

## **BANES Council meeting 21.11.24**

### **Tim Spratt submission**

I'm here on behalf of over 300 hundred residents who live on or close to Winifreds Lane and some 3500 people who've signed a petition against the ETRO the council has imposed on the Lane.

I'm here on behalf of people who have an innate understanding of the locality they live in. People who are now **scared, frightened and deeply upset.**

These are residents who have **never** been consulted on the Winifred Lane ETRO including those on Sion Hill, Julian Road and Morford Street who walk their children to St Andrews School, go to the shops and nearby doctors' surgeries, and who now face bumper to bumper traffic and increased pollution where they live.

In the High Court – at a cost of some £50 thousand pounds to the council – the ETRO was shown to be illegal. We say it remains illegal today. The Council's own safety report is deficient. It fails to confirm that the ETRO complies with either DfT guidance on cycling infrastructure LTN 1/20 **or** the Active Travel England check tool. So it's questionable if the WECA funding from CRSTS is legal.

In short, the second Lower Lansdown ETRO is unsafe, it's unlawful, local residents don't want it, and it wasn't the outcome of the co-design process. Even your current Public Consultation Questionnaire doesn't fairly take into account those potentially affected outside the LTN.

Instead what your ETRO **has** achieved is more congestion on residential roads within and close to the Liveable Neighbourhood, delays to bus timetables, longer car trips, raised pollution in front of schools and is a danger to the very people it's supposed to benefit - pedestrians and cyclists. **The trial itself is unsafe.**

Is this really how LibDem councillors want to behave? To be perceived? To not seek compromise with those that you apparently represent?

Paddy Ashdown said:

*“I believe passionately in the middle ground, in civilised negotiation, in compromise. **Politics is about people, not ideology.**”*

You said to us in your 2023 manifesto that, and I quote:

*“Local people know their areas best”*

You said you’d:

*“Put residents first and actively listen to them”*

**So why have you broken your promises to us?**

Please talk with us. Seek compromise and find an ETRO and LTN for our area that are safe, work as they’re meant to, and which help rather than hurt us.

ENDS