a week) I go down Kingsgate Street, through the Cathedral and behind Debenhams.
- From Stockbridge Road, past St Paul's and into town
- Pavements/pathways/shortest! Like planning the route to walk across Oram's Arbour
- Fastest

3. What types of route do you find yourself avoiding?

In summary busy roads were the main deterrent:

- Busy roads (11)
- Specific places: including North Walls (4), St Cross Road(2)
- Narrow pavements (2)
- Boring streets (1)
- Bumpy pavements (1)
- Hills (1)

Individual responses:

- The noisy polluted routes
- Main roads (x 2)
- Busy (x 2)
- Busy roads (x 2)
- Busy (traffic-wise) polluted, crowded with people, dangerous crossing etc.
- Busy roads/narrow pavements

- Boring walls e.g. new bricks and few windows (e.g. Hampshire Records Office).
- As above - what is needed is tidy pavements, safe crossings and slow traffic.
- I don't like bumpy road because the rocks or stones get the way
- Too old to go up hills!
- North Walls - the pavement is very narrow and the wall is leaning - there's not enough space to pass people
- Narrow pavements on North Walls - try to find an alternative route
- North Walls and the rest of the "ring road", Southgate Street
- North Walls. Those with long lines of students
- Northgate
- I prefer the Arbour to avoid the busy cars
- St Cross Road! If I walk or cycle it, particularly on a cold winter's day, I am coughing by the time I get to town, from the fumes. (I do drive too!)
- As much as possible St Cross Road. It is a death trap! The speed limit should be 20mph max and there really need to be proper Green Man crossings at convenient points along the road from Romans Road to The Bell, instead of islands. The timing of Lower Stanmore Lane traffic lights needs to be changed to give pedestrians more time to cross, especially mums with children, as there are two primary schools in the vicinity.
- City Rd - all of the one-way system
- Jewry Street - pavement very narrow. City Road - traffic makes it stressful when you have your kids on scooters
- Stockbridge Road from Chilbolton to St Paul's is very busy, wet and feels too fast
- Schools and markets
- Walking into town via railway bridge
- None

4. Which route do you most enjoy using between the station and the High Street?

In summary most people used the blue route via West Gate, and half as many used the green route via Jewry Street:

Blue	Green	Red
11	6	3

Colours refer to the map.

In detail:

- Via blue route on map
- Upper High Street (x2)
- Station Road, Upper High Street
- From the station past Orams Arbour and then down towards Westgate going past Peninsular Barracks
- Path towards barracks, parallel to railway line. Though I rarely go to the station
- Past Westgate
- Past Westgate museum
- Along Upper High Street, - fabulous views and direct, but marred by poor, narrow pave-

ments, no crossing at the end of Romsey Road, by Westgate, and parked cars interrupting the views

- Up to Upper High Street (rather than Jewry Street
- Walking straight up past Hampshire Hog
- I tend to go City Road/Jewry Street. Hadn't thought about Upper High Street
- City Road and Jewry Street
- Jewry Street (x2)
- Main road into town
- Along City Road, Jewry Street, down High Street
- The red route on your map (back alleys)
- Cut through past Registry Office, round back of Hampshire Records Office, down cut-through next to 65 Sussex Street, through Kingsgate Ct, and down the side road with beautiful flint wall that joins Staple Gardens behind Discovery Centre, and then along Jewry St to High Street
- The back route along Tower Street and alley-cut-through
- Alongside cathedral
- Along river park or by the cathedral

5. What changes in Winchester would encourage more walking?

In summary better control of traffic and better pavements were seen as positive:

- Traffic controls (10) – reduction (6), slowing (4)
- Pavement improvement/widening (8)
- Walking routes / pedestrian zones (4)
- Safe road crossings (4)

In detail:

- Better signage, wider more even pavements, traffic calming methods, particularly on the narrow bridge over the railway on Romsey Road. 20mpr speed limit on all residential road, as in Portsmouth
- More footpaths and pedestrian zones
- Find the direct routes and then make them walking friendly. For example, the route from Station behind HRO and through the small car park (on west of Sussex Street) is direct, yet full of silly zigzags and no path through car park
- Better pavements, wider with safe crossings and design to give pedestrians priority not vehicles. Slower speeds by design, not signage. Better crossings and time taken to walk to key destinations
- Better pavements. They are appallingly cracked, narrow and unsafe, particularly for elderly, disabled (I am visually impaired and find negotiating uneven surfaces difficult) and mums with buggies
- Wider pavements. Footpaths
- Wider pavements! Speed cameras to slow traffic down
- Some wide pavements. Less cars
- Less traffic - make Jewry Street bus and cycle only?
- Less cars! Cleaner air! Lower car speeds! Change crossings in favour of walkers, particularly the crossing at top of St. George's Street not timed with the Jewry Street/Southgate Street crossing

- Less white vans and delivery trucks during the day
- Fewer cars
- Less traffic and more crossings
- Make junctions and crossings more pedestrian/people focussed, cars to drive slower and limit numbers in city centre
- More pedestrian focussed
- Safer pavements e.g. tree roots in Cheriton Road
- Better maintenance. More control of low hanging trees. Better enforcement to get bikes off pavements
- Less litter. Lighter greenery
- Friends talking
- Free beer stops!!! The bigger factor is the character of the person
- Nothing really

6. What changes in Winchester would discourage walking?

In summary it seems increased traffic volumes were seen as the least desirable possible change :

- More traffic (10)
- Poor road crossing facilities for pedestrians (2)
- Fewer pavements (1)
- Poor pavements (1)

In detail:

- More roads, narrow footpaths
- More traffic, especially in small streets around cathedral and square
- No improvement of pavements. Going back on promise of proper pedestrian crossings in St Cross Road
- Less pavements
- Roundabouts without pedestrian crossings are very difficult, especially for mums with buggies and wheelchair users
- Smooth, wide pavements
- Anything that would encourage more cars
- Yet more cars. Knocking down flint walls alongside footpaths
- Maintaining the plethora of city centre car parks. They're there already, more traffic, faster speeds
- Busier, more polluted
- Busier roads
- More central car parks
- Less parking space
- More traffic
- More cars
- I am not easily discouraged

7. How good are the routes for wheelchairs and pushchairs?

Poor	Fairly poor	Average	Fairly good	Good
4	2	7	6	0

Most people were not very critical.

In detail:

- Good
- Adequate
- Ok
- O. K. - lots of dropped kerbs - how may shops have stepped entry through?
- Ok -pavements narrow in places
- Generally ok
- Not too bad
- Only know about pushchairs - pretty good. Some problems with lorries parked on pavements - e.g. Stockbridge Road where there is an off-licence
- Fine for pushchairs
- Improving
- Could be given more emphasis but is still greatly improved from what it used to be
- There are points where pavements are narrow with busy traffic (Upper High Street - Station Road) and this makes it hard for wheel/pushchairs
- Bad narrow pavements in some places, otherwise good
- Pavements are uneven in many parts of the city
- Very poor, very few direct dropped kerbs, need pedestrian routes at grade not vehicular ones
- Very poor, mainly because of width restrictions and clutter of posts set in from kerbs
- Awful, as pavements are in such an appalling state. Pedestrians matter equally as much as motorists. Winchester City Council must recognise our right to move around the city safely
- The market in the High Street is a nightmare
- As 5 above
- Don't know

8. How can they be improved to help people with wheelchairs and pushchairs?

In summary it seems better pavements and improved road crossings would be useful improvements:

- Better crossings / consistent dropped kerbs (3)
- Better pavements (2)
- Wider pavements (2)
- Improved shop entrances (1)

In detail:

- See 5 & 7
- Audit of shop entrances? Some are very old and may have building protection, but others might be improved?
- Rip up old pavements around the old college, and top of town, laying a newer, safer type of paving. Introduce traffic free zones
- ?
- Pavement width
- It would be good to check there is a dropped kerb at both ends! The dropped kerb layout along plague monument is difficult - e.g. at top of Sussex Street
- Table junctions, all pavement crossings at grade
- See 5 above, plus wider pavements in the centre or complete pedestrian orientated centre - a wonderful concept
- As above. Also - Winchester town centre desperately needs better CYCLE routes!
- More ramps and even paving
- As 5 above
- No bikes/skateboards
- More crossings especially by the station bridge at Stockbridge Road
- Improving accessibility

WinACC Transport Group

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The survey

A walk from the Station to the High Street



There are at least three routes from the station to the High Street. They each have a distinct character.

This concentrates on the blue 'Westgate' route via Upper High Street. The pictures show how it looks on an average day.

Outside the front of the station the signs want us to turn left. Sadly the electronic travel guide does not work. We turn right and walk to the right of the taxis.





We walk along the top of the bank. The path is obviously very busy because the grass at the edge is heavily worn.





We find ourselves at the top of Upper High Street, and stay on the right until we get to the Post Office outside West Gate

We have to watch out for vehicles coming round the corner. It's hard to cross Romsey Road –best to avoid it.



Looking back, we see there is a lot of space here, surrounded by interesting buildings.





As we reach Westgate we see St Giles Hill beyond the Guildhall across the valley.

Beyond Westgate the pavement here is crowded and people are shopping.



Looking back we see the Westgate towering above the High Street.





The junction with Jewry Street is very busy but we can cross at the 'KEEP CLEAR'.

And, finally, we reach the High Street.



- How often do you get around Winchester by walking?
- What types of route do you like to walk along?
- What types of route do you find yourself avoiding?
- Which route do you most enjoy using between the station and the High Street?
- What changes in Winchester would encourage more walking?
- What changes in Winchester would discourage walking?
- How good are the routes for wheelchairs and pushchairs?
- How can they be improved to help people with wheelchairs and pushchairs?

Use our form to tell us what you think and leave it here for us to read.