

Cllr Roy Perry
Leader, Hampshire County Council
The Castle
Winchester SO23 8UJ

29 May 2018

Dear Cllr Perry

**National Cycle Network Route 23
Alresford, Hampshire**

I am Head of Network Development in the South of England for Sustrans, the charity making it easier for people to walk and cycle. Our flagship project is the National Cycle Network (NCN), which has created over 16,000 miles of signed cycle routes throughout the UK.

Over the past few months, I have been in consultation with New Alresford Town Council in Hampshire, in relation to its request for, amongst other measures, an amendment to the alignment of NCN Route 23.

This route runs between Southampton and Reading via Winchester and Alresford. The obvious route for Route 23 to follow into Alresford is along the B3047 Winchester Road and The Avenue into the town. This is not only the most direct route, but also the most interesting – taking in the historic Toll House, the avenue of trees and long views up the hill into town. None of which the current route allows.

The reason for Route 23 following its current circuitous route, is that this section of the B3047 does not conform to the minimum standards set out in Highways England's Interim Advice Note 195/16. If the route could be brought up to these standards, Sustrans would be very supportive of the diversion of Route 23 that the Town Council has requested.

I am due to meet with Hampshire County Council officers on 18 June 2018 and would be glad to discuss the matter in further detail then.

In the meantime, I would like to place on record Sustrans' support for the measures requested by New Alresford Town Council. We believe they will bring significant environmental, economic and - above all - safety benefits.

Yours sincerely

Simon Pratt
Head of Network Development, England South

Strava close-up heat map showing stop off points in New Alresford

