

# Transport and Environment Committee

10am, Tuesday, 21 March 2017

## Safety First - close the bridge! - referral from the Petitions Committee

Item number	7.13
Report number	
Wards	All

### Executive summary

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The Petitions Committee on 23 January 2017 considered a report by the Chief Executive outlining the petition 'Safety First - close the bridge!'. The Committee agreed to refer the petition to the Transport and Environment Committee for consideration with a recommendation that members visit the area to observe the issues raised.

### Links

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<b>Coalition pledges</b>	See attached report
<b>Council outcomes</b>	See attached report
<b>Single Outcome Agreement</b>	See attached report
<b>Appendix</b>	Appendix 1 – Petitions for Consideration Overview Report

## Safety First Close the Bridge!

### Terms of referral

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- 1.1 On 23 January 2017 the Petitions Committee considered a report outlining the petition 'Safety First - close the bridge!'.
- 1.2 The Petitions Committee agreed:
  - 1.2.1 To refer the petition to the Transport and Environment Committee for consideration with a recommendation that members visit the area to observe the issues raised.
  - 1.2.2 To ask that additional information, including the unintended consequences of changes to the existing traffic management arrangements around Viewforth Bridge, be submitted to the Transport and Environment Committee.

### For Decision/Action

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- 2.1. The Transport and Environment Committee is asked to:
  - 2.1.1 consider visiting the area to observe the issues raised by the petition.
  - 2.1.2 Consider the content of the petition 'Safety First - close the bridge!' included within the attached report by the Chief Executive and the additional information concerning traffic management arrangements around Viewforth Bridge.

### Background reading / external references

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The Petitions Committee 23 January 2017.

### Laurence Rockey

Head of Strategy and Insight

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# Petitions Committee

2.00pm, Monday 23 January 2017

## Petitions for Consideration: Overview Report

<b>Item number</b>	6.1
<b>Report number</b>	
<b>Wards</b>	Fountainbridge/Craiglockhart

### Links

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<b>Coalition pledges</b>	
<b>Council outcomes</b>	<a href="#">CO23 &amp; CO26</a>
<b>Single Outcome Agreement</b>	

**Andrew Kerr**

Chief Executive

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# Executive Summary

## Petitions for Consideration: Overview Report

### Summary

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The Committee is asked to consider two petitions at this meeting.

#### **Valid petitions -**

##### Safety First - close the bridge!

A valid petition entitled 'Safety First - close the bridge!' has been received. The petition received 251 signatures.

##### Turn up street lights

A valid petition entitled 'Safety First - close the bridge!' has been received. The petition received 76 signatures.

### Recommendations

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The Committee is asked to consider the petitions:

1.1 Safety First - close the bridge! as set out in 6.1(a) of Appendix one.

1.2 Turn up street lights! as set out in 6.1(b) of Appendix one.

### Measures of success

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There are no immediate measures of success applicable to this report.

### Financial impact

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There are no financial impacts arising from the consideration of the petition.

### Equalities impact

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There are no equalities impacts arising from the consideration of the petition.

### Sustainability impact

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There are no sustainability impacts arising from the consideration of the petition.

### Consultation and engagement

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There are no consultation or engagement requirements at this part of the process.

### Background reading / external references

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[Petitions webpages](#)

[Council Webcasting](#)

# Links

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**Coalition pledges**

**Council outcomes** CO23 Well engaged and well informed – Communities and individuals are empowered and supported to improve local outcomes and foster a sense of community  
CO26 The Council engages with stakeholders and works in partnership to improve services and deliver on agreed objectives

**Single Outcome Agreement**

**Appendices** Appendix one: Petitions for Consideration

# Appendix 1 - Petitions for Consideration

Item Number	Date made available for signatures	Petitions Title and Petitions Statement	Wards affected	Total Number of Signatories
6.1(a)	06/01/2017	<p><u>Safety First - close the bridge!</u></p> <p>In August 2017, the new Boroughmuir High School will be fully opened. Since it was commissioned and planning consent granted, it has become increasingly apparent that the travel to school arrangements, with almost all students funnelling down the bottom part of Viewforth means that the stretch of street leading up to the bridge creates a real pinch point while through traffic continues to be allowed access to the bridge. Over the last two years, a number of factors have changed: the rising roll at the school, coupled with the need for an overspill annex at Darroch; the experience of the bridge being closed for works; and rising concern among residents at St Peter's Place about the combination of through traffic and increased footfall. Furthermore, since the school plans were approved there is new housing in Horne Terrace and the masterplan for the canalside to the east of Viewforth has been approved, including some 400 or so new dwellings.</p> <p>In light of those changes this petition calls for a rethink of the role of Viewforth Bridge, with a view to it being closed to vehicular traffic, allowing access only to pedestrians, mobility devices and bicycles. Therefore we call for an assessment of the impact of that change to be prepared and submitted to the council, taking account of the impact on adjacent and parallel streets, on improved resident amenity and on school student safety; and on access to the school.</p>	Fountainbridge /Craiglockhart	251 signatures

Item Number	Date made available for signatures	Petitions Title and Petitions Statement	Wards affected	Total Number of Signatories
6.2(b)	14 October 2016	<p><b>Turn up street lights</b></p> <p>The streets named below are dangerously dark we would ask the council to turn the street lights up. Watson Crescent; Fowler Terrace; Bryson Road; Dundee Terrace Ritchie Place.</p>	Fountainbridge / Craiglockhart	76