

64062 Closure of Whitehouse Loan

Specifically on the on-going closure of Whitehouse Loan, I'd like to know:

Who were consulted initially about its closure?

The modal filters on Whitehouse Loan were initially introduced as part of the Council's Spaces for People programme of temporary measures to assist people to walk, wheel and cycle safely during the COVID pandemic. The filters form part of the wider Greenbank to Meadows Quiet Connection scheme. Prior to implementation, anyone could comment on the Spaces for People proposals via an online consultation portal (<https://edinburghspacesforpeople.commonplace.is/en-GB/map/map>) that was set up for this purpose.

The Council subsequently undertook a public and stakeholder engagement in early 2021 on the potential to retain Spaces for People measures following the end of the pandemic, due to their potential to contribute to its longer term aims and objectives to support active and sustainable transport. This included market research which attracted 583 responses, a survey for residents which attracted around 17,600 responses and a survey for businesses which attracted 179 responses. The outcomes of this were reported to the Transport and Environment Committee on 17 June 2021 (Item 7.1) and published on our website at:

<https://democracy.edinburgh.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=136&MId=5663&Ver=4>

Further engagement was undertaken in June 2022 on the potential to retain some measures on a trial basis, under Experimental Traffic Regulation Orders (ETROs). The outcomes of this were reported to the Transport and Environment Committee on 1 September 2022 (Item 7.7) and published at:

<https://democracy.edinburgh.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=136&MId=6159&Ver=4>

The statutory processes for these ETROs also included 6-month consultation periods during which anyone could submit a representation concerning the measures. The results of the consultation for the Greenbank to Meadows Quiet Connection scheme were reported to the Traffic Regulation Orders Sub-Committee on 12 May 2026 (Item 2a) and published at:

<https://democracy.edinburgh.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=645&MId=7799&Ver=4>

How did they respond? Numbers in favour, numbers who objected, numbers who didn't respond.

Please refer to A1 above.

On what basis have you decided to keep it closed now?

On 12 May 2026, the Council's Traffic Regulation Orders (TRO) Sub-Committee decided to make this prohibition of motor vehicles permanent after considering a report that set out the representations received in response to the Greenbank to Meadows Quiet Connection ETRO and evidence arising from monitoring of the impacts of the trial.

On the objectives, what were the numbers of pedestrians and cyclists pre closure?

The Council does not hold this information.

- a. What are the numbers now?

Monitoring data for the wider Greenbank to Meadows Quiet Connection scheme can be found in Table 2 of Appendix 10 of the TRO Sub-Committee report considered on [12 May 2026](#) and published at:

<https://democracy.edinburgh.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=645&MId=7799&Ver=4>

Only cycling data was collected. For Whitehouse Loan, there were five periods surveyed.

On lowering of speeds, I've observed an increase in speed in adjacent (much narrower roads). Drivers are frustrated. Environment is being punished through extra fumes as drivers have to add kilometres to their journeys often involving 3 sides of the square rather than just using the formerly open street. What evidence have you got in support?

The Council does not hold this information.

On supporting businesses, how many businesses have supported the scheme versus objected to it?

The representations received in response to the ETRO were set out in a report to the TRO Sub-Committee on 12 May 2026 and published at:

<https://democracy.edinburgh.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=645&MId=7799&Ver=4>

There were no representations submitted by any businesses.