

# Count of Pedestrians Using the Shared Footpath & Cycleway Near Tesco

## 1. Introduction

Four volunteers organised by PeCAN (Petersfield Climate Action Network) used tally counters at two locations on the shared footpath and cycleway near the Tesco Store to count the number of pedestrians and other users. This shared-use path connects the Tesco Overflow Car Park to Borough Road and Cranford Road.

The location of the counts is shown in Figure 1. The counts took place during the morning on 17<sup>th</sup> May and the afternoon on 18<sup>th</sup> May 2023. On both days the weather was dry, generally sunny and warm (about 15°C). The full results are shown in the tables presented in Section 3. A summary of the results is provided below.

This note was prepared by Gethin Morgan-Owen on 20<sup>th</sup> May 2023.



**Figure 1: Map showing the location where the counts were undertaken and the location of the Gate on the northerly side of the Petersfield School.**

## 2. Summary of Results

The following is a summary of the main findings from this counting exercise:

- The peak flow of pedestrians was in excess of 800 pedestrians/hour. This occurs on the shared footpath and cycleway between the northerly gate of the Petersfield School and the Tesco Store. The majority of these pedestrians were teenage pupils heading to or from the Petersfield School. Many pupils walked in groups side-by-side using the full width of the footpath, as illustrated in Figure 2. The large quantity of pedestrians was such that the path was congested during the AM and PM peaks (08:00-08:30 and 15:15 and 15:45). This is the busiest access route to the School and may be one of the busiest footpaths in the Town.
- Young children from Petersfield Infants School accompanied by parents and sometimes by siblings were observed heading in the opposite direction to the main flow. Some of the young children used

scooters, while some of the parents had babies in push chairs. While conflict between the teenagers and the families was not observed, a mother was seen to move her child away from a group of on-coming teenagers, indicating a degree of parental concern about the potential for harm to a vulnerable user on the footpath.

- A number of cyclists were counted, confirming that the route towards the Tesco overflow car park is used as a shared footpath and cycleway. These cycle users were a mixture of adults who appeared to be cycle commuting and children travelling to school. These cyclists were moving slowly and taking care to avoid pedestrians.
- In addition to the scooters used by young children, adults using e-scooters were observed. These are not legal unless on private land with the owner's permission, or as part of a DfT approved rental scheme. In general the e-scooters users were travelling at higher speed than the cycle users.



**Figure 2: View of pedestrians on the shared footpath and cycleway, with the rear of the Tesco Store in the background. This photograph was taken on 18<sup>th</sup> May at about 15:30.**

### **3. Tables Showing The Count Data Recorded At Location A**

The following tables show the counts recorded at Location A. Some general observations made by the volunteers enumerators are included. Location A was about 10 metres east of the School Gate (between the Gate and the Tesco Store), as shown in Figure 1. The enumerators at Location A were LB and AEG, with IMO and GMO at Location B.

Time Period	Quantity counted during each time period				General observations
	Pedestrians	Cycles	Pushchairs /prams	Scooters (2 wheels)	
07:45 - 08:00	56	1	0	2	Including one elderly lady using a shopping trolley for support.
08:00 - 08:15	250	3	2	2	Mum and daughter heading towards Petersfield Infants School against the flow of teens heading to the Petersfield School. Mum moved daughter away from the oncoming teens.
08:15 - 08:30	477	4	0	2	The path was congested with school children, who mainly travelled in groups, side by side. Also two dog walkers and a lady with walking support.
08:30 - 08:45	38	0	3	12	Parent pushing buggy with dog, with child on scooter. The School Gate was closed at 08:32.
<b>Hourly flow during AM peak hour for pedestrians</b>	<b>821</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>18</b>	The majority of pedestrians counted were teens heading towards the Petersfield School, but there were also some younger children accompanied by parents heading in the opposite direction towards the Infants School.

**Table 1: Count of pedestrians and other users on the shared footpath and cycleway at Location A on 17<sup>th</sup> May 2023.**

Time Period	Quantity counted during each time period				General observations
	Pedestrians	Cycles	Pushchairs /prams	Scooters (2 wheels)	
15:00 - 15:15	28	4	1	3	The scooters were all electric. Also one mobility scooter.
15:15 - 15:30	662	4	2	5	A rush of school children. Also one electric scooter and 4 children on non-electric scooters.
15:30 - 15:45	95	1	0	3	The scooters were non-electric ridden by young children.
15:45 - 16:00	57	2	0	3	The scooters were non-electric ridden by young children.
<b>Hourly flow during AM peak hour for pedestrians</b>	<b>842</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>14</b>	During the peak, the shared path was crowded with children heading east towards Tesco and the Town. Several young children on scooters stopped by the side of the path because of the congestion.

**Table 2: Count of pedestrians and other users on the shared footpath and cycleway at Location A on 18<sup>th</sup> May 2023.**

#### 4. Tables Showing The Count Data Recorded At Location B

The following tables show the counts recorded at Location B. Location B was about 10 metres west of the School Gate (between the Gate and Borough Rd and Cranford Rd).

Time Period	Quantity counted during each time period				General observations
	Pedestrians	Cycles	Pushchairs /prams	Scooters (2 wheels)	
07:45 - 08:00	10	1	1	2	Elderly lady pushing a shopping trolley. Large family group walking east.
08:00 - 08:15	29	3	2	4	Several groups of mothers and young kids heading towards the Infant School. One pedestrian accompanied by a dog.
08:15 - 08:30	30	5	0	1	Two pedestrians were accompanied by dogs.
08:30 - 08:45	40	0	2	14	The School Gate was closed at 08:32.
08:45 - 09:00	24	0	3	5	Three pedestrians accompanied by a dog. The dog walkers were generally heading east.
<b>Hourly flow during AM peak hour for pedestrians</b>	<b>94</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>20</b>	At least half of the pedestrians were young children, most of whom appeared to be heading towards Petersfield Infants School.

**Table 3: Count of pedestrians & other users on the shared footpath and cycleway at Location B on 17<sup>th</sup> May.**

Time Period	Quantity counted during each time period				General observations
	Pedestrians	Cycles	Pushchairs /prams	Scooters (2 wheels)	
07:45 - 08:00	10	1	1	2	Elderly lady pushing a shopping trolley. Large family group walking east.
08:00 - 08:15	29	3	2	4	Several groups of mothers and young kids heading towards the Infant School. One pedestrian accompanied by a dog.
08:15 - 08:30	30	5	0	1	Two pedestrians were accompanied by dogs.
08:30 - 08:45	40	0	2	14	The School Gate was closed at 08:32.
08:45 - 09:00	24	0	3	5	Three pedestrians accompanied by a dog. The dog walkers were generally heading east.
<b>Hourly flow during AM peak hour for pedestrians</b>	<b>94</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>20</b>	At least half of the pedestrians were young children, most of whom appeared to be heading towards Petersfield Infants School.

**Table 4: Count of pedestrians & other users on the shared footpath and cycleway at Location B on 18<sup>th</sup> May.**