

Fy Nghyf / My Ref: CM44565

24 November 2020

Councillor Nigel Howells
Chair Person
Economy & Culture Scrutiny Committee
County Hall
Cardiff
CF10 4UW

Dear Cllr Howells,

Castle Street Closure

Thank you for your letter dated 16th October 2020 in relation to the Economy & Culture Scrutiny Committee. It was really welcome to be able to discuss a controversial subject in a diligent and pragmatic manner.

I can confirm that future Cabinet reports on proposed changes to Castle Street will be made available for Scrutiny as requested. In the interim, I can update that we are re-opening Castle Street to buses, taxis and emergency vehicles as a temporary measure while a public consultation is held on the future of the thoroughfare. The proposed re-opening – which will be ready by late-November - will help buses and taxis cross east to west and west to east. This temporary design will seek to ensure that the pop-up cycleway - which will run from Leckwith Road up Newport Road to the junction with Broadway – will be retained throughout the public consultation. The temporary measure under consideration will also include the pavement alongside the shops and bars opposite the castle - extended into the road to give a wider walkway for people to socially distance. It could also create an opportunity for hospitality businesses to have more space outside their premises to trade. Castle Street could then contain two lanes for buses and taxis to travel east and or west, and the pop-up cycle lane by the castle would remain. It is anticipated that the proposed scheme would bed-in before the Christmas season begins.

While these temporary arrangements continue to progress, it is also proposed to consult with the public and businesses on three options for a permanent scheme on Castle Street. These are:

- Fully pedestrianising Castle Street, except emergency vehicles, delivery vehicles, while retaining the segregated cycleway; or
- Access to buses, taxis, emergency and delivery vehicles only, while retaining the segregated cycleway; or

GWEITHIO DROS GAERDYDD, GWEITHIO DROSOCH CHI

Mae'r Cyngor yn croesawu gohebiaeth yn Gymraeg, Saesneg neu'n ddwyieithog. Byddwn yn cyfathrebu â chi yn ôl eich dewis, dim ond i chi roi gwybod i ni pa un sydd well gennych. Ni fydd gohebu yn Gymraeg yn arwain at oedi.

WORKING FOR CARDIFF, WORKING FOR YOU

The Council welcomes correspondence in Welsh, English or bilingually. We will ensure that we communicate with you in the language of your choice, as long as you let us know which you prefer. Corresponding in Welsh will not lead to delay.



· Opening the road to all traffic, in line with the Clean Air Plan that was proposed before COVID-19. This involves a segregated cycleway in either direction, one lane of traffic in either direction for motor vehicles and retaining the existing bus lane, to allow buses to travel in a dedicated bus lane from North Road towards Westgate Street.

The consultation on these options is proposed to start at the beginning of December and after considering the responses to the consultation, along with technical advice and all other relevant factors, a Cabinet report will be drafted to determine which option to proceed with.

I trust the above is of assistance. If you have any further queries, please do not hesitate to contact either my officers or myself directly.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Caro Wild', with a small flourish at the end.

Cynghorydd / Councillor Caro Wild
Aelod Cabinet dros Gynllunio Strategol a Thrafnidiaeth
Cabinet Member for Strategic Planning & Transport