



10 December 2018

By email to:

Tolowoleru@aberdeencity.gov.uk

Dear Sir/Madam

Various Traffic Management (November 2018)

Thank you for consulting us on these various measures. The majority of these are for parking restrictions or speed restrictions, both of which are in general terms favourable to cyclists. Reductions in speed should contribute to cyclists feeling safer and encourage more people to cycle. Previous research by one of our members found that safety was by far the most significant barrier to cycling in Aberdeen, both for cyclists and *potential* cyclistsⁱ. Parking restrictions at junctions should also improve general road safety. We are therefore generally supportive of these measures and do not wish to comment in detail on many of the proposals.

Most of the parking restrictions are small scale and will have similarly small scale and local benefits, particularly at junctions where visibility and hence safety should be improved. We would like to see restrictions of on-street parking introduced much more widely and road space freed-up to make way for high quality cycle lanes. In our view this is something the Council should aspire to and the City Centre Masterplan, the current Roads Hierarchy exercise, and the imminent need for measures to improve air quality should provide added impetus for such radical restructuring of travel in the city.

The measures which we would like to comment on individually are:

Charlotte St – We support the proposal to regularise the situation whereby cyclists can use the existing bus contra-flow lane.

St Andrews St – We support the proposal to regularise the situation whereby cyclists can use the existing bus contra-flow lane.

Wellington Rd - extension of urban clearway. We are glad that the issue of vehicles obstructing and damaging the footway and cycle path is being recognised and acted upon.

Old Aberdeen – College Bounds - proposed bus gate. We support the introduction of this measure however we doubt that enforcement by temporary camera alone is sufficient to be effective.

Old Aberdeen – cycle contra flows – Elphinstone Road and Meston Walk. We support the introduction of these measures but note that the proposal appears to be that these will be given effect by signage only. We note that on both streets there are some relatively sharp bends with

limited visibility. At these locations there is a possibility that vehicular traffic and cyclists travelling in opposite directions will take the “shortest route” at the inside of the bend and so come into conflict. We would recommend that you consider whether this is a safe design or whether it would be preferable to provide a marked cycle lane, or other measures to reduce the likelihood of such conflicts.

Old Aberdeen – High St. We support the proposal to regularise the situation whereby cyclists can use the existing bus contra-flow lane.

Yours faithfully,

Chair – Aberdeen Cycle Forum

Cc Councillor Ross Grant

ⁱ <http://www.aberdeencycleforum.org.uk/?p=1723>