

CIMT 8th February 2021 – Spaces for People Project Approval

Notification sent to all ward councillors, transport spokespeople, emergency services, Living Streets, Spokes, RNIB, Edinburgh Access Panel and relevant Community Councils on 22nd January 2021. Recipients were given five days to respond with comments. The measures would be implemented under emergency delegated decision-making powers using a Temporary Traffic Regulation Order. Given the urgent nature of these works, normal expectations about community consultations cannot be fulfilled.

Project Proposal

Location	Justification	Recommendation
St Marks RC Primary School	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Install a temporary path to school gate as shown on attached drawing • Introduce new restrictions to improve visibility for pedestrians at the junction of Firrhill Crescent and Oxgangs Road North. 	<u>Proceed with all measures.</u>

Feedback

Comment from	Comment	Response
Councillors		
Cllr Scott Arthur	Compared to the Buckstone Primary School proposals, I have only had a modest level of feedback on these plans from local people and the school community. The common themes from the responses are:	
Cllr Scott Arthur	The path at the rear of the school is already in place, but people would like this to be made permeant	Noted – this will be picked up in the school travel plan review
Cllr Scott Arthur	A school crossing patrol would help ensure the safety of children on Oxgangs Rd North.	Noted – this will be picked up in the school travel plan review
Community Councils	No comments received	
Stakeholders		
Catriona Burness RNIB	Street layouts can cause difficulties at the best of times for visually impaired people. We want to ensure that any	Noted

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	<p>temporary changes to our streets that may appear across Scotland allow blind and partially sighted people and those with other disabilities to get around safely.</p> <p>Our policy position detailing our concerns and potential solutions, including a Coronavirus Courtesy Code which we believe would help ensure blind and partially sighted people can get out and about whilst maintaining a safe distance from others can be found on our website at https://www.rnib.org.uk/scotland/campaigning-rnib-scotland/coronavirus-courtesy-code</p> <p>We hope that local authorities across Scotland will follow the general principles of the Coronavirus Courtesy Code in introducing temporary measures.</p>	
Robin Wickes Access Panel	Please ensure the temporary path is suitable for wheelchair users and others with mobility difficulties.	Noted
Head Teacher	Restrictions on parking are very welcome especially on that corner.	Noted
Spokes South Edinburgh	We are pleased by the proposals which go a long way to provide space for social distancing near the school gate and enable more pupils to arrive by walking, wheeling, cycling and for many to avoid Oxfords Road North entirely. There are no details of the proposed restrictions to be placed on the Firrhill Crescent/Oxfords Road North junction.	The parking restrictions are shown in the attached plan.
Spokes South Edinburgh	We believe that long term safety issues that act to discourage pupils from being enabled to walk, wheel and cycle to school for 3 of the 4 schools along this road could be addressed more comprehensively by dealing with traffic on the whole length of the road rather than this section alone. A smaller measure such as the one proposed would	Noted – this will be picked up in the school travel plan review

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	have to be closely monitored to ensure it removes long standing safety problems for pupils crossing Oxgangs Road North in busy through traffic to St Marks.	
Spokes South Edinburgh	St Marks sits alongside the footpaths parallel to the Braidburn, and is largely surrounded by the (fenced off) public greenspace of Colinton Mains Park. Near the school entrance on the West side of the building runs Oxgangs Road North, which some pupils have to cross to reach the school and others have to walk along. This road is busy with through traffic taking cars off Colinton Mains Road, past the Firrhill campuses with 3 schools, to exit near the Firrhill roundabout with access to Colinton Road.	Noted
Spokes South Edinburgh	The introduction of a path and gate from Colinton Main Park into the rear of the school is a welcome move to take pressure off the footpaths along the Braidburn, and should also allow some children access through Colinton Park without needing to walk on Oxgangs Road North pavements. This measure would help to make it safe for children who can use it to walk, wheel and cycle to school.	Noted
Spokes South Edinburgh	Oxgangs Road North is a busy road, which has caused long standing safety concerns at St Marks for pupils who have no option but to cross the road to access school. It serves both as a rat-run to Colinton Drive and also as an easy way for parents to drive to any of the 4 schools that lie along it. Braidburn school parents may have no other option, but for the other schools (Oxgangs PS, Firrhill HS and St Marks PS) Oxgangs Road North is an open invitation to drop off by car, and in doing so making it less safe for children to safely to walk, wheel cycle to school.	Noted
Spokes South Edinburgh	An option that we would strongly recommend is to restrict vehicle access to Oxgangs Road North with exception of residents, drivers to Braidburn School and school carparks and the usual exceptions (eg waste collection etc). This could be restricted to school entrance and exit times if	We are continuing to liaise with the schools on potential measures in the area to assist in physical distancing.

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	necessary, and would benefit all of the schools along its route and particularly would remove the safety issue for St Marks Primary.	
Spokes South Edinburgh	If the proposed restrictions are made instead we believe they will need to need to be carefully monitored and if necessary enforced. A clearly marked safe crossing place would be the minimum requirement for children who should not have to dodge round parked cars or through moving traffic	Noted
Head Teacher	The temporary path has been a great success many parents have commented on how it is reducing the numbers of families using the pavements around the school. It has helped them to stay socially distant. If there is any way that path could be made permanent that would be the best road safety solution going forward.	Noted
Head Teacher	Our new nursery is on track to open in August 2021 that will bring over 100 more families a day into the area the path from the park will help to ease further congestion.	Noted
Head Teacher	I asked Mark Symonds about installing a temporary path within the school grounds near the entrance to help parents to be socially distant he said it would be installed this term is this a different project?	This is currently with school estates for consideration.
Public	No comments received	