



Universal
Services

Smannell roundabout improvement scheme, Andover, evaluation report 2026

Images from Hampshire County Council

Key findings

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New Crossing



- Respondents reported that it is now easier to cross the road
- Most respondents said they feel safe using the crossing
- People who crossed here before the work was undertaken reported that crossing had previously been difficult

The school pupils liked it because:

- they feel safe crossing there
- there is lots of space
- the cars stop for them to cross

Respondents using the footbridge instead of the new crossing were doing this because it provided a shorter, more direct route, whilst some felt it offered a safer option for children

Crossing point outside school gate



Most pupils liked the new crossing point outside the school gate. They particularly valued feeling safe, the dropped kerbs and the clear edge between the path and the road

New path on Vespasian Way



Most pupils liked the new path because:

- it has a smooth, level surface and is less muddy
- there is plenty of space to walk side by side and pass others
- they feel safe using it
- it makes journeys shorter

Introduction

Smannell Roundabout Improvements - background



The scheme

The scheme included:

1. installation of a new signalised crossing on the A343 (Newbury Road) at the Smannell Road roundabout
2. construction of an uncontrolled crossing on King Arthurs Way, outside the Knights Enham schools' southern entrance
3. construction of a new footpath to create a safer and more direct walking route between Vespasian Road and the A343 (Newbury Road)

1.



2.



3.



Smannell Roundabout Improvements– background, aims and method



Hampshire County Council is committed to listening to the views of local stakeholders. This engagement exercise aimed to understand the scheme's impact on local residents, particularly pupils at Knights Enham Infant and Junior School, and whether people felt it had improved safety for those walking, wheeling and scooting.



Hampshire County Council conducted an engagement exercise comprising two strands:

1. Two user intercept surveys: these involved inviting people using the new crossing and the old footbridge to complete a short survey about their crossing experiences. Those unable to take part at the time were offered a QR code to complete the relevant survey online later.
2. A visit to Year 1 to 6 pupils at Knights Enham Infant and Junior schools, and Year 4, 5 and 6 pupils at Roman Way Primary School where a short presentation was given showing where the changes had been made (including before and after pictures). The pupils then completed a child-friendly survey telling us:
 - how they travel to school
 - whether they use the paths where the changes have been made
 - what they think about the changes.

This report reflects feedback from both surveys. All questions in the survey were optional, and the base therefore changes throughout the report. This is noted on each chart. Pupils were only asked about infrastructure they personally use. As a result, base numbers for individual questions are lower than the total number of pupils who completed the survey.

Response summary

Survey responses:



200 responses were submitted by pupils at Knights Enham Infant and Junior Schools and Roman Way Primary School

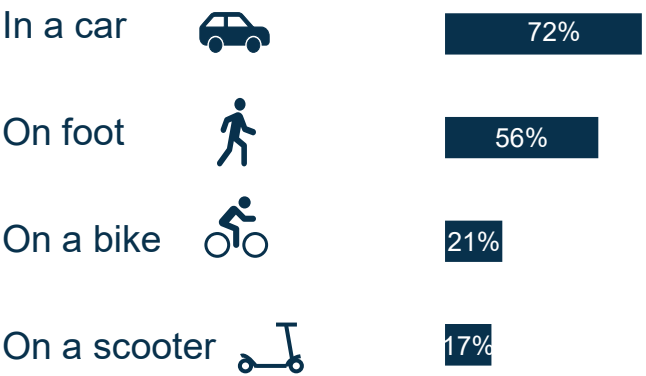


Ten responses were given by people who were stopped after using the crossing



13 responses were from people using the footbridge

174 school children reported travelling to school:



Of the 23 people who were stopped at the crossing or on the footbridge:



Detailed findings

Crossing Newbury Road – ease and safety

Four intercepted respondents had crossed Newbury Road at this location before the installation of the crossing, all finding it difficult with three feeling it was unsafe. After installation, all intercepted respondents (ten) said it was now easy to cross, and 55 respondents (45 out of 63 school pupils plus all ten intercepted respondents) reported feeling safe.

Before the crossing

Four intercepted respondents had previously crossed there; three used the footbridge

All four people said it was difficult to cross in that location previously

One person said they felt safe crossing there whilst three felt unsafe previously

N.B. Only intercepted respondents were asked about their experience before the crossing was installed

After the crossing was installed

Only one person still used the bridge (n=3)

Ten intercepted respondents said crossing the road now was easy (n=10)

Most respondents felt safe (55) with one feeling unsafe and 17 neutral or unsure (n=73)

Intercept survey: Before the pedestrian crossing was installed, did you ever cross Newbury Road here?; How easy did you used to find it to cross here (before the crossing was installed)?; How safe do you feel it used to be to cross here (before the crossing was installed)?

School Survey: Do you ever use the new crossing shown in the picture above [Newbury road crossing]?; Select the image which shows how safe you feel when using the crossing?

New crossing – opinion

Nearly two thirds (41 out of 66) of school pupils liked the crossing, mainly because it made them feel safe. They also valued the extra space for waiting and crossing, and that cars stopped for them.

Likes (n=66)

42 pupils like the crossing, 20 weren't sure

The reasons for liking the crossing were:

- feeling safe = 24
- lots of space when waiting = 14
- cars stop for me = 14
- lots of space when crossing = 8
- the bumpy (tactile) paving = 6
- something else = 2 (the lights)

Dislikes (n=66)

Six pupils did not like crossing - those that specified said they didn't like waiting

Only one intercept survey respondent expressed a dislike, stating that the crossing was not needed because it is close to the footbridge

School Survey: Do you like using the new crossing?; What do you like about using the crossing? What don't you like about using the new crossing?
Intercept survey: Is there anything that you dislike about the new crossing?

Footbridge over Newbury Road

Most respondents reported using the footbridge when it offered the quickest, most direct route. Some felt it was safer than the crossing, particularly for children, as it is away from roads.

Why use the bridge?

It is:

- the quickest route = 8
- the most direct route = 6
- safe = 5

Other reasons were:

- it is easier
- can call into the shops
- it is nicer

It is was noted that a relatively large number (approx. 20-25) of unaccompanied children used the bridge to travel from school

Six respondents intercepted on the bridge had used the new crossing previously

Reasons for not using the new crossing:

- not their desire line = 6
- the route is longer = 1
- feel safer on the bridge = 1

Other reasons for not using it included:

- safer for children
- prefer to have the crossing at the Roman Way roundabout

Further comments

- The bridge is slippery in winter and needs gritting (two comments)
- There is sometimes glass and dog poo on the bridge (one comment)
- Like the new crossing - the lights change quickly and change automatically when you reach the middle, and the construction of the crossing was very quick (one comment)

Why do you use the footbridge to cross Newbury Road?; Have you ever used the new signalised crossing?; Why didn't you use the new signalised crossing today?; Is there anything else you would like to tell us about crossing Newbury Road?.

New crossing point outside Knights Enham Schools

Nearly three quarters of the school pupils that used the new crossing point that had been installed at the southern school entrance liked it. Most liked it because it made them feel safe. They also liked the dropped kerbs and that it was easy to see the edge of the path.



72 pupils liked the new crossing point outside the school gate (dropped kerbs and bumpy (tactile) paving), seven did not and 22 weren't sure (n=101)

Reasons for liking the new crossing point:

- I feel safe crossing there = 34
- the path and road are the same height = 25
- it is easy to see the edge of the path = 22
- something else = 5 (cars stop, less busy, helpful, like to use it with a bike)

Reasons for not liking the new crossing point:

- not needed/ made no difference = 2
- have to wait too long = 1

New path between Vespasian Way and Newbury Road

Most pupils that used the new path liked it. They mostly liked the smooth flat surface. They also liked that they felt safe using it, had lots of room to pass others, walk side by side and that it didn't get muddy.



47 pupils like the new path,
two did not and ten weren't sure
(n=59)

Reasons for liking the new path:

- The path is flat and smooth = 24
 - People walking and cycling can pass each other = 13
 - I feel safe = 13
 - It doesn't get muddy = 12
 - It makes my journey shorter = 12
 - I can easily walk next to mum/ dad/ friends = 12
- (n=43)

Reason for not liking the new path: it is unsafe and children could jump over the gate [railing]

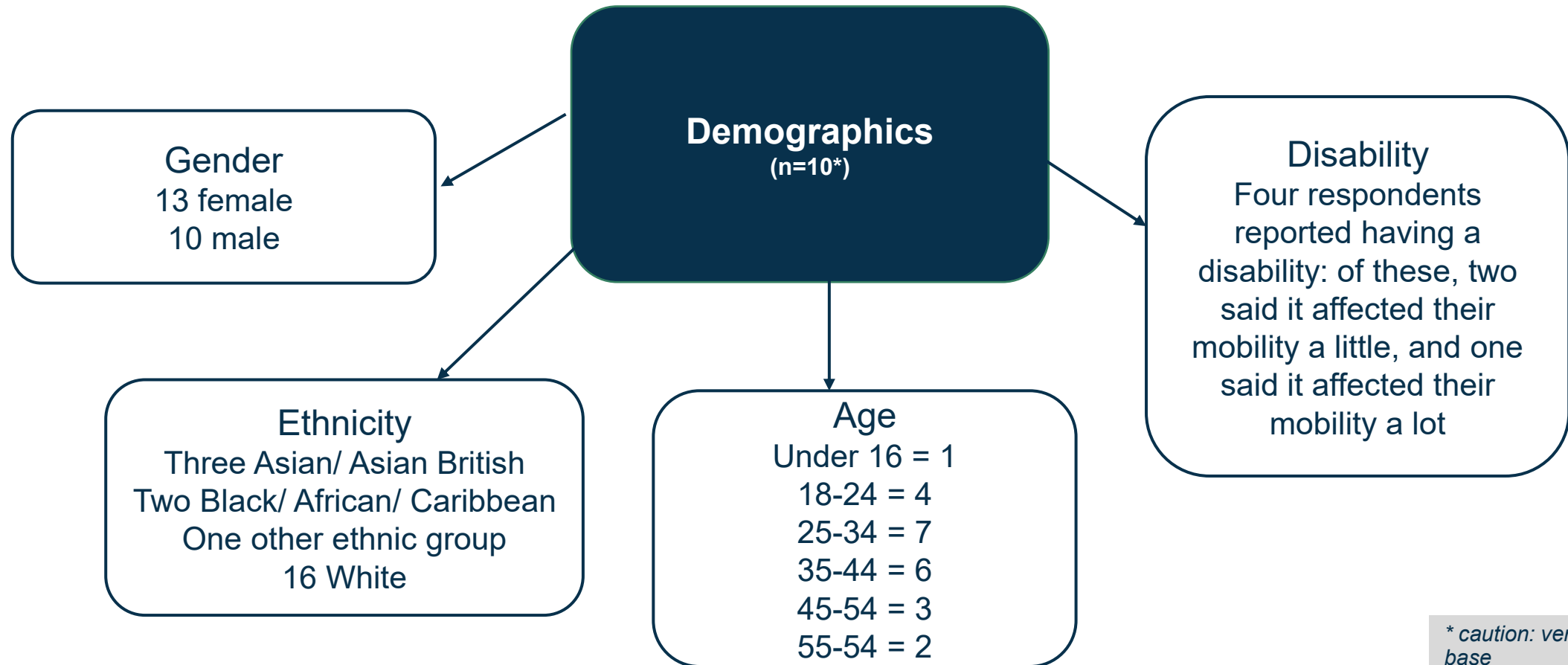
Do you like using the new path?; What do you like about using the new path?; What don't you like about using the new path?

Respondent profile

(Intercept surveys only)

Demographics

Demographics were only collected for those people who responded to the intercept survey. There were equal numbers of males and female respondents, with a mix of ethnicities, the age range spanned from under 16 to 54. Three respondents reported their mobility was affected by physical or mental illness.



Which of the following best describes your gender?; What is your ethnic group?; What is your age?; Do you have any physical or mental health conditions or illnesses lasting or expected to last 12 months or more that affect your mobility (ability to move around)?