

36906 Braid Road - Spaces For People

I would like to receive information linked to the closure and partial reopening of Braid Road, EH10, including:

Any internal or external correspondence and paperwork for the three months in advance of and during the funding bid for Spaces for People funding (managed by Sustrans) including how it was perceived to meet the criteria for such funding.

(This is relevant because the closure does not objectively appear to meet any of the key criteria and there is a perception that it was done more as an unsuccessful experiment to close roads in order to reduce car use and increase cycling/walking in the city rather than as a response to the dangers of covid.)

A report titled [Creating Safe Spaces for Walking and Cycling](#) –

([https://democracy.edinburgh.gov.uk/documents/s24012/Item 6.8 - Creating Safe Spaces for Walking and Cycling.pdf](https://democracy.edinburgh.gov.uk/documents/s24012/Item%206.8%20-%20Creating%20Safe%20Spaces%20for%20Walking%20and%20Cycling.pdf))

was submitted and approved by the Policy and Sustainability Committee on 14 May 2020. Within this report, section 3.8 provides details of the of the Scottish Government's 'Spaces for People' programme which was announced 28 March 2020. A further report titled [Spaces for People – Programme Update](#) –

([https://democracy.edinburgh.gov.uk/documents/s25364/Item 6.11 - SfP Programme Update.pdf](https://democracy.edinburgh.gov.uk/documents/s25364/Item%206.11%20-%20SfP%20Programme%20Update.pdf))

was submitted and approved by the Policy and Sustainability Committee on 20 August 2020.

Subsequent reports were submitted to the Transport and Environment Committee for approval. The reports can be found by searching the Council's [website](#)

(<https://democracy.edinburgh.gov.uk/mgCalendarMonthView.aspx?XXR=0&M=5&DD=2020&ACT=Go>)

or can be found below in A2.

Any correspondence, paperwork and evidence linked to impacts (positive or negative) of the closure once it was in place.

(This is relevant because locally (in newspapers, blogs and anecdotally) the impacts were perceived to be severe and mostly negative.)

The measures were reviewed on a regular basis and reported to Committee, please see links below:

[Spaces for People Update – November 2020](#)

([https://democracy.edinburgh.gov.uk/documents/s28763/7.6 - Spaces for People Update _Final.pdf](https://democracy.edinburgh.gov.uk/documents/s28763/7.6%20-%20Spaces%20for%20People%20Update%20_Final.pdf))

[Spaces for People Update – January 2021](#)

([https://democracy.edinburgh.gov.uk/documents/s30973/Item 7.1 - Spaces for People Update Jan 2021 v2.pdf](https://democracy.edinburgh.gov.uk/documents/s30973/Item%207.1%20-%20Spaces%20for%20People%20Update%20Jan%202021%20v2.pdf))

[Spaces for People Update – April 2021](#)

(<https://democracy.edinburgh.gov.uk/documents/s33321/7.1> - Spaces for People Update April 2021.pdf)

[Potential Retention of Spaces for People Measures – June 2021](#)

(<https://democracy.edinburgh.gov.uk/documents/s34888/7.1> - Potential Retention of SfP measures.pdf)

[Active Travel Measures – Traveling Safely \(Formerly Spaces for People\) – August 2021](#)

([https://democracy.edinburgh.gov.uk/documents/s36349/Item 7.1](https://democracy.edinburgh.gov.uk/documents/s36349/Item%207.1) - Active travel measures travelling safely with apps.pdf)

[Active Travel Measures – Traveling Safely Update – October 2021](#)

(<https://democracy.edinburgh.gov.uk/documents/s39338/7.1> - Active Travel Measures - Travelling Safely Update.pdf)

[Active Travel Measures – Traveling Safely Update – November 2021](#)

(<https://democracy.edinburgh.gov.uk/documents/s40135/7.1> - Active Travel Measures - Travelling Safely Update.pdf)

Any correspondence and paperwork linked to the partial reopening and the subsequent decision to ignore the preferred option of the public consultation (decided by committee in November 2021).

(This is relevant because it is common sense for local government consultation outcomes to be ignored only if there is a very strong case for choosing an alternative option - and the reasons in this case appear unlikely to meet that threshold.)

[A report titled Active Travel Measures – Traveling Safely Update](#)

(<https://democracy.edinburgh.gov.uk/documents/s40135/7.1> - Active Travel Measures - Travelling Safely Update.pdf)

was submitted and approved by the Transport and Environment Committee on 11 November 2021. This report provides the reasons for the Committee approved recommendations.

Any correspondence and paperwork linked to the delay to reopen both directions as agreed in November 2021 which might indicate why this delay took place.

(This is relevant because every day the road remains closed causes further delay, congestion, inconvenience to all road users and pollution.)

The Transport and Environment Committee approved the recommendations within the report with a [Coalition Addendum and an Amendment by the Green party](#)

([https://democracy.edinburgh.gov.uk/documents/b18974/Motions and Amendments 11th-Nov-2021 10.00 Transport and Environment Committee.pdf?T=9](https://democracy.edinburgh.gov.uk/documents/b18974/Motions%20and%20Amendments%2011th-Nov-2021%2010.00%20Transport%20and%20Environment%20Committee.pdf?T=9))

that Braid Road should only be re-opened after the installation of a crossing has been installed. While a crossing has been planned for some time as part of permanent works in the area, this is still being finalised and these works are not yet in place.