

# Oxford City Council and Oxfordshire County Council

# Oxford City Centre Movement and Public Realm Strategy

Report of Members' and Stakeholders Workshop I

October 2017

Project Code: 03001

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## **Version Control and Approval**

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## I Executive Summary

#### I.I Venue and participants

- 1.1.1 The workshops took place at Oxford Town Hall (Long Room, St Aldate's, Oxford, OX1 1BX) on Wednesday, 4th October 2017. A session for members ran between 14:00 and 16:00 hrs and then a session for key stakeholders' session between 17:30 and 19:30 hrs.
- 1.1.2 A total of 21 people attended the Members' event and 33 the stakeholder event.

#### I.2 Workshop Structure

- 1.2.1 The workshops were divided into three parts; Part 1 included a presentation of the existing situation, Part 2 included a presentation and workshop session looking at existing options and potential appraisal themes and Part 3 included a workshop discussing future visions and ideas.
- 1.2.2 The workshop structure and content are presented in more detail in Chapter 4 of this report.

#### 1.3 Summary of Workshop Outcomes

#### **Appraisal Themes**

- 1.3.1 Although members and stakeholders set down a broad range of desirable outcomes during this part of the workshop, in general there appeared to be agreement that the five headings as proposed in the CIHT/DfT review would form an appropriate structure for the appraisal of options:
  - Inclusivity
  - Movement
  - Public Realm
  - Safety and Public Health
  - Economy
- 1.3.2 In the next stage of the study we will prepare a more detailed appraisal framework, taking into account the comments made by members and stakeholders, the availability of data and the ability to produce objective assessments, for discussion and agreement with officers.
- 1.3.3 The appraisal themes are presented in more detail in Chapter 5 of this report.



#### **Issues and Visioning**

- 1.3.4 A large range of comments emerged from the visioning exercise, including a range of geographical locations across the city centre and beyond.
- 1.3.5 The key common themes emerging are summarised below and presented in more detail in Chapter 6 of this report:
  - Cycling traffic free and segregated cycle routes
  - **Public transport** problems with bus congestion
  - Walking general pedestrian congestion / too narrow footways
  - **Public realm** poor quality
- 1.3.6 The project team will continue to consider these locations in formulating options for the review.



#### 2 Introduction

#### 2.1 Setting the Scene

- 2.1.1 In September 2017 Phil Jones Associates (PJA) and with sustainable transport experts ITP were appointed to undertake a movement and public realm study for Oxford city centre on behalf of Oxford City Council and Oxfordshire County Council.
- 2.1.2 This study will inform the new Oxford City Council Local Plan, which will contain a strategy for development of the city up to 2036 and help inform a future update of Oxfordshire County Council's Oxford Transport Strategy.
- 2.1.3 To begin this dialogue, workshops were held for members and key stakeholders on Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> October at Oxford Town Hall. The purpose of the workshops was to:
  - Inform members and stakeholders about the process and timescale for the study
  - Present the consultants' initial assessments of the current options for city centre movement
  - Invite views of these options and further options for consideration
  - Invite views on the process by which options will be appraised
- 2.1.4 A dedicated email address was set up for the project (<u>oxfordstudy@philjonesassociates.co.uk</u>) and brought online two weeks before the event to manage all external correspondence relating to the study.



## **3** Workshop Arrangements

#### 3.1 Venue

3.1.1 The workshops took place at Oxford Town Hall (Long Room, St Aldate's, Oxford, OX1 1BX) on Wednesday, 4th October 2017. Due to room capacity issues two separate workshops were held. The session for members ran between 14:00 and 16:00 hrs and then a session for key stakeholders' session between 17:30 and 19:30 hrs. Each workshop session followed the same structure.

## 3.2 Participants

1.1.3 A total of 21 people attended the Members' event and 33 the stakeholder event.



## 4 Methodology

#### 4.1 Workshop Structure

4.1.1 The structure of the workshop, as it occurred, is given in Table 3-1 below. The presentation that was given during the event is included in the Appendices.

Table 4-1: Workshop format

Session	Format	Objectives
Introduction	Presentation	<ul> <li>Setting the scene introduction by Councillor Alex Hollingsworth</li> <li>Background to the study by Martin Kraftl</li> <li>Introductions to the PJA and ITP team</li> <li>Clarifying objectives of the workshop</li> <li>Illustrating structure of the event</li> </ul>
Part 1 – Existing Situation	Presentation	Presentation by Ian Stott from ITP setting out initial data collated as part of the study
Part 2 – Existing Options and Potential Appraisal Themes	Workshop  Participants were asked to discuss potential appraisal themes. These were then summarised on a flip chart.	<ul> <li>Summary of current options; Option 1 –2025         Vision from the Oxford Transport Strategy and         Option 2 - Oxford City Council Alternative Strategy         (Alan Baxter)</li> <li>Introduction to the potential appraisal themes</li> <li>Group discussion about what desirable outcomes should guide the preferred option</li> <li>Group discussion about how appraisal metrics could be grouped under the themes</li> <li>Group discussion about how we should measure the outcomes</li> </ul>
Part 3 — Visioning	Workshop  Participants were asked to identify current problems and potential ideas.	<ul> <li>Working in small groups participants were asked to discuss problem locations and potential measures</li> <li>Participants were asked to put numbered coloured stickers (red – bad, green – good) on a plan highlighting key locations and potential visioning ideas. These were then summarised on a flip chart.</li> </ul>

- 4.1.2 Other than the introduction to the sessions which was addressed to the whole group, and the 'Existing Situation' presentation, the sessions took place in small groups, who discussed and responded to the information and questions presented to them.
- 4.1.3 Groups presented the conclusions of their discussions on maps and flip charts, the content of which is set out below.



## 5 Outcomes of the Workshop - Appraisal Themes

#### 5.1 Introduction

- 5.1.1 A key aim of the project will be to evaluate options for the design and management of the streets and public realm making up Oxford City centre, and this will need to be carried out using an objective and (as far as practicable) measurable framework.
- 5.1.2 PJA is involved in emerging thinking on street improvement schemes being produced by the Chartered Institution of Highways and Transportation (CIHT), in association with the Department for Transport. This is being carried out as part of a review of 'shared space'-type projects, which is expected to be published shortly
- 5.1.3 The review has appraised a number of completed designs against the following five topic areas which are linked to typical desirable outcomes. DfT is expected to commend this as a possible framework for local authorities to use in considering schemes.
  - Inclusivity
  - Movement
  - Public Realm
  - Safety and Public Health
  - Economy
- 5.1.4 Members and Stakeholders were asked to identify the desirable outcomes for the city centre strategy, and consider whether they could be grouped under one of these five headings.

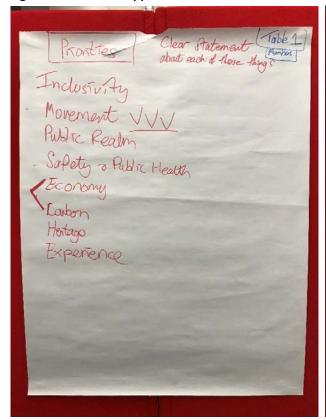
## 5.2 Members' - Potential Appraisal Themes

5.2.1 Tables 4.1 – 4.3 below and the accompanying plans show the results of the Members' group work, in their own words, undertaken in Part 2 – Potential Appraisal Themes.

Table 5-1: Table 1 - Appraisal Themes

Table	Themes
1	Optimal use of space in city centre
	Low carbon future (2035) / Air Quality
	Experience / comfort
	Heritage aspects
	Speed not necessarily that critical
	Journey time predictably better
	Don't be shy about encouraging people to walk further
	Schools/Universities

Figure 5-1: Table 1 - Appraisal themes



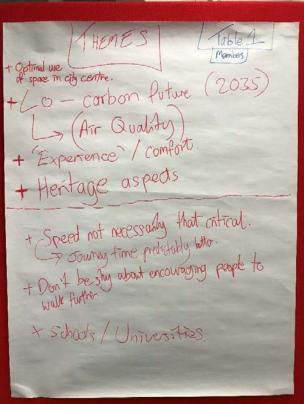


Table 5-2: Table 2 - Appraisal Themes



Table	Themes
2	Movement through / access to the city
	Level of congestion – journey time
	Overall capacity
	Footfall
	Reliability of public transport timetable
	Travel time (commuting from outside city)
	Pedestrian levels / capacity for people
	Pedestrian comfort – use of space – more pedestrian space
	Options for 'rest' (volume) – various users – elderly – children
	Inclusivity – disabled spaces
	Too easy to drive to work
	Economy – relate to movement along links
	Accessibility / Inclusivity
	Spend by visitor type

Figure 5-2: Table 2 – Appraisal Themes

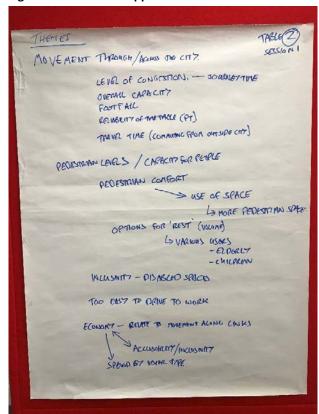
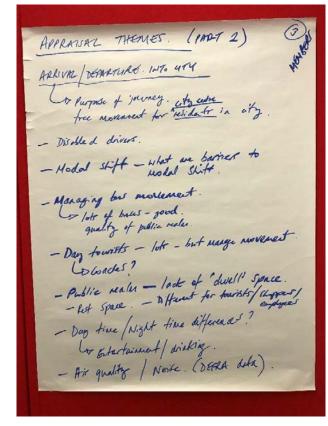
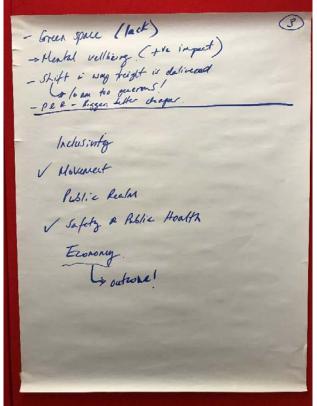


Table 5-3: Table 3 - Appraisal Themes

Table	Themes
3	Arrival / Departure into city
	Purpose of journey
	Free movement for city centre residents in city
	Disabled drivers
	Modal shift – what are barriers to modal shift
	Managing bus movement – lots of buses – good
	Quality of public realm
	Day tourists (coaches) – lots – but manage movement
	Public realm – lack of 'dwell' space
	Rest space – Different for tourists / shoppers / employees
	Day time / night time differences?
	Entertainment / drinking
	Air Quality / noise (DEFRA data)

Figure 5-3: Table 3 - Appraisal Themes







## 5.3 Stakeholders - Potential Appraisal Themes

5.3.1 Tables 4.4 – 4.9 below and the accompanying plans show the results of the stakeholders group work, in their own words, undertaken in Part 2 – Potential Appraisal Themes.

Table 5-4: Stakeholders Table 1 - Appraisal Themes

: The	emes
Saf	<u>ety</u>
	Crossing road / Ped comfort calculation needed / Riding a bike
	Perception of safety – cycle / pedestrian safely
Pla	<u>ce</u>
	Measure of public space available
Eco	<u>onomy</u>
	Tourism as metric. Make easier journeys for commuters
	Tourists – Christ Church – limiting no. of tourists per hour
	• Tourism – How can we measure?
Incl	lusivity
	No. of changes of PT require a metric
Mo	<u>vement</u>
	Movement – coaches – better management of coaches as metric
	Modal choice – last mile – potentially for modal shift measure
	<ul><li>Could we measure link to pedestrian comfort "storage space" for waiting?</li></ul>
	Modal Shift, movement theme, as a metric (potentially)
	Groningen/Amsterdam examples
	Servicing – ease of servicing (metric)
	Business / shops / university
	No. of vehicles (capacity?)

Figure 5-4: Stakeholders Table 1 - Appraisal themes

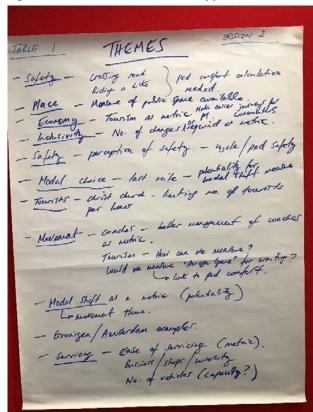
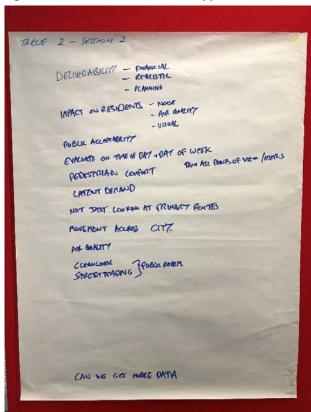




Table 5-5: Stakeholders Table 2 - Appraisal Themes

Table	Themes
2	Deliverability
	– Financial
	– Realistic
	- Planning
	Impact on Residents
	– Noise
	– Air Quality
	– Visual
	Public Acceptability
	Evaluate on time of day + day of week
	Pedestrian comfort from all points of view / users
	Latent Demand
	Not just looking at primary routes
	Movement across city
	Air quality
	Public Realm
	- Cleanliness
	- Street trading
	Can we get mobile data?

Figure 5-5: Stakeholders Table 2 - Appraisal themes

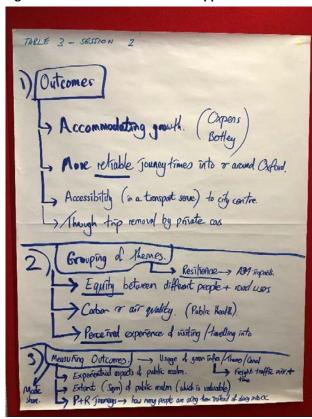




## Table 5-6: Stakeholders Table 3 - Appraisal Themes

Table	Themes
3	<u>Desired Outcomes</u>
	Accommodating growth (Oxpens / Botley)
	More reliable journey times into and around Oxford
	Accessibility (in a transport sense) to city centre
	Through trip removal by private cars
	Grouping of Themes
	Resilience – A34 impacts
	Equity between different people and road users
	Carbon and air quality (public health)
	Perceived experience of insisting / travelling into
	Measuring Outcomes
	Usage of green infra/Thames/Canal - @Freight traffic mix + time
	Mode share
	– Experiential aspects of public realm
	– Extent (sq.m) of public realm (which is valuable)
	<ul> <li>Pak and ride journeys – how many people are using them instead of driving into the city centre</li> </ul>

Figure 5-6: Stakeholders Table 3 - Appraisal themes

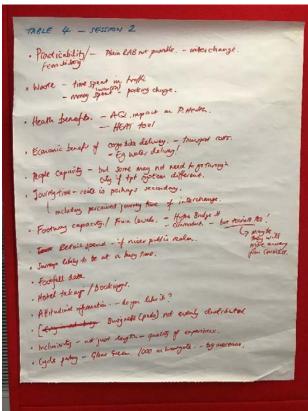




## Table 5-7: Stakeholders Table 4 - Appraisal Themes

ble	Themes
	Practicability / feasibility – The Plain roundabout not possible – interchange
	Waste
	<ul><li>time spent in traffic (wasted)</li></ul>
	<ul> <li>Money spent – parking charge</li> </ul>
	Health benefits – Air quality impact on public health.
	– Possibility to use HEAT tool?
	Economic benefit of cargo bike delivery
	<ul> <li>Transport costs</li> </ul>
	– e.g. Water delivery!
	People capacity – but some may not need to go through city if transport system different
	Journey time – route is perhaps secondary
	Including perceived journey time of interchange
	Footway capacity
	– Hythe Bridge Junction
	– Cornmarket – but tourists too!
	<ul> <li>Maybe they will move away from Cornmarket</li> </ul>
	Retail spend – if nicer public realm
	Surveys likely to be at a busy time
	Footfall data
	Hotel takings / bookings
	Additional information – do you like it?
	Business (pedestrians) not evenly distributed
	<ul> <li>Inclusivity</li> </ul>
	– Not just length of journey
	<ul><li>Quality of experience is important</li></ul>
	Cycle parkway – Gloucester Green (1000 in Westgate – big increase)

Figure 5-7: Stakeholders Table 4 - Appraisal themes

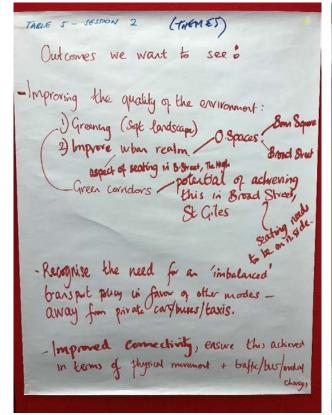


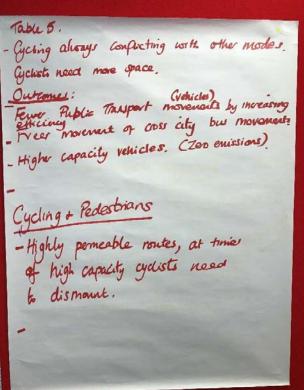


## Table 5-8: Stakeholders Table 5 - Appraisal Themes

Table	Themes
5	<u>Desired Outcomes</u>
	Improving the quality of the environment:
	<ul><li>– Greening (Soft landscape)</li></ul>
	- Green corridors - potential of achieving this in Broad Street, St Giles - seating needs to be on the northern
	side
	– Improve urban realm – particularly open spaces - Bonn Square / Broad Street
	<ul> <li>Aspect of seating in Broad Street / High Street</li> </ul>
	Movement:
	<ul> <li>Recognise the need for an 'imbalanced' transport policy in favour of other modes – away from private cars/buses/taxis</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>Improved connectivity, ensure this achieved in terms of physical movement and traffic/bus/modal changes</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>Cycling always conflicting with other modes</li> </ul>
	– Cyclists need more space
	<ul> <li>Fewer Public Transport movements (vehicles) by increasing efficiency</li> </ul>
	– Freer movement of cross city bus movements
	<ul> <li>Higher capacity vehicles (Zero emissions)</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>Cycling &amp; Pedestrians - Highly permeable routes, at times of high capacity cyclists need to dismount.</li> </ul>

Figure 5-8: Stakeholders Table 5 - Appraisal themes



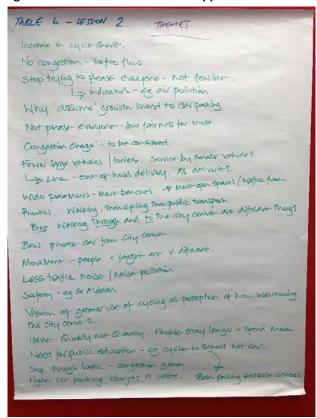




## Table 5-9: Stakeholders Table 6 - Appraisal Themes

Table	Then	nes
6	•	Increase in cycle share
	•	No congestion – traffic flow
	•	Stop trying to please everyone – not feasible
		– (indicators – e.g. air pollution)
	•	Why 'assume' growth linked to carparking
	•	Not please everyone – but fairness for most
	•	'Congestion charge' – to be considered
	•	Fewer large vehicles / lorries.
		– Service by smaller vehicles
		<ul> <li>Link – out of hours delivery. All deliveries.</li> </ul>
	•	Wider pavements – more benches – more open spaces (traffic free)
	•	Priorities - Walking; then cycling then public transport
	•	But walking through and to the city centre are different things
	•	Ban private car from city centre
	•	Movement – people and freight are v different
	•	Less traffic noise / Noise pollution
	•	Safety – e.g. St Aldates
	•	Vision of greater use of cycling as perception of now welcoming the city centre is
		– Issue: Quality not Quantity. People stay longer and spend more
	•	Need for public education – e.g. cycle to school not car – Ban parking outside school
	•	Stop through traffic – congestion zone
	•	Higher car parking charges

Figure 5-9: Stakeholders Table 6 - Appraisal themes



#### 5.4 Summary

- 5.4.1 Although members and stakeholders set down a broad range of desirable outcomes during this part of the workshop, in general there appeared to be agreement that the five headings as proposed in the CIHT/DfT review would form an appropriate structure for the appraisal of options.
- 5.4.2 In the next stage of the study we will prepare a more detailed appraisal framework, taking into account the comments made by members and stakeholders, the availability of data and the ability to produce objective assessments, for discussion and agreement with officers.



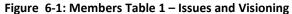
## 6 Outcomes of the Workshop – Issues and Visioning

## 6.1 Members' - Issues and Visioning

6.1.1 Tables 5.1 – 5.3 below and the accompanying plans show the results of the Members' group work, in their own words, undertaken in Part 3 – Issues and Visioning.

Table 6-1: Members Table 1 - Issues and Visioning

Table number	Summary
1	Conflict areas / bus congestion
	'Hidden' private workplace parking
	Re-route coaches – Gloucester Green
	• Trams
	Traffic free city centre
	Segregated city centre cycle routes in from outlying areas
	PT ticketing (off-bus)
	Stop potential for through traffic in city centre – remove / limit potential for A34 disruption
	<u>Priorities</u>
	Inclusivity
	Movement
	Public Realm
	Safety and Public Health
	• Economy
	Carbon
	Heritage
	Experience





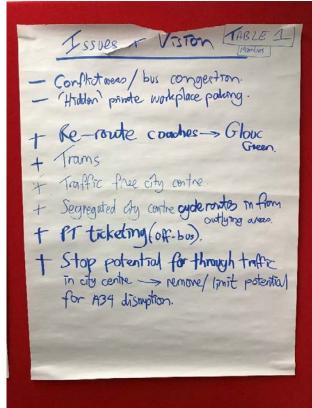




Table 6-2: Members Table 2 - Issues and Visioning

Table	Summary
2	Red (1) - Too many tourist buses hanging around Gloucester Green
	Red – Lack of communal public spaces for sitting
	Red (2) - Too many buses on High Street / from East consolidation of private buses
	Green (3) - Opportunity to improve public realm
	General - Less cars in the city (like summer)
	Red (4) – The Plain Roundabout - Major congestion point
	Red (5) - Headington Hill – cycle barrier, opportunity to cycle
	Green (6) - Jericho – take pressure from the city
	Red (7) - Carfax tower – pedestrian safety issue
	General - more cycle lanes
	General - One-way system from North
	General - Clear markings to show pedestrian / cycle areas / lanes
	Green (8) – Like Frideswide Square
	Green - Utilise canal and river network
	General - Alan Baxter Circular Buses - Economically viable?
	General - Still large volume of buses
	General - Require very high frequency

Figure 6-2: Members Table 2 - Issues and Visioning



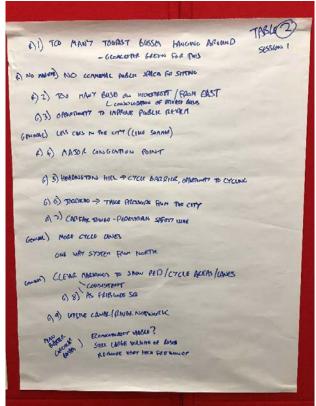


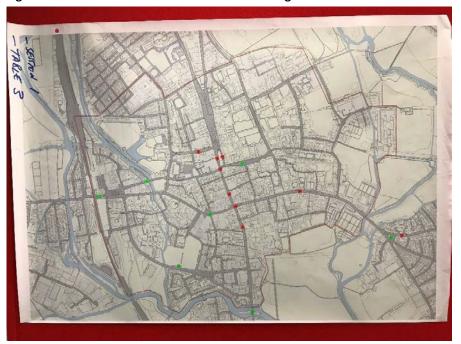


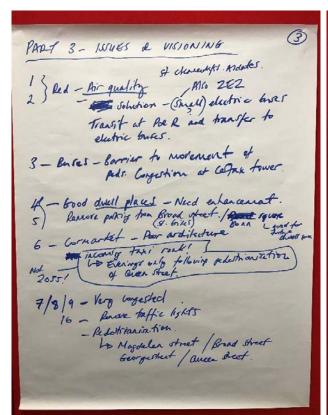
Table 6-3: Members Table 3 – Issues and Visioning

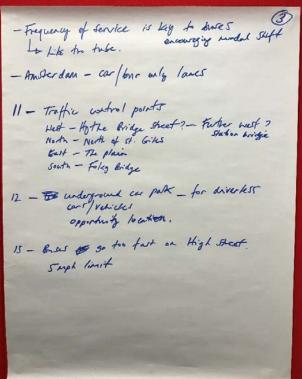
Table	Summary
3	Red (1 and 2) - Air quality particularly around St Clement / St Aldates
	<ul> <li>Solution – (Small) electric buses / Zero Emission Zone / Transit at P&amp;R and transfer to electric buses</li> </ul>
	Red (3) – Buses – Barrier to movement of pedestrians. Congestion at Carfax Tower
	Green (4) - Good dwell places, but need enhancement
	Green (5) - Remove parking from Broad Street (St Giles) / Bonn Square good for future dwell space
	<ul> <li>Red (6) – Cornmarket – poor architecture. Don't like proposed (evening only) taxi rank following pedestrianisation of Queen Street</li> </ul>
	Red (7/8/9) - Very congested – Magdalen Street / Beaumont Street
	<ul> <li>Red (10) – Remove traffic lights at Broad Street / George Street junction. Consider pedestrianisation of Magdalen Street / Broad Street / George Street / Queen Street</li> </ul>
	General - Frequency of service is key to buses - encouraging modal shift – like the tube
	General – Like Amsterdam precedent of car / bus only lanes
	Green (11) – Introduce traffic control points
	<ul> <li>West – Hythe Bridge Street? – Further west? Station bridge</li> </ul>
	<ul><li>North – North of St Giles</li></ul>
	– East – The Plain
	– South – Foley Bridge
	<ul> <li>Green (12) – Potential underground car park location (2035) – for driverless cars / vehicles</li> </ul>
	Red (13) – Buses go too fast on High Street
	– Solution – 5mph limit



Figure 6-3: Members Table 3 - Issues and Visioning









## 6.2 Stakeholders - Issues and Visioning

6.2.1 Tables 5.4 - 5.9 below and the accompanying plans show the results of the stakeholders group work, in their own words, undertaken in Part 3 – Issues and Visioning.

Table 6-4: Stakeholders Table 1 - Issues and Visioning

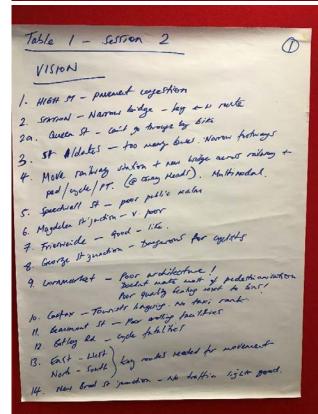
Table	Summary
1	Red (1) - High Street – pavement congestion
	Red (2) - Station – Narrow Bridge – key east – west route
	Red (2a) - Queen St – can't go through by bike
	Red (3) - St Aldates – too many buses. Narrow footways
	Red (4) - Move railway station and new bridge across railway + pedestrian / cycle /public transport at Osney Meads) – should be multimodal interchange
	Red (5) - Speedwell Street – poor public realm
	Red (6) - Magdelen St junction – v poor
	• Green (7) – Frideswide Square – good – all like.
	Red (8) - George St junction – dangerous for cyclists
	• Red (9) - Cornmarket – poor architecture / doesn't make most of pedestrianisation / poor quality seating next to bins!
	Red (10) - Carfax – tourists lingering / no taxi rank
	Red (11) - Beaumont Street – poor crossing facilities
	Red (12) - Botley Road – cycle fatalities
	Red (13) – Key north – south and east – west routes through the city need improvement
	Red (14) - New Broad Street junction – no traffic lights – we like this!
	Green (15) - Good cycle / pedestrian route. Need to see more of this / Extra similar links needed
	- * = New route needed
	Green (16) - Cowley link by railway to reduce road congestion
	Green (17) - Flood channel – potential for pedestrian / cycle route (located to the west)
	Vision ideas:
	• Consider potential for trams – North -South and East-West routes – alternative to BRT?
	• Gloucester Green - tourist coaches drop off / set down only. Enabled by new bus interchange at railway station (4)
	Restrict cars into centre
	• BRT
	<ul> <li>Franchising System – Public transport (needed to help sort out routes)</li> </ul>

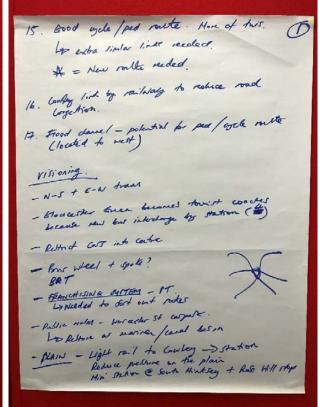
Table	Summary
	Public realm – opportunity for enhancement of Worcester Street car park
	<ul><li>Restore as marina / canal basin</li></ul>
	The Plain roundabout - Light rail from Cowley to station to help reduce pressure
	– Station @ South Hinksey + Rose Hill stop
	<ul><li>no potential for interchange (too constrained)</li></ul>
	Currently too much emphasis on bus – need to consider alternatives / need a more balanced strategy to 2035
	Business - improve access for servicing and make deliveries more efficient
	Location 8 – Hythe Bridge Street - problem if Queen Street pedestrianised
	Unnecessary looping needs to be improved
	Public Realm – rear of covered market needs to be improved!
	Extend study area boundary to include Osney Mead + The Plain + Banbury Road junction

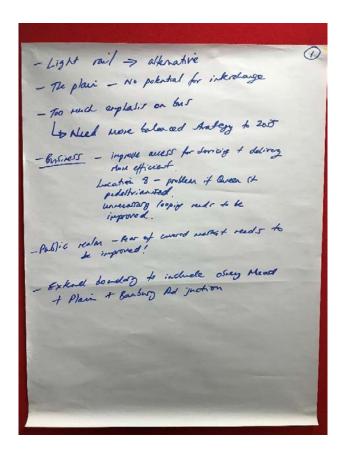


Figure 6-4: Stakeholders Table 1 - Issues and Visioning









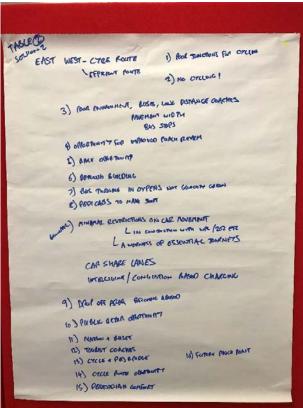


#### Table 6-5: Stakeholders Table 2 - Issues and Visioning

Table	Summary		
2	East West – Cycle Route		
	<ul> <li>Red (1) - poor junctions for cycling (High Street / Longwall Street / Broad Street / George Street / Hythe Bridge Street)</li> </ul>		
	Red (2) - No cycling! (Queen Street)		
	Red (3) - Poor environment / buses / long distance coaches / pavement width / bus stops (St Aldate's)		
	Green (4) - Opportunity for improved public realm (Blue Boar Street / King Edward Street / Brasenose Lane)		
	Green (5) - Bike opportunity (Parks Road to South Parks Road)		
	Green (6) - Demolish buildings (Bonn Square)		
	Red (7) - Bus turning in Oxpens not Gloucester Green		
	Red (8) - Pedicabs to make short journeys (Cornmarket Street)		
	General - Minimal restrictions on car movement		
	<ul> <li>In conjunction with Work Place Parking Levy / Zero Emission Zone</li> </ul>		
	– Awareness of essential journeys		
	– Car share Lanes		
	<ul> <li>Intelligent / congestion based charging</li> </ul>		
	Red (9) - Drop off area becoming abused (Market Street)		
	Green (10) - Public realm opportunity (Market Street)		
	Red (11) - Narrow + too many buses (Magdalen Street)		
	Red (12) - Tourist Coaches (St Giles)		
	Green (13) - Cycle and pedestrian bridge (Osney Mead)		
	Green (14) - Cycle route opportunity (Thron Walk)		
	Red (15) - Pedestrian comfort		
	Red (16) - Future pinch point (Botley Road)		







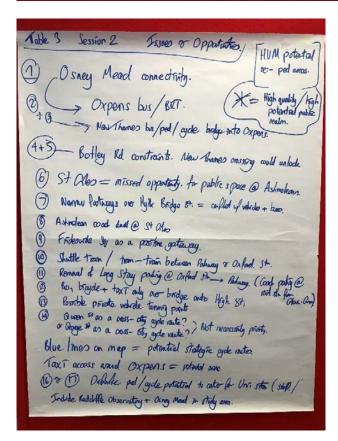


#### Table 6-6: Stakeholders Table 3 - Issues and Visioning

Table	Summary
3	Red (1) - Osney Mead connectivity
	Green (2) - Oxpens bus / BRT
	Green (3) - New Thames bus / pedestrian / cycle bridge into Oxpens
	Red (4 and 5) - Botley Road constraints. New Thames crossing could unlock.
	Green (6) - St Giles – missed opportunity for public space @ Ashmolean museum
	• Red (7) - Narrow footways over Hythe Bridge 87 = can flood with vehicles and buses.
	Red (8) - Ashmolean coach dwell @ St Giles
	Green (9) - Frideswide Square as a positive gateway
	Green (10) - Shuttle Tram / tram – train between Parkway and Oxford Street
	Green (11) - Removal of Long Stay parking @ Oxford station – Parkway (coach party @ rail station from Glouc)
	Red (12) - Bus, Bicycle and taxi only over bridge onto High Street
	Green (13) - Possible private vehicle turning points (The Plain)
	• Green (14) - Queen Street as a cross – city cycle route?
	<ul> <li>Not necessarily priority</li> </ul>
	– Or George Street as a cross – city cycle route?
	Green (15) - Blue lines on map = potential strategic cycle routes
	<ul> <li>Green (16 and 17) - Definite pedestrian / cycle potential to cater for university sites (South Parks Road / Mansfield Road)</li> </ul>
	General - Include Radcliffe Observatory + Osney Mead in study area

Figure 6-6: Stakeholders Table 3 – Issues and Visioning





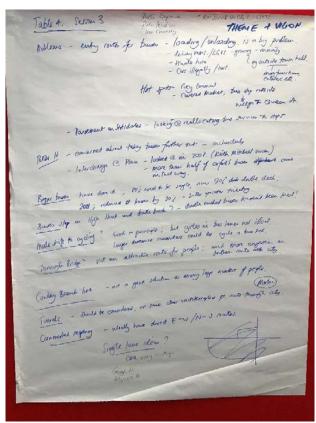


#### Table 6-7: Stakeholders Table 4 - Issues and Visioning

Table	Summary
4	<u>Issues</u>
	Entry routes for buses:
	– loading / unloading is a big problem
	– delivery vans / LGVS – growing – mainly (e.g. outside town hall)
	– private hire
	– cars illegally in area / parked / lost
	Hot spots:
	<ul> <li>Pavement on St Aldates / City Council offices - looking @ reallocating bus services to stops</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>Covered market, bus stop outside (will go to Queen Street)</li> </ul>
	Visioning
	Buses:
	Concerned about taking buses further out of city centre – inclusivity
	Concerned about potential interchange at The Plain roundabout – more than half of Oxford's buses come into the city that way
	Bigger Buses - have done it; 80% used to be single, now 90% double decker
	2011; reduced number of buses by 20% - Inter-operator ticketing
	Buses stop on High Street and double back? – double ended buses have been tried?
	Cycling:
	Mode shift to cycling?
	– Good in principle; but cycles in bus lanes not ideal
	<ul> <li>Longer distance commuters could do cycle – bus park + ride</li> </ul>
	Donnington Bridge - Not an attractive route for people; and more congestion on southern route into city
	Other ideas:
	Cowley Branch Line - Not a good solution to moving large numbers of people
	Tunnels - Should be considered or some other uninterrupted public transport route through city
	Cornmarket reopening ideally have direct E-W / N-S routes
	Single lane ideas?
	One-way routings?

Figure 6-7: Stakeholders Table 4 - Issues and Visioning





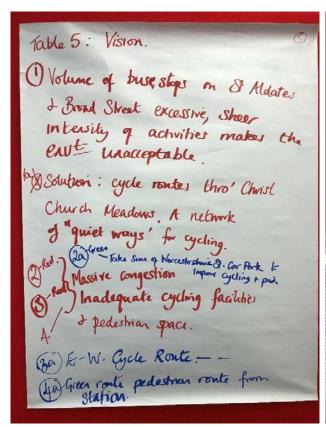


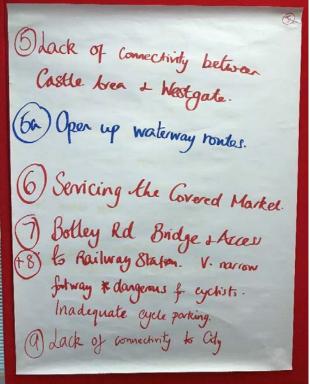
#### Table 6-8: Stakeholders Table 5 - Issues and Visioning

Table	Sumi	mary
5	•	Red (1) - Volume of bus stops on St Aldates and Broad Street excessive, sheer intensity of activities makes the environment unacceptable
	•	Green (1a) - Solution: cycle routes through Christ Church Meadows A network of "quiet ways" for cycling
	•	Red (2) - Massive congestion (Hythe Bridge Street)
	•	Green (2a) - Take some of Worcester Street car park to improve cycling and walking
	•	Red (3) - Inadequate cycling facilities (George Street)
	•	Green (3a) – Provide new east – west Cycle Route
	•	Red (4) - Pedestrian space (George Street / Worcester Street)
	•	Green (4a) – Green pedestrian route from station (Park End Street)
	•	Red (5) – Lack of connectivity between Castle Area and Westgate
	•	Green (5a) – Open-up waterway routes
	•	Red (6) – Servicing the Covered Market
	•	Red (7 and 8) – Botley Road - Bridge and access to railway station.
		<ul> <li>Very narrow footway * dangerous for cyclists</li> </ul>
		– Inadequate cycle parking
	•	Red (9) – Lack of connectivity to city centre (Osney Mead)
	•	Red (10) – Broad Street and St Giles inadequate cyclist's facilities.
		– Poor public realm – movement conflicts
	•	Green (10a) – Remove car parking, enjoy the public realm (St Giles)
<ul> <li>General – gradually reducing the volume of city centre parking whilst providing/facilitating impro transport / other modes</li> </ul>		General – gradually reducing the volume of city centre parking whilst providing/facilitating improved public transport / other modes
	•	Red (11) – Intensity issues related to excessive bus movements (Magdalen Street)
	•	Red (12) – Junction of Parks Road / S Parks Road – very dangerous for cyclists and pedestrians.
	•	General – Cycle parking (secure), every building should have hoops/facilities – need to rent spaces for bike parking.
	•	In particular – Highways (but city planners too) effectively avoids every opportunity to make cycling safe and legitimate. Need cycling officers in County and City Councils.

Figure 6-8: Stakeholders Table 5 - Issues and Visioning









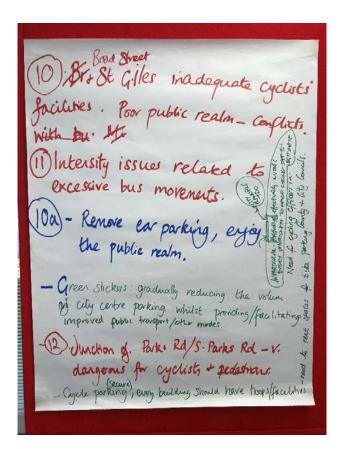


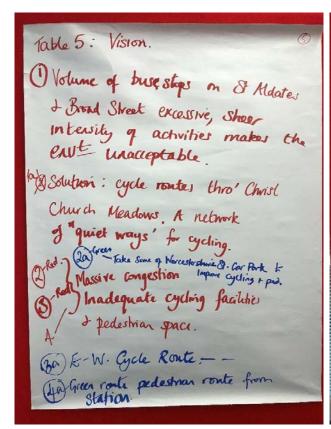
Table 6-9: Stakeholders Table 6 - Issues and Visioning

Table	Sumn	nary
6	•	Red (1) - St Giles – (semi pedestrianised – solution) – no car parking
	•	Red (2) - Hythe Bridge Street – lack of cycle lane – accidents of cycle and pedestrian
		<ul> <li>Solution: - keep tourist and airport buses at P &amp; R</li> </ul>
		- Tourist coaches - decant buses
	•	Red (3) - Speedwell Street - Problem conflict bus / pedestrians / cyclists – lights have gone
	•	Red (4) - Very narrow bit of Botley Road – v poor for cyclists
	•	Green (5) - Works well now - better than Frideswide Square. (Parks Road / Catte Street)
	•	Red (6) - Remove loading bays and evening parking (High Street)
	•	Red (7) - Parking enforcement needs to be improved (no dot)
	•	Red (8) - Folly Bridge. Fantastic bridge – potential for one-way traffic
	•	Green (9) -Specific cycle traffic light. Allows cyclists to go 5 seconds ahead of other traffic (Longwall Street / High Street)
	•	Red (10) - Mixed use of bus stops, pedestrians etc Conflict (St Aldate's)
	•	Red (11) - 4 Way junction – always bus (Worcester Street / George Street)
	•	Red (12) - Access into bus depot
	•	Red (13) - Problem – plan to be another 'T' junction – same issue as Speedwell Street (Worcester Street / New Road)
	•	Green (14) - Broad Street – pedestrianise
	•	Red (14b) - St Giles – no need for private cars
	•	Red (15) - Ban cars (Turl Street)
	•	Green (16) - Castle site – remove car parking???
		– Some sort of electric bus route
		<ul> <li>Note: Different views. Should taxis be banned in bus lanes</li> </ul>
	•	Congestion charging
		- needs to include electric cars
		– needs to include delivery vehicles
	•	Ban work place car parking
	•	Red / Green (17) - New Inn Hall Street – some good points – shared use
	•	Green (18) - But: too much parking – especially at end
		<ul> <li>Note: need adequate space for bus stops</li> </ul>



Figure 6-9: Stakeholders Table 6 - Issues and Visioning







#### 6.3 Summary

6.3.1 A large range of comments emerged from the visioning exercise, including a range of geographical locations across the city centre and beyond. The project team will continue to consider these locations in formulating options for the review. In conclusion table 5.10 below provides a summary of key themes emerging from the workshop sessions.

Table 6-10: Common Themes

Theme	Comment	Total number of times mentioned
Inclusivity		
Access to public transport	Concern about walking distance to public transport services	2
Movement		
Walking	General pedestrian congestion / too narrow footways	6
	Poor crossing facilities	2
Cycling	Traffic-free and segregated cycle routes	9
	Need to improve safety for cyclists	3
	New pedestrian / cycle bridge	1
	Lack of cycle parking / need for more cycle parking	1
Public transport	Problem of bus congestion	7
	Need for off bus ticketing	1
	Consider light rail / tram	3
Private hire coaches	Reduce / remove / re-route coaches in city centre	3
	Need to for tourist coach drop-off / pick up location	2
Public Realm		
Public space	Lack of seating / places to dwell in city centre	2
Green network	Improve access to canal and river network	4
Public realm	Poor quality	5
	Like Frideswide Square	4
Cornmarket	Poor quality architecture	3
Safety and Public Health		
Air Quality	Zero Emission Zone	2
Economy		
Servicing	Need to improve access for servicing and make deliveries more efficient	2
Parking	Removal / reduction of car parking in city centre	4



General			
Demand management	Congestion charging	2	
	Work Place Parking Levy	3	
	Traffic control points	2	



### Appendix A Members and Stakeholders Invitations



### **Invitation to Members Workshop**

**Project: Oxford City Centre Movement and Public Realm Strategy** 

Event: Members Workshop I – 4<sup>th</sup> October 2017

Birmingham-based transport planning and urban design consultancy *Phil Jones Associates* and Nottingham based sustainable transport experts, *ITP* have been appointed to develop a transport and public realm strategy for Oxford city centre.14:00

This study will inform the new Oxford City Council Local Plan, which will contain a strategy for development of the city up to 2036, and help inform a future update of Oxfordshire County Council's Oxford Transport Strategy.

To begin this dialogue, a workshop is being held for Members. The purpose of the workshop is to:

- Inform Members about the process and timescale for the study
- Present the consultants' initial assessments of the current options for city centre movement
- Invite Members views of these options and further options for consideration
- Invite views on the process by which options will be appraised

Date:	4 <sup>th</sup> October 2017
Venue:	Oxford Town Hall Long Room
Address:	St Aldate's, Oxford, OX1 1BX
Time:	Registration: 13:30 Start: 14:00 Finish: 16:00
Website:	More details about the venue can be found at: <a href="https://www.oxfordtownhall.co.uk/">https://www.oxfordtownhall.co.uk/</a>

To take part in the workshop please email <a href="mailto:oxfordstudy@philjonesassociates.co.uk">oxfordstudy@philjonesassociates.co.uk</a> stating your name, organisation and contact telephone number. The deadline for confirming your attendance is Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> October. We will then contact you to confirm attendance and to discuss any access arrangements you may require.

If you are unable to attend please email to confirm and a copy of the outcomes of the workshop will be emailed to you. A further stakeholder workshop is then planned in November where you will be invited to discuss emerging findings with the team.



### Invitation to Stakeholder Workshop

**Project: Oxford City Centre Movement and Public Realm Strategy** 

Event: Stakeholder Workshop I – 4th October 2017

Birmingham-based transport planning and urban design consultancy *Phil Jones Associates* and Nottingham based sustainable transport experts, *ITP* have been appointed to develop a transport and public realm strategy for Oxford city centre.

This study will inform the new Oxford City Council Local Plan, which will contain a strategy for development of the city up to 2036, and help inform a future update of Oxfordshire County Council's Oxford Transport Strategy.

To begin this dialogue, a workshop is being held for key stakeholders. The purpose of the workshop is to:

- Inform stakeholders about the process and timescale for the study
- Present the consultants' initial assessments of the current options for city centre movement
- Invite stakeholder views of these options and further options for consideration
- Invite views on the process by which options will be appraised

Date:	4 <sup>th</sup> October 2017
Venue:	Oxford Town Hall Long Room
Address:	St Aldate's, Oxford, OX1 1BX
Time:	Registration: 17:00 Start: 17:30 Finish: 19:30
Website:	More details about the venue can be found at: https://www.oxfordtownhall.co.uk/

To take part in the workshop please email <a href="mailto:oxfordstudy@philjonesassociates.co.uk">oxfordstudy@philjonesassociates.co.uk</a> stating your name, organisation and contact telephone number. The deadline for confirming your attendance is Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> October. We will then contact you to confirm attendance and to discuss any access arrangements you may require.

If you are unable to attend please email to confirm and a copy of the outcomes of the workshop will be emailed to you. A further stakeholder workshop is then planned in November where you will be invited to discuss emerging findings with the team.



### Appendix B Workshop Presentation

# Oxford City Centre Movement and Public Realm Strategy

Workshop I - 4th October 2017

Oxford City Council

























• Please register with our team who will let you know which table you are sitting on

# Introduction by Councillor Alex Hollingsworth

# **Our Team**

# **Introducing the Team**



Phil Jones

Project Director and Walking & Cycling Lead



Annabel Keegan

Project Manager and
Placemaking Lead



Neil Taylor

Director at ITP and Public Transport Lead



lan Stott
Principal Consultant at ITP and
Strategy Support

# **Objectives of today's workshop**

- To inform you about the process and timescale for the study
- Present the consultants' initial analysis work
- Invite views of the Oxford Transport Strategy and City Council (Alan Baxter)
  options and further options for consideration
- Invite views on the process by which options will be appraised

# **Structure of the Workshop**

Welcome and Introductions	10 mins
Part I – Existing Situation	20 mins
Break	5 mins
Part 2 – Existing Options and Potential Appraisal Themes	25 mins
Break	5 mins
Part 3 – Visioning	45 mins
Wrap up	10 mins

# Part I - Existing Situation

# **Key Issues and Challenges**

### **Traffic Pressures and Impacts**

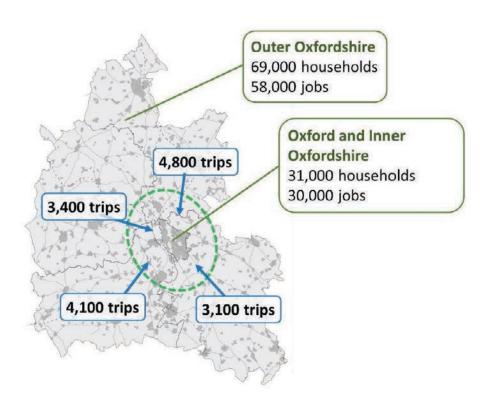
- Private and public transport
- Congestion, air quality, liveability
- 25% growth in city journeys by 203 l

### The Need for Change

- County and City agreed on the principles
- But what is the nature of that change?
- Incremental, Bold, Radical?

### **Deliverability**

- Space
- Design
- Politics
- Funding



#### Source:

Strategic housing and employment allocations in Oxfordshire in 2031 (SHMA housing growth & Cambridge Econometrics jobs forecast

# Inclusivity - 400m walking distance of a bus stop



### **Movement - Walking and Cycling**

#### **Walking**

- High levels of walking already, but
- Quality and capacity lacking in many places
- Practicalities of further pedestrianisation
- Pedestrian prioritisation through design

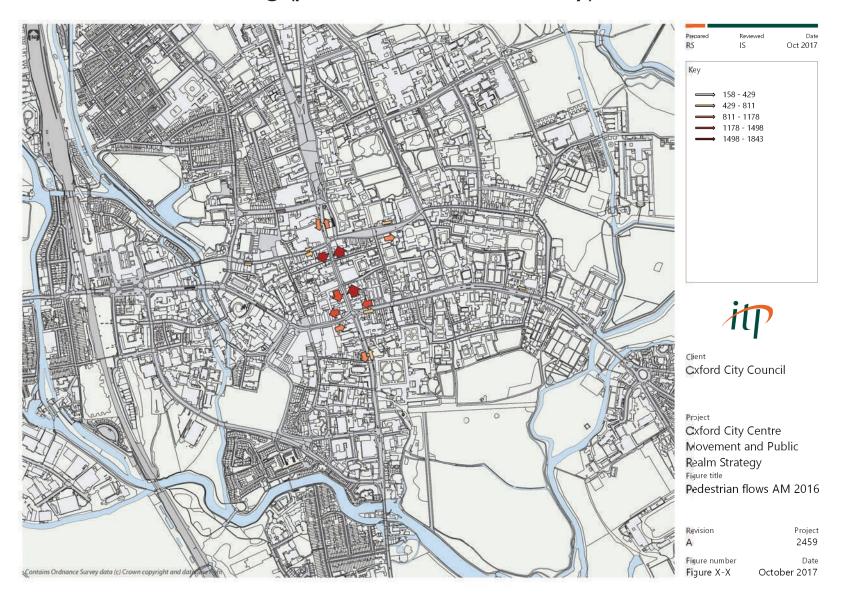
### **Cycling**

- Oxford doing well...but not well enough
- Network is patchy and often poor
- Need to be much more ambitious
- Cycle parking a major issue

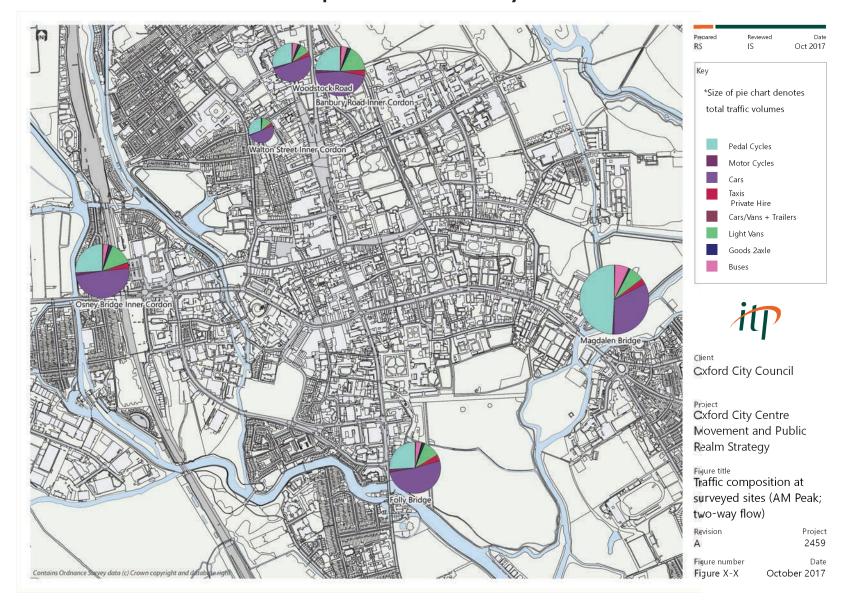




# **Movement -** Walking (pedestrian flows weekday)



# **Movement -** Traffic composition at surveyed sites



## **Movement - Public Transport**

#### Bus / P&R

- Stop locations for pedestrian flow
- Accessibility & inclusion
- Congestion on city centre approaches

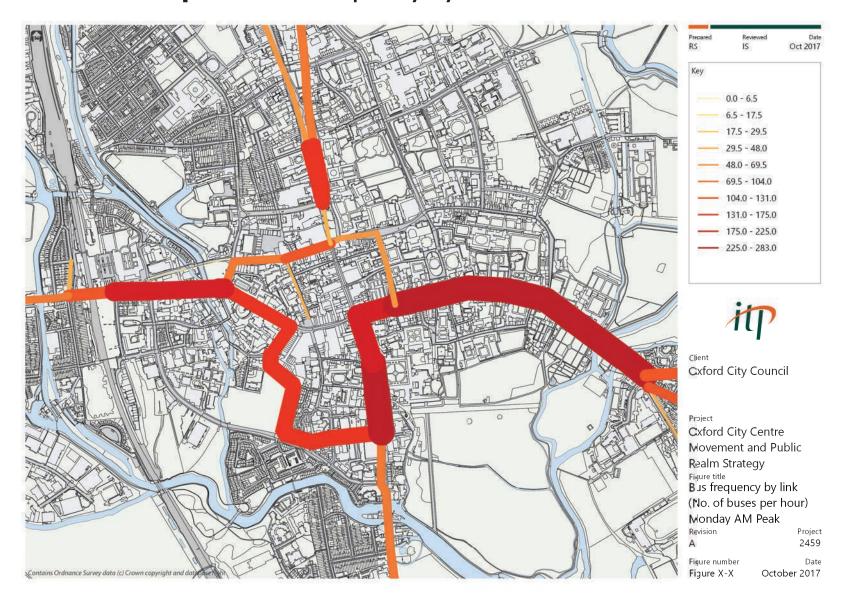
#### Rail

- Disconnected from city centre
- Potential growth location

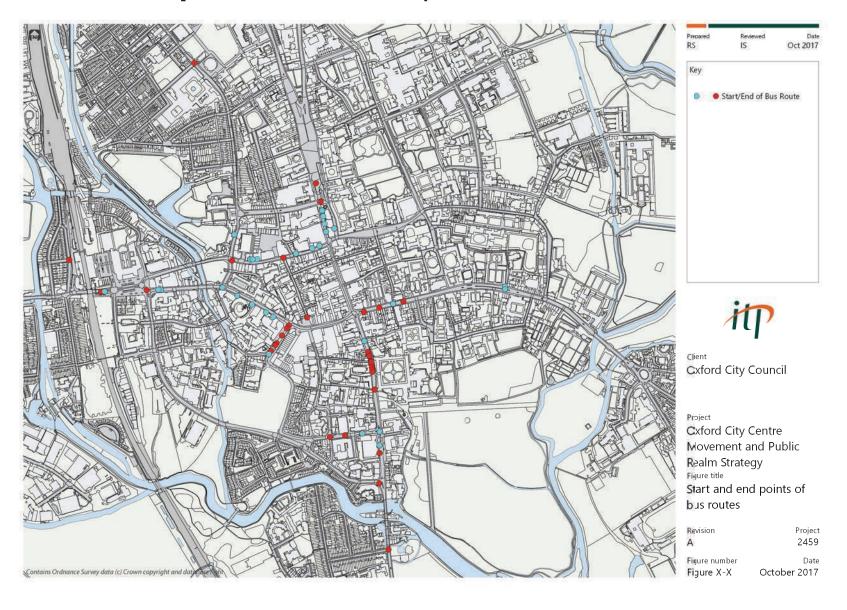




# **Public transport -** Bus frequency by link



# Public transport - Start and end points of bus routes



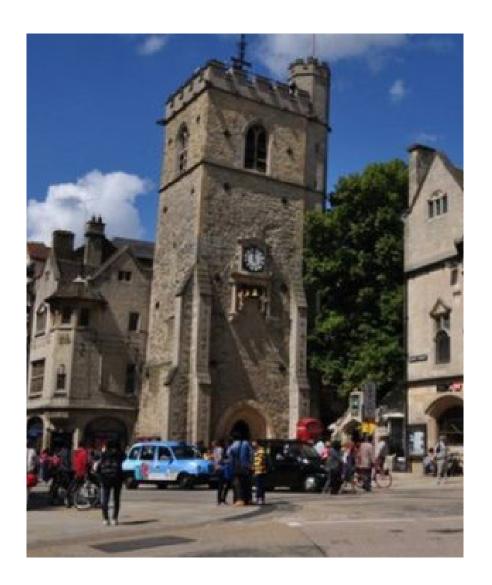
### **Movement -** Other traffic

#### **General traffic**

- Location and design traffic control points
- Build on work being done by County
- Committed changes for Westgate Centre
- Access to car parks

#### **Taxis**

- Increasingly important mode
- Location and size of ranks



### **Public Realm**

#### **Space for 'Place' Activity**

- Seating
- Public art
- Public space
- Green space

### **Quality of Place**

- Central conservation area
- Exceptional historic context

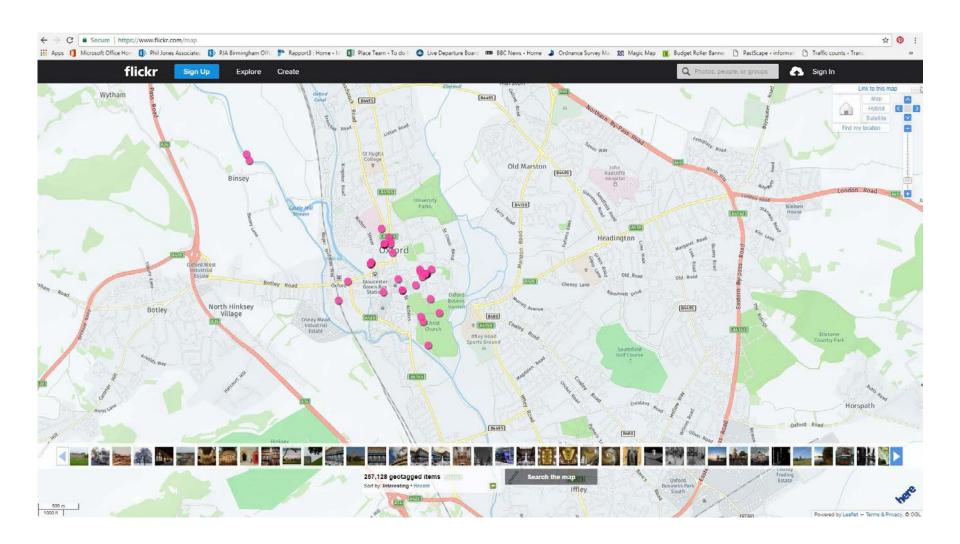
#### **Key locations**

- Bus interchanges
- Coach parking for tourist coaches and its impact on the public realm
- Traffic control points

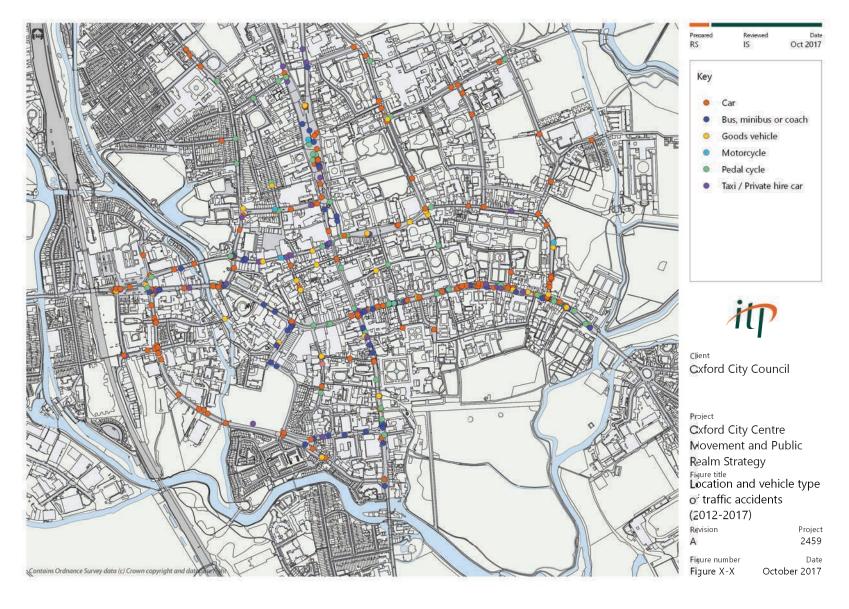




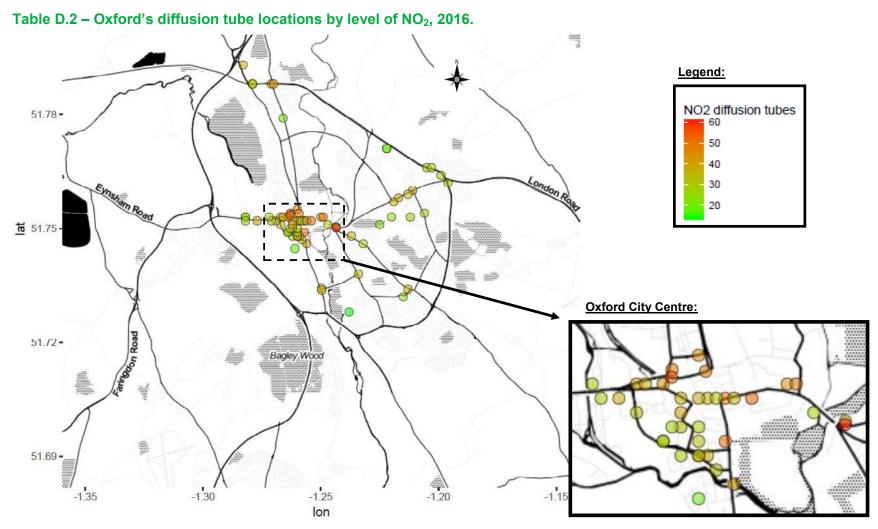
# Public Realm - Photogenicity



# Safety and Public Health - Accidents

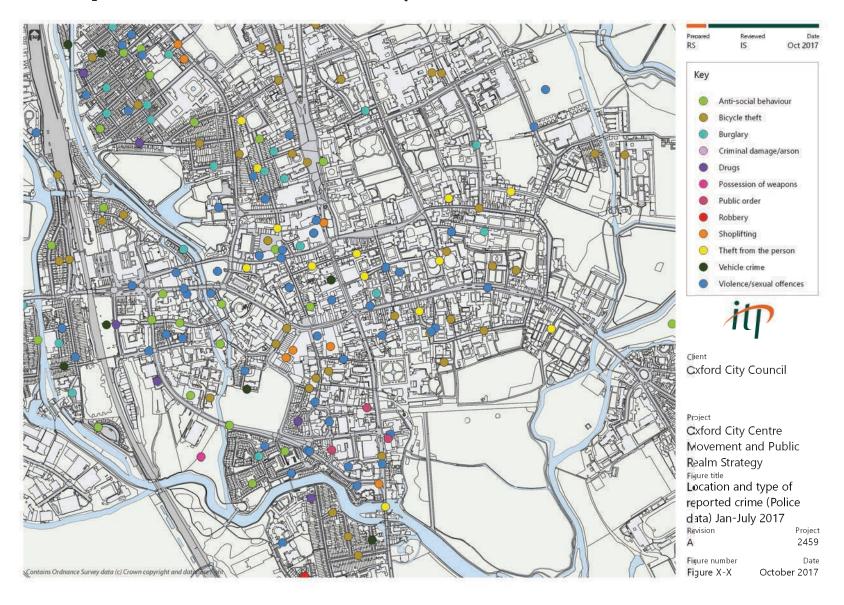


# Safety and Public Health - Air Quality (from 2016 Annual Status Report)



Source: GGmap package for Rstudio 12

# Safety and Public Health - Reported crime



# **Economy**

#### **Taxis**

- Increasingly important mode
- Location and size of ranks

#### **Parking**

Parking availability (car and cycle)

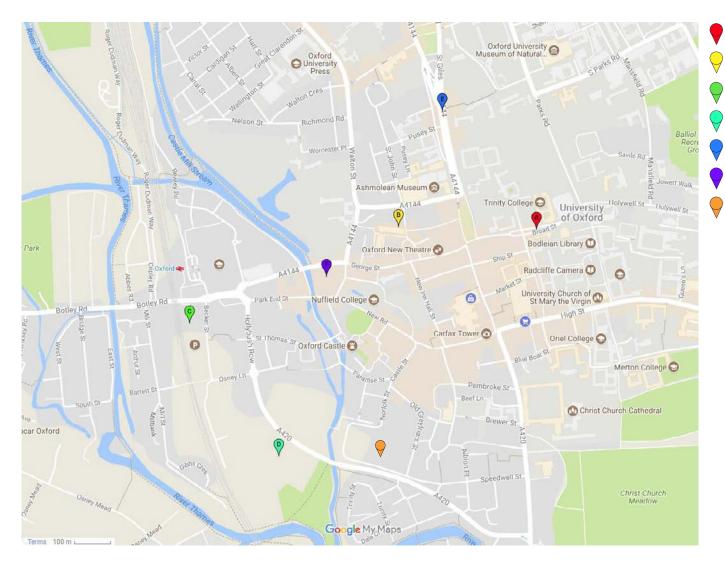
### **Servicing**

- Careful assessment of demand
- Potential to reduce demand
- Consolidation centres
- Cycle freight





# **Economy - Parking**



Broad Street - on street

Gloucester Green - 104 spaces

Beckett Street - 556 spaces

Oxpens - 420 spaces

St Giles - on street

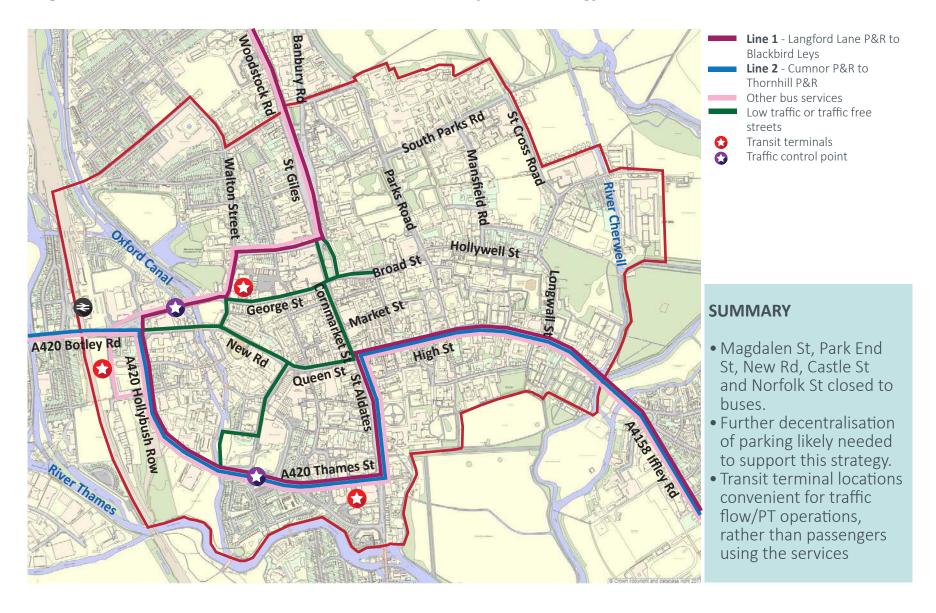
Worcester Street - 180 spaces

**Westgate Shopping Centre** 

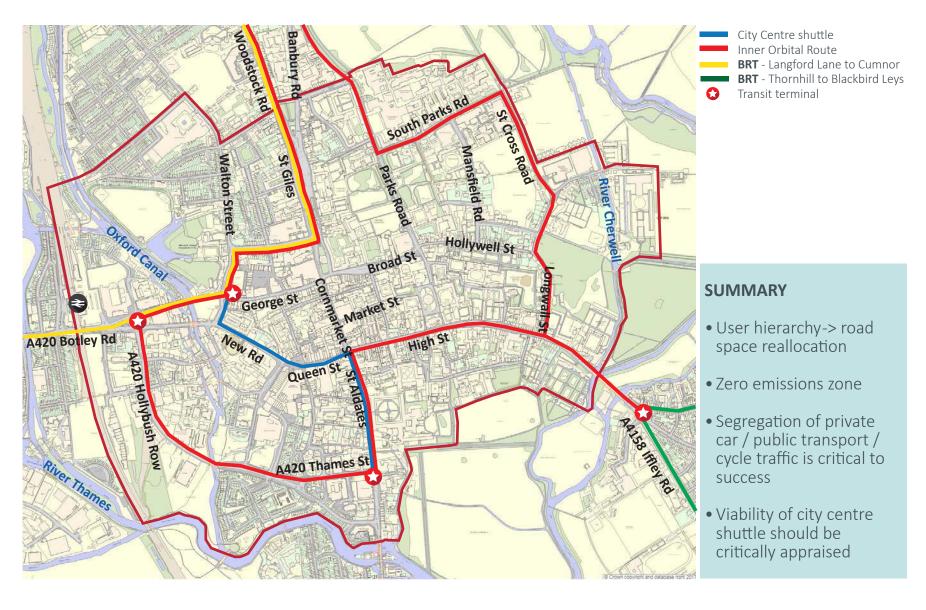
# 5 minute break

# Part 2 - Existing Options and Potential Appraisal Themes

## **Option I** - 2025 Vision from the Oxford Transport Strategy



## **Option 2 -** Oxford City Council Alternative Strategy (Alan Baxter)



# **Appraisal Themes**

- Inclusivity
- Movement
- Public Realm
- Safety and Public Health
- Economy

# **Group Task**

- What desirable outcomes should guide the preferred option?
- How should they be grouped under the five themes?
- How should we measure the outcomes?

You have 25 minutes

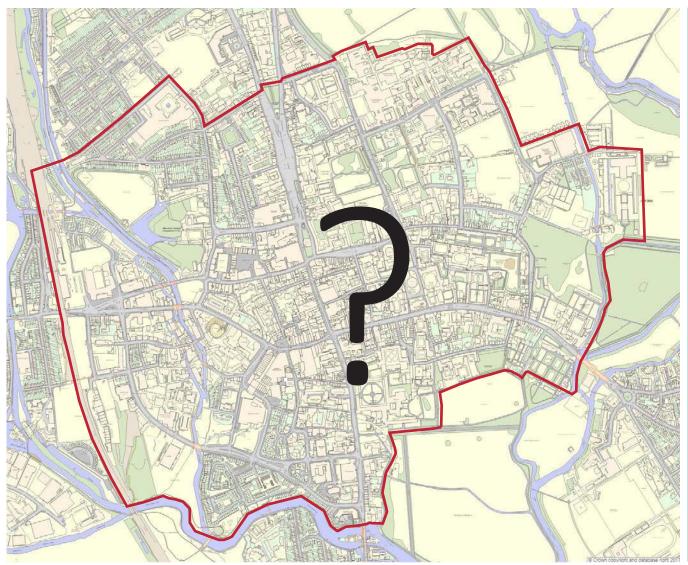
# 5 minute break

# Part 3 - Visioning

#### **Our Vision** - What next?

- Over the next three months our team need to develop and assess options to deliver increased movement capacity in the city centre
- We will priortise pedestrians, cyclists and public transport within the context of ensuring a high quality public realm.
- We would like your input to help shape that vision.

## **Option 3 -** Our Vision



#### **SUMMARY**

- Initial ideas generated through stakeholder engagement to establish a vision.
- Second stakeholder workshop will present summary of assessment and analysis
- Each option tested against assessment matrix
- Potential hybrid option?
- Fresh perspective on overcoming what are fundamentally capacity issues.

# **Group Task**

- Working on your tables we would like you to begin to discuss potential measures
- Using plans, post it notes and / or stickers note down your ideas / locations for key interventions

You have 40 minutes

# Wrap-up

Prepared by:

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