

Malcolm Baldwin statement Cabinet 23<sup>rd</sup> June 2021

Good evening.

Having spoken in a general context about LTNs at last Cabinet, it is great to this evening have the opportunity for Cabinet to agree and hopefully sign-off a process which could lead to implementation of a number of major environmental and life-style improvements for our city.

The debate about the "Liveable Neighbourhoods Strategy" has never been merely about changes in traffic flows and overall traffic management but rather about a vision of how we could make a positive difference to our city, its residents, its visitors and as a consequence to its businesses and local economy. A 'greener', more attractive city will help in differentiating Bath from many other UK cities in a positive way. I, therefore, would URGE Cabinet to support tonight's "Liveable Neighbourhoods" proposals.

We should also recognise that a number of applicants, who may have put forward Liveable Neighbourhood proposals, may be disappointed in their omission from the "Phase 1" process. Those omissions, for areas which are still in need of significant traffic improvements ( such as, for example, Camden Road ) place an even greater responsibility on the initial phase of LTNs.....to get it right and for Council to address other areas issues ASAP.

Aspects of the "Liveable Neighbourhoods Strategy", such as residents parking and the linked recent consultation process are equally important. Here, there are likely to need to be differing solutions for different parts of our city.

My own CARA catchment area has just 12.5% residents-only parking out of approximately 400 total bays! The impact of hotelier/guesthouse/holiday-let parking is considerable in both my own area and that of some of my neighbouring RAs.

Remedies, such as encouraging hoteliers and guesthouses to use general car parks where they are available, such as Charlotte Street car park, should be strongly encouraged to relieve the pressure on residents and disabled parking.

This is just one other example of delivering a meaningful "Liveable Neighbourhoods Strategy". We as 'advocates' are all in this together.....please pass tonight's proposals and let's all now ensure we get it right!