
Bath & North East Somerset Council

Improving People's Lives

Highways Portfolio Update
Climate Emergency & Sustainable Scrutiny Panel
9th November 2023

City Centre Security

- £7.4million project that to date has delivered Hostile Vehicle Measures (HVM) on time and budget in:
 - York Street (completed May 2023)
 - Cheap Street (completed October 2023)*
 - Hot Bath Street (completed November 2023)
- * the final static bollards supporting the sliding bollards on Cheap Street will be completed by 10th November 2023
- Works on Upper Borough Walls commenced on 11th September 2023 and are due to pause ahead of the Christmas embargo, prior to re-commencing in January 2024 until completion in July 2024

Residents Parking Zones (RPZs)

- Seven (7) zones implemented in 2023.
- Launch of Oldfield Park & Westmoreland RPZ deferred by 4 weeks to allow for extra visitor parking bays to be added under an Experimental Traffic Regulation Order (ETRO) in response to concerns from businesses and community organisations.
- Monitoring ongoing in zones and surrounding areas.
- Where necessary, mitigations will be introduced to ensure the safety of pedestrians is maintained and consideration given on whether the boundary of the RPZ needs to be amended.

Cleveland Bridge

- 18-tonne weight limit has been in place on the Grade II listed Cleveland Bridge for 12 months since October 2022 and was due to expire on 15 November
- When the bridge reopened to traffic, engineers installed a monitoring system which can detect changes to the characteristic 'fingerprint' response of the structure and provides ongoing confidence that the bridge remains safe
- Engineers have recommended that further monitoring is required and the Temporary weight limit is to be extended for another year through Temporary Traffic Regulation Order (TTRO).

Emission-Based Parking Charges

- To continue improvements in air quality, introduction of vehicle emission-based parking charges in council-owned car parks in Bath commenced on 8th September 2023
- The new charges aim to incentivise motorists that own more polluting vehicles to use more sustainable alternatives when visiting the city centre
- Parking at the council's three Park & Ride sites remains free for those using the bus service, helping to encourage its use and reducing vehicle intrusion into the city
- Too early to assess the impacts of this policy, but early indications suggest that 49% of users are not being charged extra (from the baseline of 34%) suggesting the new charges are influencing price sensitive customers.

Transport Improvement Programme

- A £1.1m capital grant from the DfT for local highway improvements with funds allocated to WECA and passported to B&NES
- The 2023/24 programme, approved at Full Council, is progressing well with schemes at different stages in the delivery process which includes design, consultation and Traffic Regulation Orders
- Schemes delivered to date:
 - 20 mph speed limits for Lansdown Road and the Avenue Timsbury
 - B3110 Midford Road sharp bend safety improvements
 - Area Parking review South West Bath, North West Bath, and Keynsham and Saltford.
 - Mobility improvements