

## **Objection to TRO/19/40B on the grounds that cyclists should be exempted from the banned right turn from Princes St to West Register Street.**

to: Traffic Orders <trafficorders@edinburgh.gov.uk>  
date: 8 Sep 2019, 22:28  
subject: Objection to TRO/19/40B West Register Street area

I'd like to object to [TRO/19/40B](#) on behalf of Spokes, the Lothian Cycle Campaign.

We do welcome some aspects of the TRO. The pedestrian and cycle zone and related access restrictions help promote walking and cycling. And we are pleased that cyclists are exempted from the one way restrictions, which themselves are welcome to reduce overall traffic flow.

**However, we object that cyclists are not exempted from the banned right turn from Princes Street into West Register Street.** Our reasoning for this is that North Bridge and Waterloo Place are key routes for cyclists and they must be properly connected to the forthcoming City Centre West East Link (CCWEL) cycle route along George Street. Going via West Register Street and St. Andrew Square is a quiet, low traffic route, particularly thanks to the other changes proposed by this TRO.

If cyclists are banned from the right turn into West Register Street then instead they must go via a significantly challenging route:

1. Along Princes Street past the Balmoral hotel and busy Waverley Bridge bus stop with taxis and buses pulling out;
2. Into the very congested lead-in to the South St. Andrew Street junction (which has no ASL lead-ins and is always rammed with buses);
3. Then executing a right turn across tram tracks amongst traffic at the busy South St. David Street junction;
4. And then finally tackling the short but sharp climb up South St. David Street with buses around at the bus stop here.

While no option is ever safe, there is no doubt in our mind that it is safer for cyclists to execute the right turn into West Register Street (particularly given that the mini-central reservation provides a sheltered right turn lane) than to continue down Princes Street and right turn into South St. David Street with the serious risks as detailed above.

We imagine that the Council will undertake a wider revamp of the East End junction as part of the City Centre Transformation. However, while this would be very welcome, there is no certainty about timescales or about what would be included, and so it's important that this current TRO delivers for cyclists today.

As such, we call on you to revise the TRO to allow cyclists to make the right turn from Princes Street into West Register Street.

Best regards,  
Chris Paton

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