

ETRO/25/23- Lawnmarket Area

The purpose of this experimental traffic order is to restrict vehicle access to Lawnmarket during peak times to improve pedestrian safety, accessibility, and the overall environment.

Lawnmarket attracts high visitor numbers year-round, with over 5,000 people per hour in summer weekends. The narrow pavements often force pedestrians and wheelers onto the road, posing safety risks and reducing accessibility. Historically, the street has been open to vehicles, including coaches, tour buses, and taxis, except during the summer festival.

Since 2019, trials have shown that vehicle presence, particularly large vehicles, continues to cause safety and accessibility issues. Limiting vehicle access during busy periods is seen as the best way to create a safer, more comfortable space for pedestrians, cyclists, and other vulnerable users.

This order aims to test this measure's effectiveness in enhancing safety and the quality of the public realm.