

Annex B



Directorate of City
Strategy

9 St. Leonard's Place
York
YO1 7ET

Tel: 01904 551550

4th November 2009

Dear Resident

Westminster Rd. / The Avenue / Greycliffe Dr. Through Traffic Consultation

Over the last few months there has been some discussion and interest from local residents regarding the matter of through traffic using the above roads. The purpose of this letter and questionnaire is to set out a number of options and seeks residents views on what options have the support of the local community. I must stress at this point that this is not a referendum, but is part of an information gathering exercise for the area to be reported back to the Executive Member for City Strategy.

Petitions received earlier in the year indicated a level of support for Westminster Road to be closed. The consequences of a road closure can vary depending on where it's located, hence a number of suggestions have been put forward for your consideration. As the closure of Westminster Road at the Water End junction would likely lead to Greycliffe Drive being used by some drivers as an alternative through route instead, two closure options for this road are also put forward for your consideration.

I should stress that the closure options put forward at this time are indicative only and merely show an approximate location to allow you to assess how a road closure in the vicinity would affect your daily journeys. If you have concerns over the exact location of a proposal, please indicate what they are in the space provided on the questionnaire. These may then be taken into account should plans be taken forward to a more detailed design stage.

As an alternative to road closures, it has been suggested that road narrowings and /or chicanes could be considered for use along the route to deter through traffic, hence your "in principle" views are being sought on this course of action. It is worth noting that whilst these types of measure do often lead to a reduction in vehicle speeds there is also a loss of on street parking availability adjacent to the measures. Without more detailed design I am unable to say at this time how this may affect your existing arrangements.

It has also been suggested that a 20mph speed limit may be beneficial for the area. Although a lower speed limit is unlikely to lead to a significant reduction in through traffic, the existing traffic calming features make this route suitable for consideration of a reduced speed limit. A 20mph speed limit is not reliant on any of the other options being taken forward and can be considered in isolation.

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Work is also continuing with St. Peter's school in developing their school travel plan in order to try to reduce the volume of traffic arriving and leaving at the start and end of the school day.

Investigations are currently underway to assess the traffic patterns in the area following adjustments made to the signals at the Shipton Road / Clifton Green junction. When this has been completed we will have a more accurate understanding of the traffic flows through the area and the implications of any future alterations under consideration.

Whilst you may have already responded to petitions, discussed the issues with Ward Councillors or sent in a letter / e-mail on this matter I would urge you to take the time to review the options put forward in this leaflet and consider the implications such measures would have on your own travel patterns. Then, complete the short questionnaire (one per household) and return it in the FREEPOST envelope provided so that the views of the local community can be accurately captured.

The results of the questionnaire, along with surveys results, will be reported to an Executive Member for City Strategy Decision Session meeting to consider how best to take the matter forward. The outcome of any decisions on this issue will be circulated to residents in due course.

If any of the outlined proposals are taken forward for detailed design with a view to implementation a formal legal process has to be gone through before any road can be closed, speed limit introduced or parking restrictions put in place. Hence, this would give further opportunity to comment on / formally object to proposals put forward for your area.

I appreciate that the options put forward are likely to generate some discussion and regret that due to the scale of the consultation individual correspondence is not a practical option. Hence, it is important that all your views are recorded on the questionnaire.

Thank you for your time in reading the above and taking part in the consultation.

Yours faithfully

Alistair Briggs
Traffic Engineer
Network Management

To the residents of:
Westminster Road, The Avenue and Greencliffe Drive

Westminster Rd / The Avenue / Greencliffe Dr. Questionnaire

Q.		YES	NO
1	Do you favour any road closures along Westminster Road and The Avenue?	<input style="width: 60px; height: 25px;" type="checkbox"/>	<input style="width: 60px; height: 25px;" type="checkbox"/>

If you answered **NO** to question 1 please go straight to question 4

2	If you favour a road closure (see leaflet plan) which option do you support?	YES	NO
A	Close Westminster Road at the Water End junction	<input style="width: 60px; height: 25px;" type="checkbox"/>	<input style="width: 60px; height: 25px;" type="checkbox"/>
B	Close Westminster Road at The Avenue junction	<input style="width: 60px; height: 25px;" type="checkbox"/>	<input style="width: 60px; height: 25px;" type="checkbox"/>
C	Close The Avenue at the Clifton junction	<input style="width: 60px; height: 25px;" type="checkbox"/>	<input style="width: 60px; height: 25px;" type="checkbox"/>

3	Closing Westminster Road at the Water End junction may lead to through traffic using Greencliffe Drive. In conjunction with this would you support a closure (see leaflet plan) of Greencliffe Drive at:	YES	NO
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X	The Water End junction	<input style="width: 60px; height: 25px;" type="checkbox"/>	<input style="width: 60px; height: 25px;" type="checkbox"/>
Y	The Westminster Road junction	<input style="width: 60px; height: 25px;" type="checkbox"/>	<input style="width: 60px; height: 25px;" type="checkbox"/>

4	Do you wish further investigation into the possibility of reducing the road width at the junctions with the main roads to deter through traffic?	<input style="width: 60px; height: 25px;" type="checkbox"/>	<input style="width: 60px; height: 25px;" type="checkbox"/>
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5	Do you favour further investigation into the use of chicanes and / or road narrowings along the streets to deter through traffic? Please be aware this could lead to a reduction in on street parking availability.	<input style="width: 60px; height: 25px;" type="checkbox"/>	<input style="width: 60px; height: 25px;" type="checkbox"/>
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6	Do you support the introduction of a 20mph speed limit? (this could be done whichever option above is favoured)	<input style="width: 60px; height: 25px;" type="checkbox"/>	<input style="width: 60px; height: 25px;" type="checkbox"/>
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7 Street name and number:
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8 Any further comments?

A3 plan from the consultation leaflet reproduced below.

