

Report and Summary
Newbattle Terrace Public Realm Consultation
Posted on the CEC Consultation Hub from 4 to 24 December 2020

Results

There were 76 responses posted on the Consultation hub, with comments that varied greatly in point of view, length and detail. Many responses were nuanced, with both positive and negative comments within the same response, together with questions and suggestions. Responses were broken down into individual comments, of which there were 182 in total. Those were categorised as follows:

- Positive / supportive comments: 44 (24.2%)
- Negative / unsupportive comments: 46 (25.3%)
- Objections: 11 (6.0%)
- Neutral comments and suggestions: 21 (11.5%)
- Questions: 60 (33.0%)

The objections were all concerning the proposal to make Pitsligo Road one-way. The reasons given for objections were:

- Increased journey times and inconvenience for drivers
- Diversion of traffic onto surrounding streets
- Too many restrictions in the local area (referencing Greenbank to Meadows Quiet Route)
- Difficulty in accessing and egressing Eden Lane

Most of the negative / unsupportive comments were also focused on the narrowing and signalisation of Newbattle Terrace at the Pitsligo Road junction and the one-way proposal on Pitsligo, with respondents stating that the arrangement would lead to:

- Increased delays, journey times, and inconvenience for drivers / residents
- Increased traffic congestion / disruption to traffic flow
- Queueing traffic / increased pollution
- Diversion of traffic onto surrounding streets
- A decrease in road safety
- Loss of on-street parking

City of Edinburgh Council Response

We asked:

We asked people to comment on the scheme.

You said:

Although many respondents were supportive of the scheme overall, the most unpopular aspect by far was the proposal to narrow and signalise the junction of Newbattle Terrace and Pitsligo Road, and to render Pitsligo one-way at its southern end.

We did:

We have re-examined the arrangement at Pitsligo Road and have amended the design as follows:

- Pitsligo Road will remain two-way over its entire length
- There will no longer be a stand-alone pedestrian crossing on Newbattle Terrace
- The narrowing at the junction of Newbattle and Pitsligo will remain, with a minimum of 2-metre-wide footpaths
- The junction of Newbattle and Pitsligo will be a 3-way traffic signal junction with pedestrian crossing points on all arms

Questions asked, with answers

Q How will the closure of Pitsligo Road to south bound traffic fit with the Greenbank to Meadows Quiet Route?

A Pitsligo Road will now remain two-way.

Q Pitsligo road is not busy throughout the majority of the day - what is the rationale for making it north-bound only?

A Pitsligo Road will now remain two-way.

Q (It is) unclear on the signal arrangement and how this is activated for cyclists to safely exit southwards. Is this sensor triggered or is this a Toucan crossing where cyclists and pedestrians mix? The same in reverse when headed north. If only a cyclist present at the traffic lights will the lights trigger by sensor?

A Pitsligo Road will now remain two-way.

Q Are you forcing all traffic down Morningside Road and bottlenecking that?

A No.

Q Would it be possible to reinstate one disabled parking space outside number 50?

A No, unfortunately not; the existing disabled spaces at this location are not well used and disabled spaces are more likely to be utilised when nearer Morningside Road and the Dominion cinema.

Q Is it possible that the narrowed roadway at the foot of Pitsligo Road will create a pinch point with potential added danger to cyclists traveling along Newbattle Terrace?

A The narrowed point will be under traffic signal control, so there should be no reason why this should present an additional danger.

Q Is there sufficient space at the new signalised crossing for pedestrians to pass while others are waiting to cross?

A Yes, footways will be minimum of 2 metres wide.

Q I have assumed these signals / stop signs will remove the 2 (resident parking) spaces...will the spaces still be available with the new stop signs in place?

A These resident parking bays will be moved to the east of Eden Lane.

Q Is there sufficient intergreen between each of the phase(s)? However, if the intergreen is too long, you (are) creating (a) longer queue and you are increasing the drivers' and pedestrians' frustration that they need to wait for too long.

A The signals will be designed with intergreens sufficient to allow the junction to clear before the next stage begins.

Q I have looked at the layout and design and I do not understand what you are doing...could you please explain verbally what you are doing and why?

A The work comprises the following:

- Resurfacing the road and footpaths; this is due to their poor condition
- Narrowing the road and widening footpaths to prioritise pedestrians; non-motorised road user priority is Council policy
- Reinstatement of street trees; this has been a long-standing request of residents
- Introduction of Edinburgh Street Design Guidance measures, such as continuous footways; this is Council policy
- Introduction of a signalised junction (originally a signalised crossing); this is part of a previous planning agreement
- Widening of footways at the Pitsligo Road junction to accommodate the traffic signals; they are currently substandard width

Q Are the trees in Newbattle Terrace diseased?

A At least one has Ash Dieback disease.

Q Is Newbattle Terrace going to be one way?

A No.

Q Is the road space being decreased so that the access to cars is lessened and the pavements being increased...?

A Yes.

Q Is there a cycle lane with bollards on the road so making it very narrow for two-way traffic?

A No.

Q How will this affect the access of clients to the Dominion cinema?

A This will not affect access to the Dominion; during the works, access to all properties will be maintained.

Q Who is paying for this?

A The work is being funded via the Council's Capital Maintenance budget.

Q When will this work start? How long will this proposed work take?

A It is hoped that the work can begin in Spring 2021, however this is dependent on what government Covid restrictions are in place at the time. Work is expected to take up to six months.

Q What mitigating measures does the Council propose to safeguard pedestrians and cyclists (including school children) using Clinton Road?

A There are no measures planned for Clinton Road at present, however the revision of the scheme to exclude the one-way section on Pitsligo Road should mean little change in the traffic levels on Clinton Road. The traffic situation throughout the area will be monitored in the light of the introduction of this scheme and the Greenbank to Meadows Quiet Route.

Q Please can you confirm that the existing pavement level outside No 76 will be maintained for access to services and to avoid damp penetration into our property?

A The footpath levels will not change, and the rear of the new footpath surface will be sealed to prevent water ingress.

Q Why is a pedestrian crossing required on Newbattle Terrace west of Pitsligo Road?

A Part of the planning agreement for the Woodcroft development was the provision of a signalised pedestrian crossing on Newbattle Terrace.

Q How is two-way traffic going to be managed at the narrow section of road at the south end of Pitsligo (to the east of the new road crossing)?

A Traffic signals.

Duplicate questions were combined; some questions were edited for brevity and clarity.

Other comments and suggestions, with responses

Comment: Provide a cycle hire dock at the junction with Morningside Road.

Response: Transport for Edinburgh were contacted about this but did not respond.

Comment: More electric vehicle charging points.

Response: The Council has a team with responsibility for rolling out the EV charging point scheme; decisions to extend would lie with them.

Comment: Make Newbattle Terrace one way at the narrow point.

Response: This measure would require a more wide-ranging strategy that is beyond the scope of this scheme.

Comment: Install chicanes / traffic calming on Clinton Road.

Response: There are currently no plans to do this, however the revision of the scheme to exclude the one-way section on Pitsligo Road should mean little change in the traffic levels on Clinton Road.

Comment: Site the pedestrian crossing closer to Falcon Gardens.

Response: The stand-alone pedestrian crossing has been removed from the scheme.

Comment: Restore the original tree layout.

Response: Nine new trees will be planted as part of the scheme, bringing the total to 12; the layout will differ slightly to the original layout due to the accesses to underground parking areas.

Comment: Block access to Waitrose car park from Newbattle Terrace.

Response: This is not possible as the car park has no other access point.

Comment: Introduce speed reducing measures.

Response: A recent speed survey revealed that there is not a speeding problem on Newbattle Terrace.

Comment: Extend the double yellow lines opposite Woodcroft Road.

Comment: Provide a bike hangar near Eden Terrace.

Comment: Ensure bin containers are corralled.

Comment: Remove the centre line markings from Newbattle Terrace.

Response: These will be included in the scheme.

Comment: Increase the width of footpaths on Pitsligo Road.

Response: There is no scope to do this without closing Pitsligo Road or making it one-way.

Comment: Address drainage issues on Clinton Road.

Response: This comment will be passed to the appropriate team to address.

Comment: Introduce a modal filter at Pitsligo Road junction.

Comment: Instigate a Low Traffic Neighbourhood scheme.

Comment: Close Falcon Gardens to through traffic.

Comment: Make Falcon Gardens one way.

Comment: Reduce traffic on Newbattle Terrace.

Comment: Close Clinton Road at Churchill.

Comment: Provide a pedestrian crossing at Morningside Road junction.

Comment: Resurface Newbattle Terrace and Pitsligo Road in setts (cobblestones).

Response: There are currently no plans to introduce any of these measures.

Duplicate comments were combined; some comments were edited for brevity and clarity.