

STATEMENT OF REASONS

TRAVELING SAFELY EXPERIMENTAL TRAFFIC ORDERS: -

TRO/21/26 EXPERIMENTAL TRAFFIC REGULATION ORDER – CITY CENTRE AREA

TRO/21/27 EXPERIMENTAL TRAFFIC REGULATION ORDER – NORTH AREA

TRO/21/28 EXPERIMENTAL TRAFFIC REGULATION ORDER – EAST AREA

TRO/21/29 EXPERIMENTAL TRAFFIC REGULATION ORDER – SOUTH AREA

TRO/21/30 EXPERIMENTAL TRAFFIC REGULATION ORDER – WEST AREA

The introduction of the proposed measures are intended to provide safer cycling infrastructure and pedestrian priority areas, encourage sustainable travel (walking and cycling), improve connectivity on arterial and distributor routes across the City and support bus priority measures. The scheme is being introduced by way of Experimental Traffic Order made under Section 9 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, so as to allow the Council to modify or vary the scheme at short notice once in force, should circumstances require.

In 2020 and 2021, the Council introduced a series of measures across the city in response to the public health emergency (Coronavirus (COVID-19)). On 18th August 2022 the Council approved proposals to use Experimental Traffic Regulation Orders (ETROs) for the majority of the existing schemes which facilitate walking, wheeling and cycling around the city.

The proposed 18-month trial is intended to support the approved transport hierarchy, measures included in the City Mobility Plan and Draft Circulation Plan. Edinburgh needs mobility options that by 2030 are carbon emission free, efficient, accessible and affordable. The more opportunity we have to make greener, safer, more sustainable choices in how we move around, the greater the chance we have to reduce the impact of climate change.

The perception of risk that pedestrians and cyclists face is a major obstacle to encouraging more people to walk, wheel and cycle between the places they live, work and visit.

This trial is also intended to experiment with measures supported by the Edinburgh City Centre Transformation Programme. We need to trial how we use our road space and how we support safe sustainable travel.

Measures will be monitored and evaluated during the first year and considered for retention under separate traffic orders as appropriate.