

WESSEX LANE TRAFFIC CALMING AND SPEED LIMIT SCHEME

Statement of Reasons

A strategic aim of Southampton City Council is to deliver on its promise for sustainable and active travel in the city centre region, in a targeted way. Together with Hampshire City Council and funding from the Government, £68.5m will go towards achieving that goal. One of the projects identified for improvement is Wessex Lane, with its links to the University, train station and Woodmill Lane. To achieve these goals, it is proposed implement the following:

- The relocation of a northbound bus stop nearer to Swaythling station with footway access
- A continuous footway across Swaythling station access
- A raised table incorporating an informal pedestrian crossing outside Montefiore Hall
- 2 bolt-down speed cushions on Wessex Lane north of St Marys Church Close
- Extension of no waiting at any time restrictions outside Montefiore Hall
- A 20mph Speed limit on Wessex Lane and its side roads
- A footway build-out to incorporate a hub for electric bike & scooter hire outside Montefiore Hall

Benefits

- Reduced traffic speeds, with an associated reduction in the number and severity of accidents
- Improved sustainable travel links and increases in active travel between the University of Southampton and the halls of residence on Wessex Lane, with a new scooter/e-bike hub.
- Improved crossing safety outside Montefiore Hall and Swaythling Station
- Improved pedestrian access to bus services from Swaythling Station.

General

- To support “Our vision is to create a cleaner, green, healthier and more sustainable city.” (Green City Charter)
- To help the cycling vision: “To transform Southampton into a true cycling city, creating a liveable, integrated, thriving and mobile city where safe cycling is a daily norm.” (Southampton Cycling Strategy 2017 – 2027)
- To help improve transport “through efficient infrastructure, uptake of new and innovative technologies and increased uptake of public transport, cycling and walking” (Southampton Clean Air Strategy 2016 – 2025)

Specific

- For facilitating the passage on the road or any other road of any class of traffic
- For avoiding danger to persons or other traffic using the road or any other road or for preventing the likelihood of any such danger arising (*i.e. to improve safety*)

In authorising the advertisement of these proposals, the Council has given consideration to its duty under s.122 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 to secure the expeditious, convenient and safe movement of vehicular and other traffic (including pedestrians) and the provision of suitable and adequate parking facilities on and off the highway (while having regard to the matters specified in s.122 subsection (2) of that Act).