

## Town Council Submission Proposal in relation to the New Forest LCWIP (Rev A)

This proposal is for New Milton Town Council to support four new cycling routes connecting the town with other centres, and linking up with its Neighbourhood Plan routes. These four routes - plus others in our area - are referred to collectively as 'the tube map' (Note 1). Please see the route descriptions relevant to New Milton given in the table, and the map showing all the routes.

- The wider context is that HCC is preparing its New Forest Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan (LCWIP). The LCWIP is a process which starts with HCC as the lead partner preparing a 'bid document' which if successful would release DfT funding for infrastructure improvements for cycling and walking routes. HCC's 8-week on-line public consultation on the New Forest LCWIP started on 9th September and is part of this process.
- For the HCC bid for funding to be compliant (and therefore successful), the most direct roads will be the starting point for cycle routes. In our area this would imply using our network of A- and B-Class routes for cycling between towns, as well as some very busy C-Class routes. Many of these routes are likely to prove economically unviable (because the high cost of infrastructure improvements is set against the projected increase in cycling numbers). In contrast, the routes in this proposal would use, where practicable, quieter suburban roads and rural lanes where traffic speeds and volumes are lower. The scope and hence cost of interventions are less on such routes, making the economic case for each route much easier.
- Routes 3, 10 and 11 provide links to the other employment/education centres of Lymington and Brockenhurst. Route 3 extends West to the Dorset boundary using Gore Road.
- Route 11 can also play its part both as the town's 'Gateway to the Forest' and as its link to the coast. This route links up with NCN2 (see below) and with the seafront at Barton-on-Sea, running via the train station and the town's amenities in Station Road. There is potential for Barton-on-Sea, with improved cycle infrastructure reflected in the New Milton Neighbourhood Plan, to capitalise on its coastal position as a 'hub' for cycle visitors as Milford has done.
- Three of the routes 5a, 10 and 11 (especially when coupled with NCN2 - see below) could contribute to New Milton meeting the tourism component of its Neighbourhood Plan as this is developed. More particularly Routes 5a and 11 could provide safe cycle routes from the caravan parks at Bashley and Shorefield (over 100,000 visitors p.a.) into New Milton.
- The Western half of Barton-on-Sea is poorly served by LCWIP routes with a distance of over 1km between routes (ie poor 'mesh density'). The 'Route 11 Barton Link', using Marine Drive West and Western Avenue, both links up Naish, as well as adding to Barton's tourism 'offer' by building on a LCWIP cycling coast route from Lymington via a new Hordle Cliff track (14km).
- We know that the NPA will be investing heavily in improvements to the cycle path NCN2 (along the former railway line), which is easily accessed just beyond Wootton and offers a partly traffic-free 10km route between Burley and Brockenhurst. This could play an important role in sustainable tourism for New Milton.

The proposal will include the following statement:

"We request HCC to consider routes 3, 4, 5a, 10 and 11 (as referenced in the table below), in the context of the current Public Consultation, as it looks at route options as may be necessary within the LCWIP process."

The routes have not been audited by the Town Council as this is the responsibility of HCC as Highway Authority. Similarly it is a matter for HCC to identify the full scope of the interventions required in order to minimise risks and hazards for cyclists (in particular) using these routes.

There is only one 'known' major interventions on these routes as follows:-

Route 5a. Subject to HCC transport survey data, new crossing point to A337 at Downton."

Note 1 Transition Lymington state: "The "tube map" is the outcome of workshops conducted locally in collaboration with cycling commuters and the Christchurch Bicycle Club, followed by a survey conducted by Transition Lymington over 6 months from Summer 2023. The survey findings underpin the tube map. We are seeking Local Councils to support the tube maps routes relevant to them. With the supports of New Milton and Lymington & Pennington Town Councils, and Boldre, Brockenhurst, Hordle, Milford-on-Sea and Sway Parish Councils, the end result would be a fully-fledged network feeding in to both towns' Neighbourhood Plan routes."

Route	Main Route Purpose	Summary Description
1	Primary on-road link Lymington to Brockenhurst	Boldre La.- Royden La.- Sandy Dn.- A337 - Latchmoor - B3055 (Sway Rd.)
3	High-performing (HP) Secondary link New Milton to Lymington via Hordle using low volume roads	Wainsford Rd.- Frys La.- Everton Rd.- Sky End La.- Stopples La.- Heath Rd.- Lavender Rd.- Hare La.- L. Ashley Rd.- Ashley Rd.
4	HP Secondary on-road link Sway to Brockenhurst	Manchester Rd.- B3055 - Sway Rd.
5a	HP Secondary on-road link New Milton to Milford via Hordle using low-volume roads	B3058 West from Milford - Downton La.- Hordle La.- Stopples La.- Heath Rd.- Lavender Rd.- Hare La.- L.. Ashley Rd.- Ashley Rd.
6	Secondary link Milford-on-Sea to Pennington via Keyhaven	Keyhaven Rd.- off-road 'BOAT'- L. Pennington La.
7a	HP Secondary link Sway to Pennington	Stn. Rd.- S. Sway La.- Sway Rd.- Ramley Rd.
7b	Secondary link Sway to Lymington via Ampress Bus. Pk	Manchester Rd.- Pitmore La.- Mount Pleasant La.- Sway Rd.- new Buckland Rings path - Marsh La.
10	Primary link Brockenhurst to New Milton via Sway ( <i>Note Sway to Brockenhurst section of this route previously designated Route 4</i> )	Sway Rd. (Brockenhurst) - B3055 - Church La.- Station Rd.- Arnewood Bridge Rd. (B3055) - Barrows La.- Silver St.- Ashley La.
11	Secondary link Brockenhurst to Barton-on-Sea via Wilverley and New Milton.	Western Av.- Marine Dr. W.- Marine Dr.- Barton Court Av.- B3058 Station Rd.- Fernhill La.- Bashley Rd.- Bashley Com. Rd.- Brockenhurst Rd.- Wilverley - Burley Rd
12	HP Secondary link Milford to Lymington part on-road part combined path along B3058 using low-volume roads. See across for (b) alternative	B3058 North from Milford - Wainsford Rd. Alternative as above, but via Sch. La.- Lymore La.