



# Healthy School Streets Consultation – Brecknock Primary School (Cliff Villas) Permanent Proposals Consultation Information Sheet



## Proposals to make the trial changes on Cliff Villas permanent

### Making your neighbourhood safer and healthier

The Covid-19 pandemic changed how communities live, travel and work. We want to transform our streets, so they have **more safe space** for everyone to walk and cycle, for children to get to and from school **safely**, for you to be **breathing cleaner** air, to **reduce carbon emissions** from road transport, and for businesses to **flourish**. We want to ensure that our streets support recovery from the pandemic and provide a lasting legacy of **greener, safer, healthier travel**, helping us to deliver our wider Transport Strategy objectives.

As 69% of households in Camden do not own a car and public transport usage remains lower than before the pandemic, we know that safe and easy walking, cycling, and scooting routes are more important than ever. Supporting and encouraging those who can walk and cycle, by creating safer streets will ensure that there is more space available on public transport and on our roads for those who need it the most.



To help respond to the transport challenges on our streets caused by the pandemic, and in line with our [Camden Transport Strategy](#) and [Climate Action Plan](#), we have been making changes across Camden as part of our [Safe and Healthy Streets Programme](#).



Healthy School Streets (HSS) create a safer and healthier environment by temporarily closing roads to motor traffic outside schools during drop-off and pick-up times. This enables more children to walk, cycle or scoot to school, with less air pollution, road danger, congestion, and more space for people to interact. HSS help to discourage car trips, particularly amongst parents and carers, by providing a safe and inviting space for more walking, cycling, and scooting.

Fifteen HSS schemes have been rolled out across Camden since March 2020. This brings the total number of [HSS schemes](#) in the borough to 21, covering 27 schools. These schools are covered by timed or permanent road closures.

## About the Brecknock Primary School Healthy School Streets Scheme

Picture of Brecknock Primary School Healthy School Street viewed from Camden Park Road





The Brecknock Primary School Healthy School Streets scheme consists of the timed road closure of Cliff Villas. The closure for motor vehicles is in place for an hour and a quarter in the morning and an hour in the afternoon to coincide with the opening and closing times of the school, from 8am to 9.15am and 3pm to 4pm Monday to Friday during term time only.

We implemented the scheme, following its [approval](#) in June 2020, as a trial under an Experimental Traffic Order (ETO) which came into force on 3<sup>rd</sup> September 2020. A further consultation, after approximately 12 months of the trial scheme, would take place relating to any proposed permanent changes. The trial scheme went live in September 2020 and during this period, the scheme has been monitored and comments from local residents and stakeholders have been received.

This consultation now asks local residents and stakeholders to give their views on whether or not the scheme should be made permanent after the end of the 18-month ETO trial period.

## Monitoring information collected before / during the trial

During the trial period of the scheme, we have been collecting monitoring data which can be viewed in detail in the monitoring factsheet provided in the **Related** section of the online consultation front page. Headlines include:

- Cliff Villas experienced significant decreases in traffic levels during school run times, with an 88% decrease during the morning and 83% decrease during the afternoon.
- Across all three roads that were monitored there was a combined 27% reduction in traffic levels at the times the scheme is in place.
- Analysis of average traffic speed data across all three roads showed compliance with the 20mph speed limit.
- Air quality monitoring completing during 2020 shows that Cliff Villas complied with the National Air Quality Objective mean annual NO<sub>2</sub> limit.

## Feedback during the Experimental Traffic Order (ETO) Period

Twenty-four comments on the scheme were received on Commonplace during the trial “ETO” period. Seventeen of the respondents were positive towards the changes with feedback including:

- Thirteen respondents noted that they felt safer travelling through the area as a result of the scheme.



- Eight respondents said the changes made them more likely to walk and cycle and had noticed an improvement in air quality.

Those that were not supportive of the scheme shared issues around:

- Three respondents were concerned about traffic displacement to other streets.
- Four respondents stated that the scheme had made their vehicle journeys longer.
- Five respondents said that they felt that air quality had not improved, or had been made worse, as a result of the scheme.



Following implementation of the scheme we received feedback from the headteacher of Brecknock Primary School to say that children were enjoying the streets being quieter and safer, and that they had received reports that parents had switched the school run to walking instead of driving. We will continue to engage with the school during the consultation to learn more about the experiences of pupils, parents, carers, and staff during the trial scheme.

## What are we now consulting on?

Based on the monitoring data and the feedback received from residents and stakeholders during the trial period, and in line with policies and objectives set out in our Camden Transport Strategy, Climate Action Plan and Clean Air Action Plan we are now consulting on making the trial changes to Cliff Villas permanent.

You can view the final scheme drawings in the **Related** section of the online consultation front page.

The Brecknock Primary School HSS consists of the timed road closure of Cliff Villas during school drop off and pick up times. This is enforced using signage and Automatic Number Plate Recognition (ANPR) cameras. The traffic restrictions are in place between 8am - 9.15am and 3pm - 4pm Monday to Friday during school term time only. The ANPR cameras only record vehicles travelling into the zone during the hours of operation. If a vehicle is already parked within the zone it can be driven out of the area without incurring a fine. These features are proposed to be retained in the permanent scheme, if approved following consultation.

The following vehicles are currently exempt from the restrictions:

- Cycles including standard and electric powered bicycles.
- Vehicles registered to properties and businesses within the restricted area, where exemptions have been agreed with the Council.
- Any vehicle being used for ambulance, fire brigade or policing purposes.



- Refuse collection vehicles.
- Blue Disabled Badge holders, where exemptions have been agreed with the Council.
- Vehicles belonging to parents or carers of pupils of the schools within the zone that have a disability that prevents them from walking, cycling, or scooting to school, where exemptions have been agreed with the Council.

## Why your views matter

As 40% of households in the area do not have access to a car and public transport patronage levels remain lower than before the pandemic, we know that safe and easy walking, cycling, and scooting routes are more important than ever. Supporting and encouraging those who are able to walk and cycle, by creating safer streets will ensure that there is more space available on public transport and on our roads for those who need it the most.

The previous changes were implemented as a trial under an Experimental Traffic Order (ETO) for 18 months. We committed to undertaking a public consultation after around 12 months of the trial scheme to seek the views of local residents and stakeholders on making the trial scheme permanent after the 18-month trial period.

Your views are important in providing feedback both on the proposed scheme as a whole and elements of it, and we would therefore welcome your responses on the pages that follow. To view the plans and find out more about the proposals, click on the links in the **Related** section of the online consultation front page.

The Council will be pleased to hear your views on the proposals as well as any alternative suggestions or objections you may have to any aspect of what we are proposing.

## What happens next?



After the consultation a decision report will be produced and published online via our website. Local residents and stakeholders will be notified of the outcome. The report will consider the consultation responses, relevant policies, and other data/information.

The report will then outline if at the end of the trial period, the experimental scheme should be made permanent, modified, or allowed to lapse.

The consultation closes on **Tuesday 7th December 2021**.