

Transport and Environment Committee

10.00am, Thursday, 9 August 2018

A8 Cycleway Upgrade, Traffic Regulation Order

Item number	7.4
Report number	
Executive/routine	Executive
Wards	Almond
Council Commitments	16 , 17 , 18

Executive Summary

The Council, in partnership with Sustrans, is progressing a scheme to upgrade the A8 Cycleway, enhancing walking and cycling provision between Newbridge and South Gyle. This scheme supports walking and cycling policies detailed in the Council's Local Transport Strategy and Active Travel Action Plan.

To allow these improvements to be made, it is proposed to reduce the speed limit on the A8 between Ratho Station and Gogarburn Golf Club from the national speed limit (70mph on a dual carriageway) to 40mph. This report details the results of the statutory consultation for the Traffic Regulation Order required to lower the speed limit.

Five representations were received to the advertised Traffic Regulation Order. Two of these were objections, while three were expressions of support. These representations and the Council's responses to the two objections are detailed in this report.

A8 Cycleway Upgrade, Traffic Regulation Order

Recommendations

- 1.1 It is recommended that the Committee:
 - 1.1.1 notes the five representations received in relation to the advertised Traffic Regulation Order and the Council's comments in response; and
 - 1.1.2 sets aside the two objections received and makes the Traffic Regulation Order as advertised.

Background

- 2.1 The Council, in partnership with Sustrans, is progressing a scheme to upgrade the A8 Cycleway, enhancing walking and cycling provision between Newbridge and South Gyle. This scheme supports walking and cycling policies detailed in the Council's Local Transport Strategy and Active Travel Action Plan.
- 2.2 The A8 Cycleway upgrade is being delivered on a section by section basis between Newbridge and South Gyle Park. A plan showing the location of each section is appended to this report as Appendix 1.

Main report

- 3.1 Phases 1 and 2 of the project were completed in summer 2016 and summer 2017. These involved widening and resurfacing the existing paths along the A8 between:
 - 3.1.1 Lochend Road and Ratho Station;
 - 3.1.2 Middle Norton and the Norton House Hotel; and
 - 3.1.3 Hallyards Road and Ingliston Road.Path widening, lighting upgrades and large scale drainage improvements were also carried out in South Gyle Park.
- 3.2 Phase 3 designs are now being progressed that include significant upgrades to the junctions on the A8 at Ingliston Road and Gogarstone Road. The entrance to the access road to Easter Norton Farm at Eastfield Road Roundabout will also be improved.

- 3.3 It is proposed to alter the layout of the junction at Ingliston Road and to introduce traffic signal control, including toucan pedestrian and cycle crossing facilities across both roads. This will allow alighting bus passengers, walkers, and cyclists to cross the A8 on the desire line and at grade, instead of having to use the grade separated junction 500m further east at Eastfield Road. The new junction will incorporate a facility to allow right turn manoeuvres into and out of Ingliston Road during large events at the Ingliston Showground. These manoeuvres will not be permitted at other times.
- 3.4 It is also proposed to alter the junction at Gogarstone Road to make it easier and safer for walkers and cyclists to cross. To do this, it is necessary to remove the acceleration and deceleration slip lanes at the junction. During consultation for this project, crossing Gogarstone Road safely on a bike was highlighted as a concern.
- 3.5 In addition, Phase 3 includes improvements to the existing paths running parallel to the A8 between Newbridge and South Gyle. It is proposed that improvements will be made to the running surfaces and that path widths will be increased to 3.0m along the length of this section, wherever possible.
- 3.6 Reducing the speed limit to 40mph is required to:
- 3.6.1 allow signalisation of the junction of the A8 and Ingliston Road and the introduction of pedestrian and cycle crossing facilities; and
 - 3.6.2 allow the removal of the acceleration and deceleration lanes at the junction at Gogarstone Road.
- 3.7 Reducing the speed to 40mph will also:
- 3.7.1 reduce the likelihood of a bus being rear ended while turning into a bus layby as well as making it safer for buses to re-join the main traffic flow;
 - 3.7.2 provide similar safety benefits at other lay-bys along the A8;
 - 3.7.3 provide a consistent speed limit along the whole length of the A8 between Newbridge and Gogar Roundabouts;
 - 3.7.4 provide a safer environment for pedestrians and cyclists attending events at the Ingliston Showground; and
 - 3.7.5 reduce the risk of collisions and make crossing movements safer at existing side road junctions and accesses.
- 3.8 During large events at the Ingliston Showground, the speed limit on this section of the A8 is temporarily reduced to 40mph to allow event traffic to cross the carriageway at Ingliston Road and the main show ground field accesses. A permanent reduction in the speed limit would negate the requirement for Temporary Traffic Regulation Orders to be promoted for this purpose throughout the year.
- 3.9 Outwith busy traffic periods, when traffic on the A8 is relatively free flowing, the difference in journey times between travelling along this section of the A8 at 70mph and at 40mph is approximately one minute.

- 3.10 A plan showing the section of road to be reduced to 40pmh is appended to this report as Appendix 2.
- 3.11 The Traffic Regulation Order to reduce the speed limit was advertised between 23 March and 17 April 2018. Five representations were received. Two of these were objections, while three were expressions of support. These representations and the Council's responses to the two objections are appended to this report as Appendix 3.
- 3.12 The main concern raised by the two objectors was a concern over perceived increases to journey times.
- 3.13 This report recommends repelling the two objections and making the Traffic Regulation Order as advertised.

Measures of success

- 4.1 Should the Order be approved; the measures of success will be increased levels of cycling and walking along the A8 Cycleway and reduced risk of collisions.

Financial impact

- 5.1 The costs associated with the Traffic Regulation Order are estimated at £2,000.
- 5.2 The costs to implement the proposed Phase 3 improvements will be approximately £300,000. These costs will be met from the block funding allocation for Cycling Improvements within the Transport Capital Investment Programme, which is being supplemented by an external funding award from Sustrans and possible 3rd party investment.

Risk, policy, compliance and governance impact

- 6.1 There are not expected to be any risk, governance, compliance or regulatory implications arising from the proposals set out in this report.

Equalities impact

- 7.1 It is expected that the proposals set out in this report will advance equality of opportunity by improving Edinburgh's cycling infrastructure, and making it more attractive and accessible for less confident cyclists, including children.
- 7.2 There will also be positive impacts on rights to standard of living and health through improving the attractiveness of walking and cycling and promoting healthier forms of travel.

Sustainability impact

- 8.1 The impacts of this report in relation to the three elements of the Climate Change (Scotland) Act 2009 Public Bodies Duties have been considered, and the outcomes are summarised below. Relevant Council sustainable development policies have been considered.
- 8.2 The proposals set out in this report will reduce carbon emissions by contributing towards the core objectives of the Council's Active Travel Action Plan to increase the number of people walking and cycling in Edinburgh.
- 8.3 The proposals set out in this report will increase the city's resilience to climate change impacts by providing more opportunities for sustainable travel through improvements to walking and cycling infrastructure.
- 8.4 The proposals in this report will help achieve a sustainable Edinburgh through the promotion of healthier forms of travel.

Consultation and engagement

- 9.1 Statutory consultation was undertaken as part of the Traffic Regulation Order process. The draft Order was advertised between 23 March and 17 April 2018.

Background reading/external references

- 10.1 Active Travel Action Plan
http://www.edinburgh.gov.uk/info/20037/policies_plans_and_strategies/341/transport_policy

Paul Lawrence

Executive Director of Place

Contact: Ewan Kennedy, Senior Manager, Transport Networks

E-mail: ewan.kennedy@edinburgh.gov.uk | Tel: 0131 469 3575

Appendices

- Appendix 1 Plan showing the sections of the A8 Cycleway Upgrade
- Appendix 2 Plan showing the section of A8 to be reduced from national speed limit (70mph) to 40mph
- Appendix 3 Representations and the Council's responses to objections

Bryan Mackie

From: Traffic Orders
Sent: 03 April 2018 11:40
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: TRO/17/90 A8 Glasgow Road Edinburgh

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for your email objecting to the proposed reduction in speed limit from 70mph to 40mph on part of A8 Glasgow Road, Edinburgh.

Your comments have been passed to the officer in charge of the project and a response shall be sent to you in due course. In the meantime, the proposal shall remain on hold pending the outcome of the matter.

Kind regards

Sharon Lansdowne
Transport Officer, Traffic Orders, Place
City Chambers, Room 10.19, Planning & Transport, Edinburgh, EH1 1YJ
Tel 0131 469 3290 or TrafficOrders@edinburgh.gov.uk

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 30 March 2018 19:58
To: Traffic Orders <TrafficOrders@edinburgh.gov.uk>
Subject: TRO/17/90 A8 Glasgow Road Edinburgh

I am writing to OBJECT STRONGLY to the proposed change in speed limit to 40 mph along the length of the A8 from Ratho Station to Gogar roundabout.

The statement of reasons provided by the council is nothing other than yet another poorly thought out attempt at providing cycle track provision that will be used by, at best, a tiny fraction of the people who use the route daily.

I hope that serious consideration will be given to withdrawing this order.

Regards,

[REDACTED]

Bryan Mackie

From: Traffic Orders
Sent: 03 April 2018 11:43
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: OBJECTION to TRO/17/90 A8 Glasgow Road, Edinburgh

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for your email objecting to the proposed reduction in speed limit from 70mph to 40mph on part of A8 Glasgow Road, Edinburgh.

Your comments have been passed to the officer in charge of the project and a response shall be sent to you in due course. In the meantime, the proposal shall remain on hold pending the outcome of the matter.

Kind regards

Sharon Lansdowne
Transport Officer, Traffic Orders, Place City Chambers, Room 10.19, Planning & Transport, Edinburgh, EH1 1YJ
Tel 0131 469 3290 or TrafficOrders@edinburgh.gov.uk

-----Original Message-----

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 01 April 2018 23:24
To: Traffic Orders <TrafficOrders@edinburgh.gov.uk>
Subject: OBJECTION to TRO/17/90 A8 Glasgow Road, Edinburgh

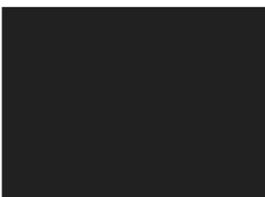
I would like to formally object to the proposal to reduce the speed limit from 70 mph to 40 mph on the A8 Glasgow Road.

This proposal is absolutely farcical and is entirely at odds with a council that is allegedly working on behalf of residents and commuters in the west side of Edinburgh.

Both Edinburgh council and West Lothian council continue to sanction the building of more houses with no thought to the traffic infrastructure in the area which means a journey from Uphall to Edinburgh on a working day between 7-8am now takes 15 minutes more than it did 5 years ago.

To then propose to reduce the limit by 30 mph at all times including non peak times makes no sense whatsoever.

I would therefore ask that I receive a full written response from the person responsible for this nonsense proposal fully detailing the rationale for this along with their thoughts on how they feel this will have any benefits to the long suffering daily commuters into the 'anti car driving' Edinburgh area.



Bryan Mackie

From: Traffic Orders
Sent: 03 April 2018 15:53
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: TRO/17/90

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for your email supporting the reduction of speed limit from 70mph to 40mph on part of the A8 Glasgow Road, Edinburgh. I have passed your email to the officer in charge of the project for their information.

Kind regards

Sharon Lansdowne
Transport Officer, Traffic Orders, Place
City Chambers, Room 10.19, Planning & Transport, Edinburgh, EH1 1YJ
Tel 0131 469 3290 or TrafficOrders@edinburgh.gov.uk

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 03 April 2018 15:33
To: Traffic Orders <TrafficOrders@edinburgh.gov.uk>
Subject: TRO/17/90

Dear Sir/Madam

I fully support the proposal to introduce a 40 mph limit between South Gyle and Newbridge. I have always found this section of road difficult and dangerous, because different parts are subject to different speed limits, and these limits are sometimes difficult to see particularly when traffic are overtaking. I can see little advantage to having variable limits, and a great deal of additional safety will come from having a uniform limit.

Many thanks





Bryan Mackie

From: Traffic Orders
Sent: 05 April 2018 09:55
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: TRO/17/90 - A8 40mph

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for your email supporting the reduction of speed limit from 70mph to 40mph on part of the A8 Glasgow Road, Edinburgh. I have passed your email to the officer in charge of the project for their information.

Kind regards

Sharon Lansdowne

Transport Officer, Traffic Orders, Place City Chambers, Room 10.19, Planning & Transport, Edinburgh, EH1 1YJ Tel 0131 469 3290 or TrafficOrders@edinburgh.gov.uk

-----Original Message-----

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 03 April 2018 18:55
To: Traffic Orders <TrafficOrders@edinburgh.gov.uk>
Subject: TRO/17/90 - A8 40mph

Please let it be noted I support this TRO unconditionally

My details are

[REDACTED]

Bryan Mackie

From: Traffic Orders
Sent: 05 April 2018 10:59
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Traffic Order TRO/17/90, A8 Glasgow Road

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for your email supporting the reduction of speed limit from 70mph to 40mph on part of the A8 Glasgow Road, Edinburgh. I have passed your email to the officer in charge of the project for their information.

Kind regards

Sharon Lansdowne
Transport Officer, Traffic Orders, Place
City Chambers, Room 10.19, Planning & Transport, Edinburgh, EH1 1YJ
Tel 0131 469 3290 or TrafficOrders@edinburgh.gov.uk

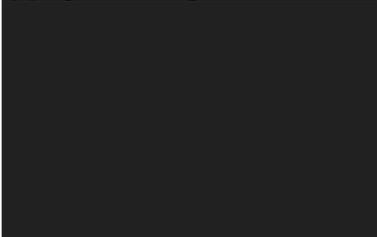
From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 04 April 2018 16:01
To: Traffic Orders <TrafficOrders@edinburgh.gov.uk>
Subject: Traffic Order TRO/17/90, A8 Glasgow Road

THE CITY OF EDINBURGH COUNCIL
A8, GLASGOW ROAD, EDINBURGH (40 MPH SPEED LIMIT) ORDER 201_ - TRO/17/90

I use this route for cycling and occasionally driving. Cycling safety and enjoyment would be increased by a 40mph limit for motor vehicles.

As a driver I see no problems with a 40mph limit on the full stretch of road. Much of it is 40mph already. Housing at Ratho Station would benefit from noise reduction as well.





Date	May 2018
Your ref	
Our ref	TRO/17/90



TRAFFIC REGULATION ORDER TRO/17/90 - A8 GLASGOW ROAD

I refer to your email of 1 April 2018 objecting to the above Traffic Regulation Order (TRO), under which it is proposed to reduce the speed limit on the 1.6 mile section of the A8 between Ratho Station and Gogarstone to 40mph.

There have been several reports in recent years of near misses, arising from pedestrians attempting to cross the A8 at Ingliston Road. Unfortunately, there has also been one incident in which a pedestrian sustained a serious injury. At present the only safe provision for pedestrians to cross the A8 near this location is to make a ½ mile journey down the slip roads to Eastfield Road.

In addition, during a 2015 consultation on proposals to improve the paths along the A8, the junction of Gogarstone Road and the A8 was identified by those who walk and cycle as the most dangerous junction between Newbridge and Gogarburn.

A reduction in speed limit to 40mph will allow the Council to make various improvements along this stretch of road, including the introduction of signalised 'at grade' crossings over the A8 and Ingliston Road, along with path widening, improvements to sightlines and improved crossing provision at Gogarstone Road.

These improvements will benefit:

- those who choose to walk or cycle along this route
- those with mobility impairments or who use push chairs
- those visiting Ingliston Show Ground by foot or bike
- those visiting Ingliston Show Ground by car during large events
- pedestrians wishing to use the facilities at the BP garage
- bus passengers alighting at this location
- the residents of Middle Norton

We also believe that the proposed reduction in speed limit will reduce problems with vehicles exceeding the existing 40mph speed limit in Ratho Station.

The speed limit on the A8 is already temporarily reduced to 40mph during large events at Ingliston Show Ground and while verge maintenance operations are underway.

Due to existing congestion on the A8 corridor during peak traffic periods, we do not expect the proposed reduction in the speed limit to have any significant impact on journey times during these periods. At quieter times, when traffic flows more freely, we estimate that the proposal will add just over a minute to journeys.

The promotion of this TRO is in line with established Council policy *to increase the numbers of people in Edinburgh walking and cycling, both as means of transport and for pleasure*, as outlined in its [Active Travel Action Plan](#).

If you wish to now withdraw your objection, can you please let me know by Sunday 3 June 2018. If I do not hear from you by this date I will assume that you wish to maintain your objection.

It is intended to report on all objections received to the TRO, and not subsequently withdrawn, to the Council's Transport & Environment Committee on 9 August 2018. The Committee will consider the objections and will then decide how to proceed. The report will be available to view on the Council's website approximately one week prior to the Committee meeting.

Following the Committee, I will contact all those who have maintained their objections to notify them of the Committee's decision.

Bryan Mackie
Transport Officer (Active Travel)

cc TrafficOrders@edinburgh.gov.uk

Bryan Mackie, Transport Officer (Active Travel), Planning and Transport
C2, 4 East Market Street, Edinburgh EH8 8BG
Tel 0131 469 3778 bryan.mackie@edinburgh.gov.uk

[REDACTED] Date May 2018

Your ref

Our ref TRO/17/90

Dear [REDACTED]

TRAFFIC REGULATION ORDER TRO/17/90 - A8 GLASGOW ROAD

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Bryan Mackie
Transport Officer (Active Travel)

cc TrafficOrders@edinburgh.gov.uk

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Tel 0131 469 3778 bryan.mackie@edinburgh.gov.uk