

## **Liveable Neighbourhoods: Southlands Traffic Regulation Order (WL)**

The undersigned Councillors wish to call in decision E3506 taken by Cabinet Member for Highways on 26 January 2024.

*(1) To note the information provided in the attached appendices relating to the public responses and traffic and air quality monitoring and, in particular, Appendix E: Summary of Key Outcomes.*

*(2) Based upon the above information, to confirm support to make the scheme permanent as soon as possible. This will be reflected within the formal statutory ETRO decision-making process, noting that the final sign-off is via a delegated decision made by the Director of Place Management within which the Cabinet Member and ward members will have the opportunity to give formal comment.*

*(3) To delegate to the Director of Sustainable Communities, Director of Place Management and s.151 officer to release funding so that the process for the ETRO decision-making can be initiated from the Council's own match funded contribution.*

*In doing so, approve an increase to the capital budget for Liveable Neighbourhoods by £13.7k. The incurred costs will be met with funds from the Council's City Regional Sustainable Transport Scheme (CRSTS) local match contribution.*

*(4) To delegate to the Director of Sustainable Communities, Director of Place Management and s.151 officer to allow funds to be released from the Mayoral Combined Authority CRSTS grant to install infrastructure to make the scheme permanent.*

### **Reasons for call-in**

While we support the urgent need to reduce pollution and tackle the climate and ecological emergencies, the manner of this specific intervention is fundamentally flawed:

1. We note that the two other ETRO trials had a majority of consultation respondents in support, which is why we are not including those in this call-in.
2. The Council's consultation<sup>2</sup> found 71% of 322 respondents objected to, and only 26% supported, the trial ETRO
3. Evidence to support the ETRO appears weak and the consultees felt strongly that it resulted in increased journey times, pollution and isolation, and had negative impact on residents' wellbeing, explicitly the elderly, disabled and less wealthy.
4. A significant number of respondents (37) proactively expressed concern about the consultation's quality

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<sup>1</sup> <https://democracy.bathnes.gov.uk/mgIssueHistoryHome.aspx?IID=38238&PlanId=932&RPID=65217982>

<sup>2</sup> <https://democracy.bathnes.gov.uk/documents/s80140/E3506%20-%20Appendix%20C%20-%20Southlands%20ETRO%20Public%20Consultation%20Report.pdf>

5. During a time of unprecedented pressure on local government budgets and a cost of living crisis, spending £13.7k of tax-payers' money on an unwanted and controversial intervention is not a wise use of public money, when directly improving public wellbeing should be among the administration's top priorities.

Robin Moss, Opposition Leader

Colin Blackburn  
Chris Dando  
Sarah Evans  
Alan Hale  
Gavin Heathcote.  
Shaun Hughes  
Eleanor Jackson  
June Player  
Karen Walker  
Tim Warren