

## A331 Shared Pedestrian and Cycle Route- April 2017 Newsletter

The A331 shared pedestrian and cycle route, long awaited by businesses at Yorktown and Watchmoor Park has now been completed. The shared route provides a safe and high quality route for pedestrians with new on-demand signal controlled crossings. The upgraded traffic signals and vehicle detectors will help to minimise delays by giving priority to traffic on the A331.

The new shared path will make it easier to walk and cycle between Blackwater railway station, Meadows, Yorktown Industrial estate, Watchmoor Park and the Sainsbury's supermarket on the A331.

The route is being welcomed by The Yorktown and Watchmoor Business Association who recognise its importance in helping promote sustainable travel options for employees based at sites along the A331, in particular at Watchmoor Park. It will improve accessibility and promote the area as a sustainable location to attract and to retain businesses.

The value of having improved accessibility has already been shown by Britax Childcare, a global manufacturer of premium branded children's car safety seats, who will be moving into Watchmoor Park in spring 2017.

Pedestrians and cyclists can now travel between Meadows and Hawley Meadows, though the signalised crossing on the A331/Riverside Way junction to link up with the Blackwater Valley leisure route. It also gives a safe route for walking/cycling between the Meadows into adjacent towns i.e. Farnborough and Aldershot.

The Blackwater Valley Leisure route is a 23 mile nature path running along the Blackwater River. The new shared route will help encourage more residents to get out and about more often and contribute to creating a healthier and more active community. More information on the leisure route can be found at [http://www.blackwater-valley.org.uk/about\\_path.html](http://www.blackwater-valley.org.uk/about_path.html)

The A331 is the first of an exciting package of major transport schemes which will improve congestion and travel options to help unlock economic growth and prosperity in Surrey Heath and the Blackwater Valley area.

