

# Walton Road, Wavendon - Options Discussion

Wed 12<sup>th</sup> June 2024



**MK** **Milton Keynes**  
City Council

# Outcomes from Tonight

- We are not going to reach a consensus on the best solution – as ‘the best solution’ is different for everyone
- But – we can explore the various options and what the likely impacts of these would be on you and the community
- So – when we ask about preferred options later this year, you can make a fully informed decision



# What's the Problem?

- Poor quality pedestrian environment
- Lack of designated footways
- Parents and Children walking to school are often at risk
- Not wide enough for larger vehicles to pass each other
- Identified problem with through traffic at peaks – possibly related to delays at Kingston Roundabout





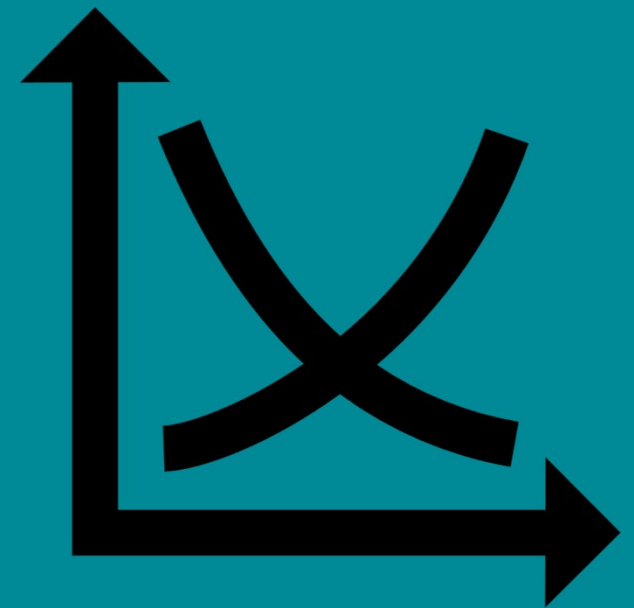
# What are the Solutions?

- Only one solution creates space for a safe pedestrian environment and tackles through traffic in both directions
- **A FULL ROAD CLOSURE**
- A new footway can be constructed and ALL through traffic is completely eliminated – but this solution has the most severe adverse impacts, so what are our other options??



# Stepping Back from a Full Closure, What Other Options Do We Have?

- There is a range of options between doing nothing at all, and a full road closure
- Some of these are easy, many are more difficult, most will be divisive, and one is not legally possible just now – although it may be later
- Each of these comes with a compromise on our desired outcomes, and with a range of different impacts, depending on your circumstances, where you live, where you travel etc.



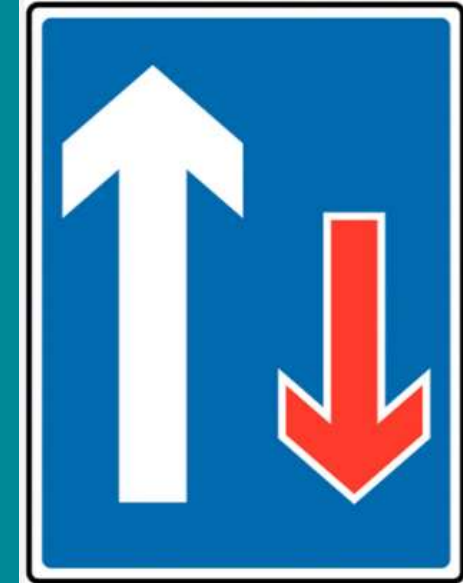
# Option 1 – Vertical Traffic Calming

- Road Humps, Speed Tables or Speed Cushions at c.60m intervals on central section of Walton Rd.
- Some speed reduction
- Some limited deterrent for through traffic
- No improvement in pedestrian environment
- Would I want a hump outside my house?
- Does it actually solve the problem?



# Option 2 – Horizontal Traffic Calming

- Priority Give-Way at narrow section of Walton Road
- Some speed reduction
- Some limited deterrent for through traffic
- No significant improvement in pedestrian environment (some extra width created at restriction)
- Would I want cars waiting outside my house?
- Where is the forward visibility good enough to locate it safely?
- Does it generate more accident risk?



# Option 3 – One-Way Scheme

- Make Walton Rd one-way – either East to West or West to East
- **Some speed increase possible**
- **No deterrent to through traffic in one direction**
- **Construction of new footway possible to improve pedestrian environment**
- **Which direction would the one-way be??**
- **What about the through traffic in the opposite direction??**
- **How big would your detour be??**





# Option 4 – Traffic Signal Control

- Implement traffic signals on Walton Rd to create a single lane alternate working arrangement
- Some speed increase possible
- No significant deterrent to through traffic (some short delay)
- Traffic queues created
- Construction of new footway possible to improve pedestrian environment
- Where would the signals be?
- Would you want traffic queuing outside your house?



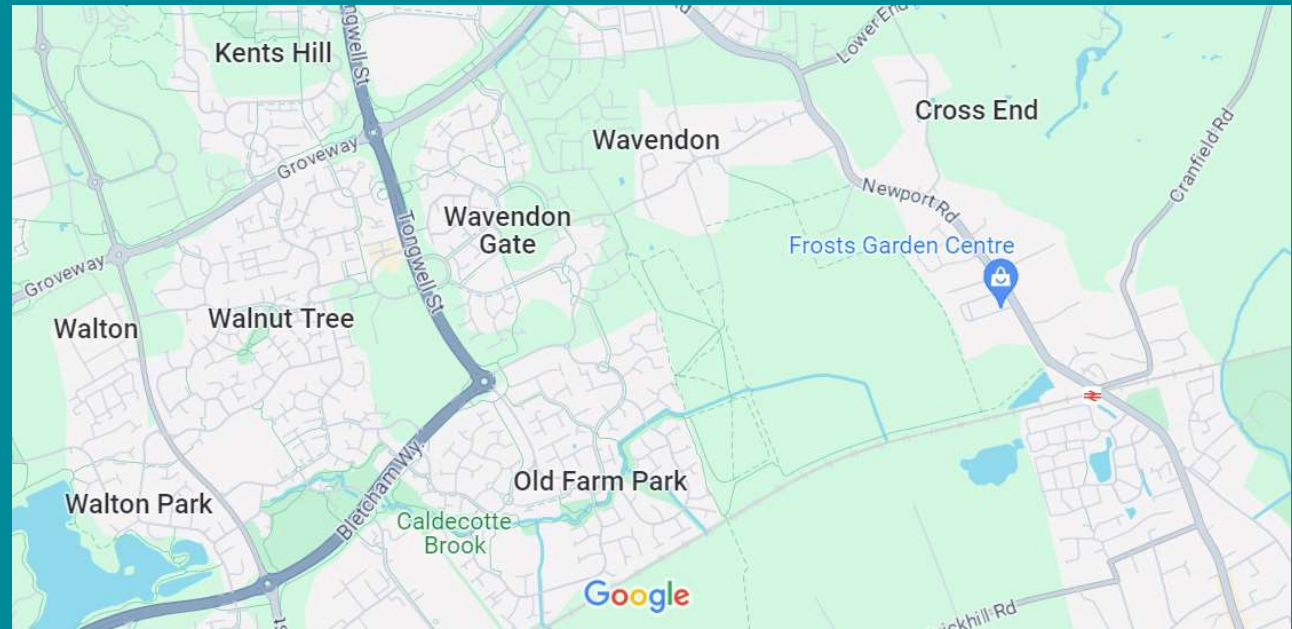
# Option 5 – Open Road Closure

- Implement a camera-enforced restriction on Walton Rd which permits certain vehicles to pass with others prohibited
- **NOT CURRENTLY POSSIBLE – although Council is applying for camera enforcement powers**
- **Selectively tackles ‘problem’ through traffic**
- **No improvement to pedestrian environment**



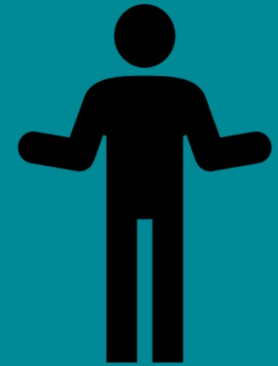
# Option 5 – Open Road Closure

- **Very Divisive – who will be allowed through? How would the boundary be decided?**
- **What about your visitors?**
- **What about your deliveries?**
- **What happens when you buy a new car?**



# So, Plenty to Think About!

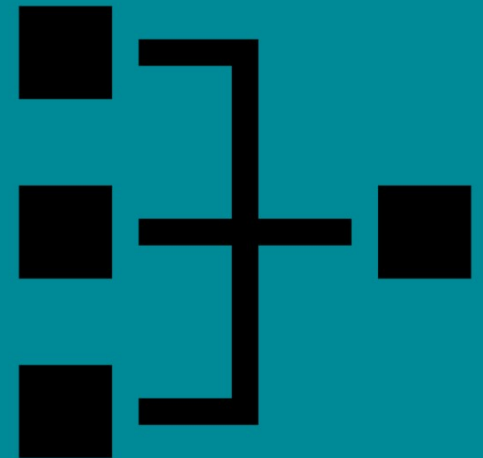
- What is more important – the pedestrian environment or the through traffic flow?
- A balance of community benefits versus individual adverse impacts will deliver the best solution – but what are the community benefits you want – and at what personal cost?
- (Will the through traffic eventually disappear? Kingston improvements?)
- (Why hasn't there been many accidents?)
- (How much of the problem is due to residents?)





# Next Steps

- Informal consultation on preferred option
- Outcome of MTC Enforcement application due this year
- Formal statutory consultation on preferred option chosen
- BUT – Public Consultation outcome cannot be guaranteed, so the more consensus on the preferred option, the better



	Through Traffic	Pedestrian Environment	Traffic Speeds	Amenity Impacts	Inconvenience to Residents	Displacement	Complexity	Cost	Divisiveness	Deliverability
Calming	**	**	***	*	***	**	****	****	***	***
One-Way	**	****	*	***	**	*	****	****	**	***
Signals	*	****	*	*	**	***	***	***	**	***
Full Closure	****	****	****	****	*	*	**	***	*	**
Closure (camera)	****	** to ****	*	***	**	**	*	*	*	*

*Through Traffic* – how well the scheme tackles through traffic on Walton Road. (1 = not much, 4 = very well)

*Pedestrian Environment* – how much scope there is to improve the footway on Walton Rd (1 = little opportunity, 4 = most opportunity)

*Traffic Speeds* – how much the scheme will reduce speeds on Walton Road (1 = not very much, 4 = a lot)

*Amenity Impacts* – how much the scheme will generate local noise, pollution or vibration impacts for nearby residents (1 = significant impacts, 4 = little impact)

*Inconvenience to Residents* – how much the scheme will impact on the journeys residents regularly make (1 = significant impacts, 4 = no impact)

*Displacement* – how much the scheme will cause traffic to divert on to other alternative routes (1 = a lot of displacement, 4 = little displacement)

*Complexity* – how complex the scheme is to introduce and operate (1 = complex, 4 = simple)

*Cost* – how costly the scheme will be to implement and operate (1 = expensive, 4 = cheap)

*Divisiveness* – how likely the scheme is to cause local disagreement and division (1 = divisive, 4 = not contentious)

*Deliverability* – how easy the scheme is for the Council to deliver with its existing powers (1 = very difficult/not currently possible, 4 = easy)

***Please Note – a ‘good’ score is always 4 and a ‘bad’ score is always 1***

# Thank You

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