

Statement: Lower Lansdown and Circus LN

Good morning, as a resident in the area covered by the Lower Lansdown and Circus liveable neighbourhood trial, I wholeheartedly support the forward-thinking decision to make the three linked through-traffic restrictions permanent.

I always walk around the area and for 5 years or so prior to the ETRO I observed a noticeable increase in traffic volumes and resultant problems such as reckless driving and speeding well over the 20mph limit. In one instance a car was driving **southbound** down Winifreds Lane and the driver attempted to push my husband off the lane.

The ETRO scheme evolved from workshops and exhibitions which I attended, where there was overwhelming support for changes to the status quo in the area. In particular attendees noted the volume and speed of northbound traffic from the bottom of Marlborough to the top of Winifreds Lane. Disappointingly, the absence of objectors at these sessions was noticeable. This meant that they self-excluded from the problem identification and potential solution processes

Since the introduction of the ETRO I have found the area to be much safer. There is now a far more pleasant environment in which to walk and chat with friends and neighbours. When crossing Cavendish to the High Common I no longer fear being hit by racing cars. I have observed far more people walking up and down Cavendish and Winifreds Lane including individuals, dog walkers, school children as well as walking groups on their way to and from the trails on the Upper Lansdown fields.

In my view it is imperative that the three schemes are viewed as a whole, not as discrete entities. Separating them will only serve to create a new round of traffic displacement issues, most likely increasing traffic volumes and associated problems above pre ETRO levels.

There will always be downsides to any LN scheme but in this instance there are proposed mitigations to address legitimate concerns. Many people don't really like change; they don't want to think about doing things differently. However maintaining the pre-ETRO status quo is untenable and dangerous.

I trust the Council will take courage in its convictions and support the decision to make the trial scheme permanent. I therefore respectfully ask the panel to reject the call-in.