

Temporary Traffic Management/Signage - Reopening High Streets Safely Fund					
Proposals Received	By Who	Does the proposal fit the Funding criteria?	Priority H/M/L	Action	
<p>One would expect that Councillors would have a proud in the town that they are supposedly helping to administer, but that seems not to be the case. Swindon, generally is dirty, with rubbish everywhere and no street cleaning. The weeds in the gutters reach half a meter high. However, even worse than that the state of roads throughout Swindon are appalling and even dangerous. Either you councillors do not travel around or you are completely blind. Just drive out of ASDA onto Thamesdown Drive and travel in either direction to see large expanses of road without a surface and large potholes. And this is the norm all over Swindon. During the Covid 19 lockdown would have been the ideal time to deal with this but nothing is done at all.</p> <p>I live in Addinsell Road so travel regularly up Eastbury road, and have to try and avoid a terrible section of road to get round the third roundabout. It's worse than just a pothole, like many other areas its too large to be avoided.</p> <p>Are you proud of these situations when you travel around Swindon?</p> <p>I will not go into detail but grass cutting and central street reservations are disgusting.</p> <p>If you cannot deal with these problems, we obviously need a change of Council, a council who would take some pride in the upkeep of the town.</p> <p>Ratepayer & Taxpayer</p>	<p>Clr Rahul Tatar</p>	<p>This does not meet the funding criteria and is being reviewed by Street Smart and Highways.</p>		<p>This does not meet the Funding Criteria and is being reviewed by Street Smart and Highways.</p>	
<p>Please can you advise what the planned/potential temporary changes to the highway network are? Please can you advise to what the 0-3 months recovery plan refers?</p> <p>As per my previous email, I still need social distancing signs available near schools for parents to drop off and pick up their children from schools, "stay calm, stay alert and carry on schooling". For non-essential business and social distancing signs, I need signs that say "stay calm, stay alert and carry on shopping", "stay calm, stay alert and carry on business trading", "stay calm, stay alert and carry on retailing". If these slogans can be on local radio and TV, it may help to rebuild confidence, strength and belief and security in our town post-lockdown.</p> <p>We are experiencing problems with people queuing for KFC right back onto GW Way and blocking traffic. We will have the same problem when Macdonald's on that stretch opens. Can we look at ways to control this?</p> <p>What measures are considered for the outlet village, queueing will be dreadful when it opens.</p> <p>Based on the experience of other local authorities, the main opportunity appears to be the re-allocation of road space from motorists to cyclists and the use of barriers to discourage motorists using such road space.</p> <p>Opportunities includes dual carriageways or one way streets with two lanes in which the inside lane could be re-allocated to cyclists. Such roads include Drakes Way, Queens Drive, Cirencester Way, Princes Street and Commercial Road.</p> <p>If we are serious about encouraging modal shift from cars to other modes such as public transport and cycling, I believe we need to re-allocate road space from motorists to cyclists to provide safer routes. This could be undertaken on a temporary and experimental basis to start and if it is a success, it can be made permanent.</p> <p>We also need to adopt a more positive approach to provision of safe crossings on busy roads for pedestrians and cyclists if we are to encourage more people to walk and cycle. The current default position of resisting new signalised crossings on busy roads, for example Oxford Road, encourages more car use.</p> <p>I would like some consideration into temporary measures within Priory Vale.</p> <p>1) At peak times we see the Orbital Centre junction become gridlock with traffic coming in/out. Generally, the issue getting in is down to cars not being able to get out in enough volume to clear the internal roads.</p> <p>With work patterns beginning to return to normal, shopping peaks could increase particularly after 5pm. Additional shops opening up are likely to increase pressure on the junction. Those eager to get out and shop may have surplus income due to reduced expenditure over the last 10 weeks.</p> <p>KFC queues in Swindon could be similar to what we are likely to see with McDonalds when it reopens. I will also be speaking with the area manager for the Orbital to discuss the internal measures to help with queues for McDonalds etc.</p> <p>We have yet to see the full impact of Lidl opening as it was so close to lockdown.</p> <p>There are 2 new units (JD Sports and River Island) due to open soon.</p> <p>Coming into the area from both sides there are filter lanes. Exiting, however, there are not.</p> <p>Could we investigate a temporary measure to filter traffic out of the left turn exit by coning off the inside lane of Thamesdown Drive?</p> <p>The lights to turn left out of Orbital could be disabled or only goto red if the pedestrian crossing activated it to.</p> <p>Signage could be put in place to encourage cars to exit using the left turn, rather than right turn.</p> <p>Key:</p> <p>Blue - traffic to flow in lane 2 and merge in turn from lane 1.</p> <p>Green - traffic to flow into Orbital as existing, and traffic to flow out of Orbital to Eastbury Way junction.</p> <p>Red - Physical barrier to protect traffic incident.</p> <p>I hope this outline makes sense. If not please do call me and I can clarify. If highways officers could come up with a plan based on this outline residents and shoppers would benefit short term.</p> <p>The solution could be monitored by the existing CCTV in place on the junction and once it is seen that there is no longer a benefit the temporary measures could be lifted.</p> <p>2) Taw Hill surgery has a COVID treatment/testing centre already in place and has been operational for some weeks. They have placed some signage and temporarily acquired some parking spaces. Residents and visitors are adhering to it by avoiding the parking spaces.</p> <p>To assist them if we could place some barriers on the footpath, and perhaps some signage on the indicated bays this would help them. This area gets very busy at school start/end times so trying to ensure some level of segregation for COVID patients is of huge importance.</p> <p>The process is anyone called to the centre waits in the car in one of these spaces. When called in they exit the car and enter the building through the door indicated by the red box. The main entrance to the surgery is the other side of the building, as is the surgery car park.</p> <p>Anything to warn drivers that people could be crossing here could also be helpful.</p> <p>I have submitted these before and they failed to have Council support due to financial constraints and the large amount of councillor submissions. The cases I put forward however are beneficial to shopping and residents safety unlike perhaps most of previous submissions by councillors.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Junction of Spring Gardens and Fleming Way requires a safe crossing for pedestrians. This is a busy walking route for the Range, Halfords, Jury's Inn, Spring Gardens playing field and the civic offices. Cars use the designated shops car park, SBC car park, limited waiting and the Spring Gardens route as a short cut hence intensive use by motorists Junction of Crombey Street, Edmund street and Eastcott Hill requires a safe crossing point. This is a popular route for pedestrians from Old Town and the town centre which suffers from fast moving traffic going up Eastcott Hill (clear route up the hill provided by lane allocation) for access to Old Town and the Cinerworld car park <p>Looking forward to hopefully your agreeing these schemes</p> <p>My advice would be to liaise directly with the businesses in question, we could provide endless lists of measures but it is they who will be able to tell you clearly and directly what is and isn't possible. The other question is how to police the social distancing.</p> <p>Supermarkets have various measures in place but there are people who completely ignore arrows on the floors and requests to travel in a particular direction around the store.</p> <p>One thing I DO think would be very helpful, in the new age of queuing for various and sometimes very long periods of time to enter stores, is for retailers to provide up to date and accurate stock information on their websites and possibly even a facility to reserve items.</p> <p>This would reduce the amount of time people would want to spend in shops, thereby reducing the risk of transmission of the virus but it would also provide a much better service to their customers</p>	<p>Clr Barbara Parry</p> <p>Clr Bazi Solomon</p> <p>Clr Mary Martin</p> <p>Clr Roger Smith</p> <p>Clr Vinay Manro. Proposal also backed by Cllr David Renard, Cllr Steve Heyes & Cllr Emma Faramarzi</p> <p>Clr Stan Pajak</p> <p>Clr Barbara Parry</p>	<p>Communication will be via Comms</p> <p>Partly Yes</p> <p>Yes</p> <p>Outside the Funding Scope</p> <p>Yes</p> <p>Patly outside of the funding scope</p> <p>Yes</p>	<p>Medium to High</p> <p>High</p>	<p>Communication will be out via Comms.</p> <p>Provide standard DfT Temp COVID signage</p> <p>Continue to monitor the situation. The Outlet Village is in the Funding Criteria and Temporary arrangements are being proposed.</p> <p>Comments have been sent to Transport Planning for reviewing under proposals being developed for the Emergency Active Travel Fund</p> <p>Not possible to achieve this within the timeframe although we will keep it under review. Street Works will liaise with the Traffic Signal Engineer, to monitor the traffic volumes to avoid queueing. Streete Works will also liaise with Cllr Manro to reach out to Taw Hill Surgery to offer any support if they have a need. Review if signs from the County Ground MTU may help or be used to support Social Distancing Measures at the Surgery as the County Ground will no longer be testing for Corona Virus.</p> <p>Sinage is being provided around Halfords and The Range. The additional proposal has been sent to Transport Planning Team to be considered for the Active Travel Fund.</p> <p>Mark Walker to continue to liaise with businesses and Street Works to keep the temporary measures under review. Mark will also continue to liaise with the businesses to manage queues.</p>	

<p>As you know I have sent in a request for St Margaret's Road to be closed to vehicles at the junction with Croft Road, among projects submitted in response to the Government's new guidelines to local authorities about managing road space as the lockdown is eased.</p> <p>In 2008, residents of St Margaret's Road, Winifred Street and Evelyn Street campaigned to have St Margaret's Road closed at the junction with Croft Road in order to end the use of the three roads as a rat-run and the associated problems of speeding cars and face-offs between vehicles in Winifred Street, a very long street with nowhere for vehicles to pass each other. A report was commissioned from Halcrow and the plan had the support of a solid majority of residents who responded to consultation but it was not implemented.</p> <p>Since 2008 the problems have got worse. Increasing numbers of car drivers are using these narrow residential streets to get to Nationwide, Intel and other workplaces or to head for the motorway. The opening of Croft School has further increased the number of cars using the roads and, with the addition of Croft School to Lethbridge and Commonweal, the number of schoolchildren using them to get to school on foot. The roads are also well used by cyclists and these are often forced off the roadway by oncoming cars.</p> <p>I do have a good idea how local residents would view this experiment because this closure was in the air again before the current pandemic started. In 2019 a resident of Winifred Street began campaigning again for the closure of St Margaret's road, and I and Parish Cllr Linda Kasmaty knocked on doors in February to gather more opinions. Virtually everyone we asked was in favour of some restrictions on traffic and before the lockdown prevented further doorknocking we had gathered the following opinions specifically about closing St Margaret's Road at the Croft Road junction:</p> <p style="text-align: center;">St Margaret's Road Yes 24 no 9 undecided 9 Winifred St Yes 30 no 2 undecided 6 Evelyn St Yes 5 no 0</p> <p>The question was about a permanent closure, so asking about an experimental closure might have got even more positive results.</p> <p>With the reopening of the schools and the continuing need to maintain social distancing there will be a problem as groups of parents and children some with pushchairs will be walking both ways along the pavements. Also if more people have taken to bikes (as business at Swindon's bicycle shops suggests may be happening!) they will find it uncomfortable to share these roads with motor vehicles. If pedestrians and cyclists had sole use of the roadway during the coming months, life would be very much safer and more pleasant for them, and I also hope that people would be encouraged to change their mode of travel permanently as a result.</p> <p>Croft School, and residents of Marlborough Lane, would benefit greatly if fewer children arrived by car. Congestion in the Croft car park and in Marlborough Lane is very bad at drop off and pick up times and children are put at risk both from poor air quality and manoeuvring vehicles.</p> <p>If parents living in Old Town found it more convenient to walk or cycle to Croft School with their children along car-free streets rather than take the longer drive round, the children's health would benefit.</p> <p>I hope we can take the opportunity provided by the government guidelines to help free the area around Croft School from cars, to make the journey to school safer for children on foot or bike in the short term and to find out whether residents would like the closure to be made permanent, as the government advice also encourages.</p> <p>I hope you will consider this request very seriously. Please can you advise me what process SBC will be following in considering submissions and whether there is any more information you would like me to provide?</p>	Cllr Jane Milner- Barry	Outside the Funding Scope		Comments have been sent to Transport Planning for reviewing under proposals being developed for the Emergency Active Travel Fund
<p>I would like to register an interest on behalf of Highworth Town Council for assistance under this fund.</p> <p>Our shops and businesses are concerned that when they reopen there will have to be something put in place to regulate queueing to ensure that social distancing can be maintained and to prevent queues monopolising the pavement space and forcing other pavement users to spill out into the highway. Some form of traffic management might also have to be considered for the High Street, including the parking there.</p>	David Lane - Town Clerk	Yes	High	Street Works and Mark Walker to liaise with the Ward Member to discuss proposals and establish a single point of contact to liaise with businesses.
<p>It would be good to investigate a potential temporary closure of St Margaret's Road in Old Town - but this would need careful monitoring in case it throws up major issues with displaced traffic - perhaps a number of options could be explored including timed closures (i.e. during school /office rush hours)? In addition this work can not be completed before Marl Lane's experimental TRO - but I believe this is going to progress shortly.</p> <p>In addition I would like to explore the closure of wood street, and other streets in old town - during evenings to allow outside trading for restaurants and bars. This may be limited to a small number of venues, only a handful of evenings (weekends) and maybe only one side or part of the roads to allow access for food delivery drivers? I think we really need to use this as an opportunity to support local businesses who have remained closed to the public for so long.</p> <p>As businesses have had to adapt quickly to survive - many are offering more delivery services. Could we create some dedicated delivery driver bays where drivers can park for a short period (15/20 mins) for free to collect food from various retailers. Perhaps some on Joiner lane and a couple of Wood Street?</p> <p>What is the next step in this process?</p> <p>I would also like to see how we can extend cycle lanes in the local area, are there any plans?</p>	Cllr Nick Burns-Howell	This does not meet the Funding Criteria.		Wood Street is being investigated. Businesses do not want the Road Closed and the Old Town Business Association have been consulted. Traffic Management are keeping this under review and a Traffic Regulation Order is in place to keep the road open. This will be monitored and reviewed. Traffic Management/Parking have been contacted with regard to parking bays for food deliveries. Mark Walker has emailed Dawn Woollard and is investigating. Provision for cyclists is being considered under the Emergency Travel Fund.
<p>Please ensure there are numerous opportunities for drop offs and parking for the disabled and those who struggle to walk long distances. This might mean providing opportunities similar to bus stop bays but not parking for 3 hours due to a disabled badge.</p>	Cllr. Bob Wright	Partly Yes	Medium to High	Keep the situation under review as we into shop re-opening. Implement any measures e.g. click and collect, deemed necessary and urgent, in consultation with businesses
<p>Please find attached a document that collates all of the ideas that have been shared with me over the weekend and last few days.</p> <p>The key issues that I think need addressing are the lack of joined up cycling infrastructure in the Town Centre (the diagram at the end of the list is very useful), the raised footway under the railway bridges on Rodbourne Road where social distancing is impossible, the need for current infrastructure to be cleaned and vegetation cut back and more social distancing space in the town centre. I'm really concerned that as more Businesses open in the next few weeks, current queue systems won't be possible, for instance the queue outside Wilko's goes past a number of shops that are currently closed. This won't be possible soon. If all queues just go straight out from shop doors, there won't be space for pedestrians.</p>	Cllr. Jim Robbins	Partly Yes	Medium to High	Implements queuing system for shops as part of the Town Centre Recovery Plan and social distancing measures around the Outlet Village. Comments about wider walking and cycling measures have been sent to Transport Planning for reviewing under proposals being developed for the Emergency Active Travel Fund. Comments relating to maintenance have been passed on the to Street Smart, Highway Maintenance, and Asset Management Teams