



Brightons and Rosefield Residents' Association

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DEPUTATION TO THE TRANSPORT AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE MEETING ON 14 OCTOBER 2021 ON BEHALF OF BRIGHTONS AND ROSEFIELD RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION

This deputation is made on behalf of Brighton and Rosefield Residents' Association (which encompasses Brighton Place and the surrounding streets) about item 7.4 on the agenda, the proposal for alterations to the junction at Sir Harry Lauder/Seafield/Portobello Road.

Option 2a, the banning of left hand turns for HGVs from Portobello High Street onto Sir Harry Lauder Road is highlighted as the preferred option. We of course support any improvements to this junction for cyclists and indeed pedestrians as it is not an easy junction to negotiate. It is worth noting however that there are safe and traffic-free alternatives for cyclists travelling both towards the city centre and towards Leith that enable them to avoid this junction altogether, although they could be better signposted.

However, we fear that the unintended consequences of this move to improve safety here could result in Brighton and Southfield Place becoming less safe due to the increase in the number of HGVs travelling up Brighton Place and Duddingston Park to access Milton Road.

Brighton Place is a residential street and a safe route to school for many children and their parents who travel up and down on foot, by bike or scooter twice a day, five days a week, to access various schools and nurseries, e.g. Portobello High School, Holy Rood High School, St John's RC primary school, Duddingston primary school, Cherrytrees nursery, Rocking Horse nursery, Highland Fling nursery, Blossom Day nursery, Brightons nursery.

There are already concerns about vehicle speeds, volume of traffic and road safety on this stretch of road to the extent that parents at Duddingston school have set up a road safety group to look at the whole route to school in order to try and tackle them.

In addition, Brighton Place is set to see a substantial increase in traffic that will be displaced onto this route by the Experimental Traffic Regulation Order to permanently close Brunstane Road (the only other north/south axis in and out of Portobello) that is due to be put in place soon. If additional HGVs are added to that mix then there will be additional hazards for pedestrians, cyclists and school children using this route.

We ask that measures are put in place to discourage or prevent HGVs using this route and for signage to be installed to this effect so that this already busy route does not become more busy and more dangerous for the people using it.

Attached below are images showing three 20 mph speed limit signs on Brighton Place approaching Portobello: one is hidden by foliage, another has a sticker through it and the third (on the opposite side of the road) is easily hidden by a high sided vehicle.

On the other side, for drivers going towards Southfield Place, there are two: one (on the right hand side) has had stickers on it, the other is hidden by trees. This signage needs to be improved and the installation of flashing 20 mph reminder signs would be beneficial at appropriate points in Brighton Place.

We ask that committee members look at this situation holistically to ensure that introducing safety measures in one place does not just displace the risk elsewhere.









