

Edinburgh City Council

Major Junctions Review to improve safety for vulnerable road users

Motion setting up the review, item 17 in [Minutes of Transport Cttee 12.11.20](#)

Emergency Motion – Road Safety for Vulnerable Road Users

“Committee:

- 1) Notes with great sadness the untimely death of cyclist Heather Stronach, following a collision with a lorry driver at the King’s Road junction in Portobello. This is the second fatality of a similar nature at this junction in less than two years.
 - 2) Notes that a full investigation of this incident by Police will inform, as is always the case, what the Council, as the roads authority can and should do to make this junction safer.
 - 3) Requests that senior officers urgently consider how we can achieve significantly improved safety for vulnerable road users at the city’s major junctions and which focuses on reducing the risk and likelihood of dangerous, sometimes lethal, conflict between vehicle drivers and other road users.”
 - 4) Requests immediate feedback at the January Transport and Environment Committee, in the form of either a short report or a Business Bulletin, outlining key considerations and fast next steps to achieving a safer environment for those most at risk on our roads.”
- moved by Councillor Macinnes, seconded by Councillor Doran (approved unanimously)

Update at 17.6.21 TE Committee, in [Business Bulletin](#)

Review of Safety for Vulnerable Road Users at Major Junctions

On 12 November 2020 Transport and Environment Committee approved an Emergency Motion requesting that officers urgently consider how to improve safety for vulnerable road users at the city’s major junctions, by reducing the risk of conflict between vehicle drivers and other road users.

Initial information on key considerations and next steps for undertaking such a review was provided as part of the Business Bulletin on 28 January 2021.

Since then, a review of the city’s transport network has been undertaken, in partnership with key stakeholder groups Spokes, Living Streets Edinburgh Group and the Edinburgh Access Panel, and an initial long list of around 130 junctions has been drawn up for potential inclusion in the review. This list is being reviewed against existing Council work programmes, to identify those junctions where improvements are already planned, the scope of these improvements and their expected delivery date.

This information will be used to agree a significantly reduced list, of perhaps around 30 junctions, for more detailed investigations. Surveys will be undertaken at these junctions to gather data on pedestrian, cyclist and traffic behaviour and a more detailed review of each junction’s layout and features will be undertaken.

The resultant information will be used as part of a formal assessment and prioritisation process, which is currently being developed in consultation with the above key stakeholder groups. This is expected to include assessing and scoring each junction against a number of factors, to identify around 10-15 junctions that are considered to be the most in need of improvement.

Factors that will be considered as part of the assessment process are likely to include:

- Long term casualty records;
- Pedestrian and cyclist numbers and types;
- Traffic speeds and volumes;
- Potential hazards for pedestrians, cyclists and people with disabilities;
- Potential to act as a barrier to walking and cycling journeys;
- Condition of current infrastructure; and
- Opportunity for public realm improvements.

A further update will be provided to the Committee once the assessment process is complete and the junctions that this prioritises for improvement have been identified

2022 update

In view of staff shortages, slow progress and the importance of the project, the MJR was put out to consultants - [Anturas Consulting](#).