

From: **spacesforpeople** <[spacesforpeople@edinburgh.gov.uk](mailto:spacesforpeople@edinburgh.gov.uk)>

Date: Mon, 29 Mar 2021 at 14:37

Subject: RE: Covid 19 Emergency Measures - Proposed segregated cycle infrastructure – West Shore Road

Dear Councillors and Stakeholders

### **Covid-19 Cycling and Walking Emergency Response Measures**

#### ***Previous SfP proposal - Proposed provision of segregated, bi-directional cycle lane – West Shore Road (Formerly known as Granton Square to Marine Drive)***

#### ***Revised proposal - two-point road closure on West Shore Road***

Please be advised that as part of overall emergency measures, that re-designate key parts of the road network to help pedestrians and cyclists travel safely while meeting physical distancing requirements, we are proposing to implement a two-point road closure on West Shore Road, one at the entrance to Forth Quarter Park and the other at Gypsy Brae.

We wrote to elected members and the owners of the commercial premises adjacent to this proposed route in October 2020 proposing a Spaces for People project aimed at improving the walking and cycling experience on West Harbour Road and West Shore Road. At that time a one-way system was being proposed with advisory cycle lanes on either side of the road and periodic 'give and go' traffic calming infrastructure. From the responses received we learned that access back to Granton Square was important to how some of the businesses operate. We have taken this into consideration and are proposing a different approach to reducing traffic on these streets and making them more pleasant and safer for anyone wishing to walk or cycle.

A traffic survey carried out earlier this year counted on average 20 HGV movements per day making the left turn out of West Shore Road into Marine Drive. A further 1345 cars were doing the same thing. It is felt if these vehicles were diverted up Waterfront Avenue, the road environment would become much more suitable for people walking and cycling.

It is proposed that West Shore Road will be closed to all motor vehicles at Gypsy Brae and 200m south at the entrance to Forth Quarter Park. This will mean that West Shore Road, from Waterfront Avenue, will act as an industrial cul-de-sac with no provision for through traffic. Westbound vehicles will instead be directed onto Waterfront Avenue which is better equipped to take large vehicles than Marine Drive at Salvesen Terrace. From the most Westerly industrial units on West Shore Road to the roundabout at the north end of Pennywell Road, this will mean an added distance of approximately 2 miles or 7 minutes according to Google maps. We feel that this small inconvenience to some businesses is justified when considering the benefits to thousands of people wishing to walk and cycle to the promenade. Not only will West Shore Road be quieter, but a completely car-free link will be established between Forth Quarter Park and the promenade.

The proposed designs for the scheme are attached. Given the urgency to make the required changes any comments relating to these proposals should be received by 1700hrs on Friday 2 April to [spacesforpeople@edinburgh.gov.uk](mailto:spacesforpeople@edinburgh.gov.uk).

All feedback will be reviewed and summarised in an assessment feedback form which will be presented to the Council Incident Management Team for approval. Please note that we will be unable to respond to individual emails.

If the proposal is approved for implementation, publicity will then be undertaken so that local businesses and the local community are aware of the changes.

The introduction of, or changes to, any restrictions will be implemented under emergency delegated decision-making powers using a Temporary Traffic Regulation Order.

We hope you understand the necessity to make these changes. Should you require any further information, please do not hesitate to contact [spacesforpeople@edinburgh.gov.uk](mailto:spacesforpeople@edinburgh.gov.uk).

Yours sincerely

On behalf of the Spaces for People Team

[spacesforpeople@edinburgh.gov.uk](mailto:spacesforpeople@edinburgh.gov.uk)

Barry Clarke, Senior Project Manager – Road Safety and Active Travel