

Business Bulletin

Transport and Environment Committee

10.00am, Thursday, 15 June 2023

Dean of Guild Court Room - City Chambers

Transport and Environment Committee

Convener:	Members:	Contact:
<p>Councillor Scott Arthur (Convener)</p> 	<p>Councillor Aston Councillor Bandel Councillor Cowdy Councillor Dijkstra-Downie Councillor Faccenda Councillor Lang Councillor McFarlane Councillor Miller Councillor Munro Councillor Work</p>	<p>Alison Coburn Operations Manager</p> <p>Rachel Gentleman Committee Services</p> <p>Taylor Ward Committee Services</p>

Recent news	Contact for further information
<p>Trams to Newhaven</p> <p>The Trams to Newhaven project announced on 25 May 2023 that trams would start carrying passengers on 7 June 2023, meeting the scheduled completion date of Spring 2023. The project remains within the £207.3m budget agreed by Council in 2019. There will be ongoing public realm works beyond the 7 June 2023 in certain areas on the route including Blenheim Place, Elm Row and Hawthornvale. In addition, a snagging and defects resolution workstream will continue along the route.</p> <p>Street furniture, including benches, litter bins and bike racks, are also being installed. A programme for landscaping which will see the planting of trees, bushes and plants along the route is also being finalised.</p> <p>The project continues to liaise with Edinburgh Trams and colleagues in the Council on a detailed handover. In addition, a series of lessons learnt workstreams will take place over the summer months with key stakeholders.</p>	<p>Hannah Ross</p> <p>Wards Affected:</p> <p>11 – City Centre 12 – Leith Walk 13 – Leith</p>

Kirkliston Junction Reconfiguration

This bulletin updates Committee on progress on the Kirkliston Junction reconfiguration (since the last update on [27 January 2022](#)).

As detailed in the January 2022 report, the traffic signals are to be upgraded by the completion of the 30th residential unit (this is a requirement within the planning conditions). This is expected to be around the end of August 2023

Dandara East Scotland has awarded the contract to Yunex Traffic (formerly Siemens) to carry out the installation of the upgraded signals and the installation of the Microprocessor Optimised Vehicle Actuation (MOVA) control system.

A start date of 10 July 2023 has been submitted for road occupation approval, with works expected to last for six to eight weeks.

The traffic signal design has been approved and on-site surveys have been completed to determine the scope of the works.

Journey time surveys will take place during the AM and PM peak traffic periods during June, prior to the signals work taking place.

Further journey time surveys will take place two months after the installation of the signals. The delay in carrying out these surveys after the junction works completion is to ensure the MOVA validation is complete and signal timings for the system have been fully optimised.

[Gavin Brown](#)

Wards Affected:

1 - Almond

Kirkliston and Queensferry Traffic and Active Travel Study Update

Please find below an update on some of the actions remaining from the Kirkliston and Queensferry Traffic and Active Travel Study:

- Committee received an update on the Queensferry Town Centre Project on [2 February 2023](#).
- Short and long term active travel investment – these actions are not currently included in the approved Active Travel Investment Programme (ATInP) (to 2025/26). These actions will continue to be considered as future plans for active travel investment are developed.

[Dave Sinclair](#)

Wards Affected:

1 - Almond

- In order to improve access, an inaccessible gate has been removed from the National Cycle Network Route 1 at Dalmeny, with an accessible chicane installed. Resurfacing has also taken place around this area to improve the cycle network surface.
- Officers have also identified two sites at Ashburnham Loan and Stoneycroft Road where chicanes will be removed and replaced by bollards.
- Further removal of guardrails/chicanes in the South Queensferry/Kirkliston area have been identified for potential removal and will be considered as part of a city-wide guardrail removal programme.

Update in response to motion by Councillor Meagher on accidents in the ‘Joppa Triangle’ including Traffic Regulation Order for Brunstane Road Closure and Coillesdene Area Traffic Management

Following approval from the Transport and Environment Committee in [December 2021](#), an Experimental Traffic Regulation Order (ETRO) has been in place on Brunstane Road since early 2022. This order prevented through vehicular traffic (except cycles) on Brunstane Road, with the restrictions being placed at each end of the bridge across the east coast main railway line. This was undertaken in conjunction with traffic management interventions in the Coillesdene area to discourage short-cutting through-traffic.

A report on [8 December 2022](#) detailed the findings from the ongoing traffic surveys as well as residents feedback received via the post-implementation public engagement exercise. Committee granted approval to progress to a permanent Traffic Regulation Order (TRO), with additional mitigation measures being introduced within the Coillesdene area (which would be included as part of the permanent TRO).

The key stages of promoting the TRO include: statutory consultation, placing the draft order on public deposit, assessing comments and objections and finalising the TRO. If agreed, the TRO would then be published, and the permanent infrastructure would be installed.

The legal process required to make the measures permanent under a TRO has commenced and the TRO

[Karen Teather](#)

Wards Affected:

17 –
Portobello/Craigmillar

has been advertised for statutory consultation [here](#), with public consultation due to commence in August 2023.

As outlined in the December 2022 report, there is a requirement to extend the existing ETRO to ensure there is no time gap between the ETRO ending and any permanent TRO commencing (if approved). An extension to the ETRO is now being sought via the Scottish Government as the public consultation phase will now extend beyond the ETRO end date of July 2023.

It should be noted that the Brunstane Road ETRO was developed before the revised process for introducing ETROs was available and is therefore subject to the previous regime in place prior to the introduction of the new regulations. This means that a six-monthly review is not required, as statutory consultation was undertaken before its implementation. It also means that the new provisions, which give scope for ETRO measures to be given permanent effect do not apply to this ETRO.

It is anticipated that the outcome of the public consultation will be reported to Licensing Sub-Committee in October or November for a decision on whether the permanent TRO should be implemented.

Since 8 December 2022, officers have met with representatives of the Brighton and Rosefield Residents Association to discuss their road safety concerns. The residents' concerns were focussed on speeding vehicles on Brighton Place and Southfield Place and therefore, to address these concerns, officers arranged for the installation of additional 20mph signage and lining to reinforce the 20mph speed limit. The Council's Road Safety team has also committed to installing socketed foundations in the footways to allow for the periodic deployment of Mobile Vehicle Activated Speed Signs on Brighton Place.

Officers have continued to work on the introduction of additional traffic calming measures within the Coillesdene area. Observations from on-site monitoring and residents' feedback, via the various consultations, has been considered. This has resulted in a proposal to introduce sinusoidal speed humps to Coillesdene Avenue and the adjoining local streets on the basis the order is made permanent. The introduction of speed humps requires statutory consultation therefore this is being combined with the TRO consultation process. This will also allow

residents to view and comment on these proposals prior to their introduction.

School Travel Plan Reviews

Progress is being made with the School Travel Plan Reviews, albeit as previously reported to Committee, there are on-going challenges with this.

A substantive update on progress, alongside an update on the Council's wider Road Safety activities is planned for Committee in September 2023.

[Daisy Narayanan](#)

[Gavin Brown](#)

Wards Affected: All

Wardie Bay Bathing Water Designation

On 19 May 2023 the Council received confirmation that Wardie Bay beach has been designated as a bathing water for the 2023 season (1 June to 15 September 2023)

[Steven Cuthill](#)

Wards Affected:

4 – Forth

Travelling Safely – Experimental Traffic Regulation Orders

On 21 November 2022 the Council advertised five Experimental Traffic Regulation Orders (ETROs) to support a trial of Travelling Safely measures. Over the last six months comments have been gathered from the public to inform a future decision on scheme retention, modification or removal.

The measures support the Council's aim towards [net zero carbon by 2030](#), and to create a lasting legacy from the benefits that many people found in using the temporary measures.

Transport and Environment Committee agreed to retain most of the measures (which had been introduced in response to the Coronavirus pandemic) on an experimental basis to test them now that traffic has returned to 'normal' (or new levels). The result of the experiment will provide better insight into how the measures are now working. The aim of the trial is to:

- Encourage more people to switch to sustainable ways to travel;
- Make it more pleasant, easier and safer for people to explore their local area;
- Support high street and city centre businesses by providing more space for people;
- Improve road safety;
- Improve our health and well being; and

[Daisy Narayanan](#)

Wards Affected: All

- Reduce carbon dioxide emissions, to help the city achieve its [net zero carbon aims by 2030](#).

Officers have recently been made aware of mistakes in the published ETRO documents which mean that they will need to be readvertised before any formal consideration is given to the representations made. Any representations received already will be retained and considered as part of the final assessment of whether or not to retain or modify the measures.

It was anticipated that the orders would be readvertised on 27 May 2023. However, following a further detailed review of the orders, it is anticipated that readvertising will commence at the end of June 2023. Council officers will now be responsible for preparing and readvertising the order documentation.

Legal advice was sought to identify if there was a way to accelerate the schemes where no errors were found. This clarified that it is not possible to pick out certain provisions from an ETRO which did not have errors and make them the subject of a permanent order, while keeping those elements with errors in ETRO status. The wording of the legislation is quite clear that only an entire ETRO can be made into a permanent Traffic Regulation Order (TRO).

The regulations require the six-month consultation period to start again from the new date of advertising. The Monitoring and Evaluation (required as part of the ETRO process) will continue until the end of the calendar year (2023).

As previously reported to Committee, the maximum period for an ETRO to be in place is 18 months. It was originally envisaged that the orders would be advertised for six months, with review of the representations and implementation (where appropriate) taking 12 months. It is still anticipated, subject to any requirement for a hearing or referral to Scottish Ministers, that decision and implementation of any measures to be retained on a permanent basis can be completed within the original 18-month period (from November 2022 - May 2024).

Meadows to Greenbank – Quiet Route

Further engagement relating to the Meadows to Greenbank – Quiet Route scheme will begin soon, with discussions with Ward Councillors on the next steps for this scheme ongoing. An update will be provided to residents and other stakeholders by 15 June 2023.

Neighbourhood Environment Programme (NEP)

The Council's NEP scheme has historically been deployed across the 12 old Neighbourhood areas as an addition to the Roads Capital budget allocation to develop and deliver local transport infrastructure and environmental improvements. During the period of Programme, the budget was used for a broad range of projects ranging from road and footway improvements to play areas in parks. In 2023/24, the budget for this is £0.5m (with an additional £0.2m carried forward from previous years to be added).

As noted in the outstanding actions for Committee, a review of the methodology used to allocate funding is required.

Officers are proposing to create a new approach to Local Travel Improvements which will consider local interventions and projects that improve mobility, connectivity and safety in local communities.

The proposed programme is expected to be outcome driven and to make positive changes in local communities by:

- Considering and mitigating the impact of vehicular traffic on local communities;
- Working with communities to protect pedestrians and the most vulnerable road users;
- Add value to capital infrastructure works to deliver better outcomes for local communities; and
- Build on the knowledge of the new Road Safety and Local Travel team to deliver joint projects where appropriate.

A priority-based assessment criteria will also be developed to ensure the most critical proposals and projects are delivered (considering a broad range of environmental factors including the Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation).

It is intended to circulate draft proposals for this programme to political groups before the summer recess, with a report back to Committee expected in September 2023.

[Dave Sinclair](#)

Wards Affected:

All

Road Safety Programme Update

In response to recent changes within the Council's Road Safety team, over the summer period officers will be reviewing the commitments for road safety improvements,

[Dave Sinclair](#)

Wards Affected:

All

alongside the resources available, to develop a revised delivery programme for 2023/24 and 2024/25.

**Local Government Benchmarking Framework (LGBF)
2021/22 - Environmental Services**

An update on the 2021/22 LGBF for Environmental Services is attached to this Business Bulletin.

An Edinburgh overview of the benchmarking framework was reported to Policy and Sustainability Committee on [23 May 2023](#).

[Catherine Stewart](#)

Wards Affected: All