

Question from ExA

Page 62 1.11.26 Local Roads - The ExA had the opportunity, on its USI, to travel local roads surrounding the A417. Please describe your experiences of the routes along these roads that drivers have been using to circumvent the current traffic issues faced on the A417 (with maps if necessary), the type of vehicles using the local roads and their frequency. Provide any evidence to support such assertions.

Response from Cowley and Birdlip Parish Council

Cowley and Birdlip Parish Council submit the following experiences and evidence of vehicles using local roads to circumvent the current traffic issues faced on the A417. Daily "rat running" is experienced by Cowley, Birdlip and surrounding villages. Historically due to volume of traffic, most rat running would occur at peak travel times 6-9am and 4-6pm. However, since the Pandemic, subsequent return to work and rise in home deliveries the unpredictability of traffic volume has had an increased impact on all types of vehicles using local roads to avoid congestion on the A417. A recent one hour survey shows over 1000 vehicles regularly travelling through the village of Birdlip.

We have included evidence of the issues experienced by both Cowley and Birdlip residents which include; Maps, Photographs Videos Blurred to comply with UK GDPR and Social Media Posts showing the impact on these residents and those in surrounding rural villages, Names have been redacted to comply with GDPR. These are caused by "daily rat running" and traffic diversions due to regular accidents or closures to sections of the A417.

Please find included two documents labelled "Impact on Birdlip" and "Impact on Cowley".

Please also find included 14 videos showing the impact of rat running and traffic diversions. These videos have been emailed to A417missinglink@planninginspectorate.gov.uk Please also see document "Permission" containing permission from the video owners to use as evidence in the Examination of a Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project. Personal details have been redacted to comply with UK GDPR but originals are available upon request of the ExA.