

Project Newsletter



April 2024

Welcome

We are updating all residents on progress with the Corstorphine Connections trial road safety project. Our aim is to create safer and more comfortable conditions for walking, wheeling and cycling, as well as more attractive streets and outdoor spaces where residents can enjoy spending time. This was in response to concerns raised by residents over a number of years about levels of traffic. Independent market research carried out also showed that 67% of people living in the area thought vehicle traffic was a problem, you can read the market research on our [website](#).

Get your bicycle fixed for free

With spring - and hopefully warmer weather - around the corner, we're offering you the opportunity to get your bike fixed for free.

Just bring your bike along to the seating area by the Dower House Café at St Margaret's Park and local business, Hart's Cyclery, will check it and carry out some basic repairs.

We are offering two sessions:

- Saturday 20 April 10am-3pm
- Saturday 27 April 10am-3pm



How we monitor the project

We have been monitoring the trial project at key points of its development and have recently shared on our [website](#) a summary report of the results from the six-month point of the trial. On the next page of this newsletter is an overview of some of the main themes. Also on our [website](#) are the monitoring reports from earlier on in the project.

Six months is still a relatively early stage in the project's development, and we would usually expect to see more changes over time. Given this, we will do further monitoring over the summer and share a report of the results in late summer/early autumn.

Alongside this next stage of monitoring we will also be doing another residents survey via the independent market research company in the summer. Also, the current ETRO consultation is ongoing and allows anyone to share their views on the project.

Summary of the latest monitoring data

What we found	Further details
<p>Lower levels of traffic around Corstorphine Primary School, particularly at peak times, and slightly reduced traffic overall in the project area, with particular decreases on Manse Road, Saughton Road North and Ladywell Avenue.</p>	<p>Creating a street environment that feels safer for children going to school, has been a key focus of the project so this outcome is encouraging. It is also reflected in the residents' survey that reported that more parents feel streets are safer for children going to school than before the project started. However, levels of traffic remain a concern for the community and we will continue monitoring this as the project progresses.</p>
<p>Increased levels of traffic on boundary roads outside the project area. Slightly increased traffic overall in the project area at peak times, with particular rises on Featherhall Avenue, Station Road and Ladywell Road.</p>	<p>Levels of traffic around the city, particularly in the west, have increased since 2021. The traffic increases on boundary roads that our monitoring has recorded are beyond what could be reasonably attributed to potential traffic displacement from within the project area. As noted above, we will continue monitoring this as the project progresses.</p>
<p>Reduction in numbers of children getting dropped off by car to Carrick Knowe and Corstorphine Primary Schools. Increased levels of children using active travel (walking, scooting or cycling) overall to get to Corstorphine Primary School.</p>	<p>Similar to lower traffic, this is an encouraging result and we will continue to monitor this as the project progresses.</p>
<p>Decreases in walking overall, but increases in people walking on streets where pavements have been widened and improved.</p>	<p>It was also noted that the baseline data was collected in early/mid-November, but, due to very poor weather earlier in the month, the six-month data was collected in late November. At this time the weather was somewhat colder, windier and with less daylight than during the baseline period. This may have influenced levels of walking and cycling.</p>
<p>Decreases overall in the numbers of people cycling.</p>	<p>Citywide data suggests that cycling levels in some parts of Edinburgh reduced between 2021 and 2023, possibly due to an increase in cycling during the pandemic and some people still working from home. It is considered plausible that the cycling reductions in Corstorphine may be more related to this factor than to specific impacts of the project. We will continue to monitor and report on this as the project progresses. As with the walking data, variation in weather may have also been a factor.</p>
<p>Levels of noise and air quality have marginally improved.</p>	<p>Whilst minor improvements are welcomed, it is likely this is more attributable to changes in vehicle emissions levels (such as vehicles generally becoming somewhat less polluting), rather than the traffic changes from the project.</p>

New route to cycle, walk and wheel to the city centre near you



On 20 March we launched Edinburgh's first new, on-street, segregated cycle route. The City Centre West to East Link route runs from Roseburn to George Street, then from St Andrew Square to Picardy Place. Work is proposed to start on the George Street link in 2025:

www.edinburgh.gov.uk/georgestreet.

It offers better and safer walking, wheeling and cycling with lots of added improvements to the areas around Roseburn, Haymarket and the West End.

The route is connected to Corstorphine and Carrick Knowe by Quiet Routes 8 and 9, so you can safely travel all the way following a signed route. A map of the route is provided alongside this newsletter, and you can find out more about walking and cycling routes across Edinburgh on the Council's walking and cycling website www.edinburgh.gov.uk/cycling-walking/plan-route/1

Featherhall Avenue grassed area

The contractor delivering our project's pavement widening programme used the grassed area in Featherhall Avenue to store their materials, which wore out the grass and disturbed the ground. They are now in the process of smoothing out the ground and re-seeding the grass to return the area to its former state.

In April, the contractor will also be finishing off the phase 2 improvements including drop kerbs, speed cushions and addressing the drainage issue at Kirk Loan.

Sunday 5th May Corstorphine High Street closed, speed cushion installation

In order to further improve road safety, by reducing speeds on Corstorphine High Street near to the school, we are installing some speed cushions toward the western end of the street.

Installation of the cushions will require temporary closure of the street to through traffic on 5th May. Residents of the street will still be able to access their homes. The number 1 bus service will be diverted via Meadow Place Road and Broomhouse Drive. Details of the diversion and taxi shuttle service are enclosed.

Further details on Corstorphine Connections are available on the [project webpage](http://www.edinburgh.gov.uk/corstorphineconnections) :

www.edinburgh.gov.uk/corstorphineconnections

Get in touch

Email martyn.lings@edinburgh.gov.uk

Cycle routes from Corstorphine to City Centre

Routes are easy to follow with blue signs and coloured number patches (as shown in the example).

