

TRO/17/101 – West Crosscauseway (7843/59287 as per previous VO 16/44) and RSO/18/01 - West Crosscauseway -

I am writing on behalf of SPOKES to register the following comments on the current TRO and RSO in relation to the Causey Project.

In general, we are supportive of these proposals and they are a big improvement on the earlier proposals to which we objected. In particular, we are pleased that the existing advisory cycle lanes on Chapel St will continue, that 2 way cycling will be allowed on West Crosscauseway and that various traffic management measures to discourage rat running along West Crosscauseway are being proposed.

However, we have number of concerns which are not covered by the existing proposed Orders:

1. The existing setts on West Crosscauseway are in very poor condition and make cycling very difficult if not impossible. It is essential that these are replaced with flat top sets (as used in the recent improvement to the cycle/pedestrian path on the south side of the canal basin). Please note that we do not support the relaying of the existing setts which are badly worn. The Council Transport Committee is expected to endorse a new policy on setted streets at its March 1st meeting. Walking and cycling are a major consideration in this policy, including the need for flat-topped setts. The Causey project must be compatible with that new policy.
2. There should be an exemption to allow right turns by cyclists from the eastern end of West Crosscauseway. Right turns by cars are to be prohibited and, given that cyclists can cycle in both directions, we assume that the omission of an exception for cyclists is a simple error. If so, could this please be rectified. If it is intended, then we strongly object to this aspect of the TRO.
3. We would like more information on the proposed arrangements for cyclists crossing Nicolson St/Patrick St. At present, there is a toucan crossing which allows cyclists to travel westwards. This will clearly need to be modified to allow for cyclists to enter and exit West Crosscauseway. Are other changes to be made? In particular, we note that the RSO removes a pavement build out on the south side of West Crosscauseway which would put the existing crossing in line with the south pavement. We are concerned that this may make east bound cyclists invisible to pedestrians walking north.
4. This build out is also used at present for bins. Where are these bins to be moved to. We would obviously be concerned if they are relocated where they would obstruct the safe 2 way flow of cyclists.

5. We note that the RSO designates the whole triangular area as cycle track. Once implemented, this area should be monitored carefully in case of any unanticipated problems.

Please get in touch if you have any queries about this response.

Yours sincerely

Richard Grant
3 Duncan St
Edinburgh
EH9 1SZ

On behalf of SPOKESPlanning Group