



A deputation to the Transport and Environment Committee (TEC) 19th August 2021

Low Traffic Corstorphine is a group of local Corstorphine residents and business people passionate about bringing safer streets, better air quality and much improved accessibility to residents of all ages, genders and abilities whether they are walkers, wheelers, cyclers, drivers or passengers.

We write with respect to agenda item 7.5 'Corstorphine Connections Low Traffic Neighbourhood – Community Engagement on Concept Design and Commencement of Statutory Process for Experimental Traffic Regulation Order' on the 19 August Transport and Environment Committee (TEC) meeting to reiterate our support and ask you to vote for the council officer recommendations.

We have eagerly awaited the report and recommendations for the Corstorphine Connections LTN proposal and whilst we would like to note that we are broadly supportive of the proposals, we are disappointed that the plans do not go far enough in addressing intrusive traffic across the LTN project area and Corstorphine as a whole.

Council officers have listened to feedback from the community regarding the proposals for the area and adjusted plans accordingly. We note that there seems to be lots of concern and worry around the scheme based on consultation feedback. This is a common reaction from residents when low traffic neighbourhoods are consulted on, but evidence shows that well-considered designs are popular when implemented and the vast majority of concerns from locals are not borne out in practice. We hope that this first step in our area to make our streets safer is iterated on and improved, to help tackle the climate crisis we all currently face, enable more people to walk, wheel and cycle locally, and reduce vehicular domination and all its associated issues in our community.

In its current form, we are particularly pleased to see the plan to retain and improve the measures on Corstorphine High Street which were introduced as part of Spaces for People. We welcome the retention of the School Streets at Corstorphine Primary and Carrick Knowe Primary and the proposal to introduce a bus gate to the junction of Manse Road.

We would request that the timings for the Manse Road bus gate are adjusted to start at least 8am to allow for those families walking or cycling to Corstorphine Primary nursery as their day begins at 8.15am. We support the evening peak time remaining until 7pm to allow pedestrians returning from work to enjoy the same benefits as school families. We would like to suggest that a broader spectrum of operational hours is applied for as part of the ETRO (eg. 7am to 7pm) as our understanding is that hours can be reduced but not increased during the ETRO period. This would allow for more flexibility if needed during the trial period.

Finally, we would like to note our thanks to Council officers who have listened and tried to adapt the plans in response to often very mixed community feedback. We hope that the trial measures prove to be a success and make a start in creating safer, more pleasant streets in the Corstorphine area and that further, more wide ranging measures are introduced in the not too distant future.

Your sincerely



Chris Young and **Janis Ross-Williamson**
Co-Chairs Low Traffic Corstorphine