

CIMT 04/02/2021 – Spaces for People Project Approval

Notification sent to all ward councillors, transport spokespeople, emergency services, Living Streets, Spokes, RNIB, Edinburgh Access Panel and relevant Community Councils on 3rd December 2020. Recipients were given five days to respond with comments. The measures would be implemented under emergency delegated decision-making powers using a Temporary Traffic Regulation Order. Given the urgent nature of these works, normal expectations about community consultations cannot be fulfilled.

Project Proposal

Location	Justification	Recommendation
Buckstone Primary School	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Close road to vehicular traffic on Buckstone Loan East at Buckstone Close maintaining access for pedestrians and cyclists • Prohibit vehicles on Buckstone Circle, maintaining access for pedestrians, cyclists, residents, school deliveries and waste collections. 	

Feedback

Comment from	Comment	Response
Councillors		
Cllr Jason Rust	Please confirm what the emergency is.	We are responding to the emergency to provide space for safe physical distancing requires in response to the Covid-19 pandemic.
Cllr Jason Rust	Can I also have sight of any legal advice provided to date.	We are following the procedure already agreed by councillors on 14 th May 2020
Cllr Jason Rust	There is no clarity as to the type of physical restriction proposed – cones / bollards etc?	The measures will initially be introduced using temporary traffic management and then switched to planters and more semi-permanent measures as resources become available.
Cllr Jason Rust	There is no clarity to hours of operation – if relating to the school are they proposed 24 / 7 / 365?	The prohibition will be in effect 24/7 as we do not have the resource to facilitate part time closures.
Cllr Jason Rust	There is no clarity re eligibility to access – e.g. are there any exemptions proposed?	Residential access, as well as access for blue badge holders, deliveries, school staff, emergency services and waste collection will be maintained.
Cllr Jason Rust	Have the police and other emergency services been contacted for views and can their view be shared?	Yes, they have the opportunity to comment during the notification period.

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Cllr Jason Rust	There needs to be formal consultation on these proposals rather than this extremely limited engagement.	We are following the Spaces for People Notification process previously agreed by councillors on 14 th May 2020.
Cllr Jason Rust	Has legal advice been sought on these proposals?	We are following the procedure already agreed by councillors on 14 th May 2020
Cllr Jason Rust	In what ways do these proposals differ from the previous proposals which were rejected around 5 years ago (other than being slightly less in scale)?	This is a temporary 24/7 prohibition of vehicles to enable parents to physically distance when on the school run. The School Streets project is a permanent project that permits residents only at school entry and exit times.
Cllr Jason Rust	What additional resource will be available if the proposals are brought forward in terms of enforcement?	The measures will be enforced by Police Scotland as and when resources are available.
Cllr Jason Rust	Has any risk assessment been undertaken in terms of movement of waste vehicles and other large vehicles if the proposals are implemented?	Waste will have full access and have seen the proposals and raised no concerns on vehicle manoeuvres.
Cllr Jason Rust	What complaints have been made to the Council in the past year which these proposals seek to address?	These measures have been requested by the school.
	What impact will there be on gully cleaning, winter maintenance etc?	There will be no impact as these services will continue,
Cllr Phil Doggart	Could you provide an explanation of what the emergency is?	We are responding to the emergency to provide space for safe physical distancing requires in response to the Covid-19 pandemic.
Cllr Phil Doggart	What is the emergency that requires the implementation of these proposals? We have had Covid-19 in the city for the past 9 months and there was no need for emergency provisions prior to now and we have managed to survive with existing measures.	We have been steadily working through projects in 87 Primary Schools and 23 High Schools. This takes time to design and implement and we have limited resources and personnel to achieve this in a shorter timescale.
Cllr Phil Doggart	As with all previous SfP proposals, there has been no direct consultation with those affected. Sadly, no lessons appear to have been learned in that lack of progress. It is clear the most affected people in these proposals are local residents, but no one is taking their views into account.	This process was agreed by Councillors on 14 th May 2020
Cllr Phil Doggart	In terms of the restrictions proposed, could you specify what barriers will be in place to restrict access and how these barriers will be removed for those needing access?	Permitted vehicles will have full access via a half-width closure at the junction with High Buckstone.

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Cllr Phil Doggart	For those needing access (eg carers/tradesman/deliveries/emergency vehicles), what access is available to them?	Access is maintained for emergency services.
Cllr Phil Doggart	The biggest problem is that the current parking restrictions are not enforced. If they were enforced there would be no need for these new proposals.	Noted
Cllr Phil Doggart	Following on from the previous point, what enforcement of the new proposals will take place? If enforcement is available for SfP, why is it not available for the current restrictions?	The measures will be enforced as and when resources are available.
Cllr Phil Doggart	This proposal is a re-hash of proposals rejected by residents in the past. Why are we undertaking this exercise again when residents have previously stated what they believe.	This is a temporary 24/7 prohibition of vehicles to enable parents to physically distance when on the school run and has no relation to any previous projects.
Cllr Phil Doggart	Are the plans for peak time only, or 24/7?	The measures will be in place 24/7.
Cllr Phil Doggart	Can Blue badge holders visit at any time?	Yes.
Cllr Phil Doggart	Can deliveries be made at any time?	Yes.
Cllr Phil Doggart	What arrangements are in place for visitors/taxis/carers/tradespeople? Will these people and residents be issued permits?	Residential access, as well as access for blue badge holders, deliveries, school staff, trades in marked vehicles carrying out works, emergency services and waste collection will be maintained. Visitors will have to park out with the prohibition.
Cllr Scott Arthur	Can school staff still use the car park? I understand teachers do normally have a plan in place to use their own cars to transport children in the case of an emergency.	Yes
Cllr Scott Arthur	How will the “residents only” access on Buckstone Circle be enforced?	The measures will be enforced by Police Scotland as and when resources are available.
Cllr Scott Arthur	Will any parking spaces be lost?	No
Cllr Scott Arthur	Will the closure barrier be well designed – will it compromise planters or cones?	The measures will initially be introduced using temporary traffic management and then switched to planters and more semi-permanent measures as resources become available.

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<p>Cllr Scott Arthur</p>	<p>Additionally, any impact on gritting and waste collection will have to be carefully considered. These large vehicles will find it difficult to turn in the restricted area. This and points 1-8 above need to be clarified, and based on this the residents should be given a further chance to comment.</p> <p>The concerns outside the cordon largely reflect the pre-existing road safety issues around the school. Normally, there are three areas of concern: (1) the area within the proposed cordon, (2) the hill access to the school on Buckstone Lea and, (3) the raised table crossing adjacent to the junction of Buckstone Loan East / Buckstone Gate. Residents are justifiably concerned that this plan will exacerbate the latter two problem areas and also worsen problems on Buckstone Close. Has this been anticipated?</p> <p>If the plans are to proceed, I feel the following should happen to reduce this impact on the surrounding area:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Parking should be prevented at the Buckstone Loan East / Buckstone Gate junction (in line with the Highway Code). 	<p>Noted, we will liaise with the school on this and progress any further restrictions that are required.</p>
<p>Cllr Scott Arthur</p>	<p>The raised table crossing adjacent to the junction of Buckstone Loan East / Buckstone Gate should have its markings refreshed.</p>	<p>Noted</p>
<p>Cllr Scott Arthur</p>	<p>The following giveaway markings should be refreshed: Buckstone Loan East / Buckstone Gate, Buckstone Loan East / Buckstone Lea, Buckstone Loan East / Buckstone Close, Buckstone Loan East / Buckstone Circle, High Buckstone / Buckstone Circle, Buckstone Loan / Buckstone Circle and Buckstone Gate / Buckstone Road. The Council should ensure dropped kerbs are in place at these junctions where appropriate.</p>	<p>This has been passed to colleagues in Roads Operations.</p>
<p>Cllr Scott Arthur</p>	<p>Homes on Buckstone Loan East, Buckstone Circle, Buckstone Close, Buckstone Lea and Buckstone Gate</p>	<p>This has been passed to colleagues in Roads Operations.</p>

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	should be provided with access protection markings for their driveways, or have any existing markings refreshed.	
Cllr Scott Arthur	Steps should be taken to discourage parents from using cars to drop-off/pick-up children on Buckstone Lea.	Noted – we will liaise with the school on this.
Cllr Scott Arthur	Steps should be taken to remind Buckstone residents of the hazard parked cars and overgrown hedges (etc) pose to pedestrians and those with buggies/wheelchairs/guide dogs. This is particularly important on the arterial routes through Buckstone and the streets surrounding the school.	Noted- we will pass this on to colleagues in Parks and Greenspace.
Cllr Scott Arthur	Likewise, a reminder should be issued regarding speeding on the estate	Noted
Cllr Susan Webber	My colleagues, Cllr Doggart and Rust as the Ward representatives have made and raised all relevant comments and concerns. I share them and look forward to the responses	Noted
Stakeholders		
Robin Wickes Access Panel	Please ensure drop-off / pick-up outside the school by blue badge holders is possible, and is easy and safe	Blue badge holders are exempt from the prohibition.
Robin Wickes Access Panel	Please include blue badge holders in your list of those allowed through the road closure on Buckstone Circle.	Blue badge holders are exempt from the prohibition.
Robin Wickes Access Panel	It's essential to ensure there's plenty of room for large vehicles to turn around safely so that they can both enter and exit through the restriction on Buckstone East	Noted
Dr Catriona Burness	<p>Street layouts can cause difficulties at the best of times for visually impaired people. We want to ensure that any temporary changes to our streets that may appear across Scotland allow blind and partially sighted people and those with other disabilities to get around safely.</p> <p>Our policy position detailing our concerns and potential solutions, including a Coronavirus Courtesy Code which we believe would help ensure blind and partially sighted people can get out and about whilst maintaining a safe distance from others can be found on our website at</p>	Noted

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	https://www.rnib.org.uk/scotland/campaigning-rnib-scotland/coronavirus-courtesy-code	
<p>Spokes</p>	<p>Buckstone Primary School sits at the top of the hill around which Buckstone Estate and recently the adjoining Waterfield Estate have been built. They are bounded on the East / North by the entirely green spaces of the Mortonhall Estate and on the South and West, by two major road, Frogston Road and A702. There is no through traffic making it a Low traffic Neighbourhood. The school has implemented a well ordered routine for the start of the day where a staggered start time for different year groups is combined with socially distanced queueing on pavements on both sides of the school gate. There are 3 members of staff on hand to assist. It seems that those school staff who drive to the school are in the car park before 8.30.</p> <p>Whilst the vast bulk of children arrive on foot, there are a small number of parents who still drive the children to school, some of them driving along the area proposed for closure. Buckstone Circle is narrowed by resident parking in this short section and the large SUV type vehicles witnessed this week take up a lot of room. One would question the drivers' ability to spot a small child from there. Children and adults with them were all on the pavements even those with a bike, or scooter.</p> <p>Other drivers drop children at the crossroad of Buckstone Loan East and Buckstone Circle just outside the proposed closure and this may need to be monitored as drivers who have previously</p>	<p>Noted</p>

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	<p>used the closed areas will probably use this area instead. There are Zig Zag lines which are not always respected.</p> <p>The closure would provide residents, school deliveries and waste collection services access at the opposite end of Buckstone Circle to the school gate. It is not clear what devices are planned which would allow access to 'pedestrians, cyclists, residents, school deliveries and waste collections' whilst preventing cars dropping off children.</p> <p>The notices should say clearly that the road remains open to pedestrians and cyclists.</p>	
Buckstone PS Parent Council	Unlike other schools, we don't face a problem with traffic in general, instead it is limited to inconsiderate behaviour by a minority of school parents in terms of bad parking.	Noted
Community Council		
Norman Tinlin on behalf of Fairmilehead Community Council	<p>There is no indication as to when the measures will be in place – during school pick up and drop off times; during the school day; 24/7?</p> <p>Why is there an urgency for these measures considering Covid19 has been around since at least March this year (if not earlier) and can no longer be considered to be an emergency?</p>	<p>These measures will be in place 24/7 as we do not have the resources to open and close the roads at school entry and exit times.</p> <p>We have many school schemes to consider and design and it has taken time to work through these. It will allow pedestrians to physically distance on the school run. This is just as relevant now as it was in March 2020 as the Covid-19 threat is still as serious now.</p>
Norman Tinlin on behalf of Fairmilehead Community Council	It appears on the surface that this is a cut down version of the School Streets proposals that were consulted on a few years ago and rejected by the residents and they are being introduced by the "back door".	This is a temporary 24/7 prohibition of vehicles to enable parents to physically distance when on the school run at the immediate school frontage and has no relation to any previous projects.
Norman Tinlin on behalf of Fairmilehead Community Council	What method will be used to restrict traffic e.g. barriers, planters; cones or some other method?	The measures will initially be introduced using temporary traffic management and then switched to planters and more semi-permanent measures as resources become available.

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<p>Norman Tinlin on behalf of Fairmilehead Community Council</p>	<p>Does the Council have the legal powers to implement the proposals under Temporary Traffic Regulation Orders using Covid19 as an excuse?.</p>	<p>We are following a procedures agreed by Councillors on 14th May 2020.</p>
<p>Norman Tinlin on behalf of Fairmilehead Community Council</p>	<p>On receipt of the initial notification I asked for further clarification on some matters as they were not clear from the e-mail and the map which was attached.</p> <p>As a result of the non-response to my enquiries I have no option but to formally lodge objections.</p> <p>1 There is no information as to when the measures will be in place i.e. during school pickup and drop off times; the whole of the school day; Monday to Friday or 24/7.</p> <p>2 There is no indication what method, if any, is going to be used to restrict traffic? Flashing lights as per those at St Peters Primary; barriers; cones; planters or some other method.</p> <p>3 Are residents in the effected streets to be given permits to allow them access to their properties during the times of restriction?</p> <p>4 Are there any exemptions and what are they? Are any exemptions going to include NHS and care workers; emergency vehicles; tradesmen attending local premises particularly for emergencies; Royal Mail and other delivery services; taxis and private hire vehicles?</p> <p>5 It will be difficult to enforce the restrictions. The local police (Oxgangs Police Station), who were unaware of the proposals until I informed them, question how the measures are to be enforced and what restrictions will be in place.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. These measures will be in place 24/7. 2. The measures will initially be introduced using temporary traffic management and then switched to planters and more semi-permanent measures as resources become available. 3. No permits will be issued. 4. Residential access, as well as access for blue badge holders, deliveries, school staff, trades in marked vehicles carrying out works, emergency services and waste collection will be maintained. 5. Police Scotland will enforce the restrictions as and when resources allow. 6. This is just as relevant now as it was in March 2020 as the Covid-19 threat is still as serious now. 7. We are following a procedures agreed by Councillors on 14th May 2020 and temporary powers granted by Scottish Government in response to the pandemic 8. This is a temporary 24/7 prohibition of vehicles to enable parents to physically distance when on the school run at the immediate school frontage and has no relation to any previous projects. 9. We are following the Spaces for People Notification process previously agreed by councillors. 10. This has been requested by the school to support physical distancing. 11. Noted.

	<p>6 It appears that Covid19 is being used as the justification for these proposals. Why is there an urgency to impose these measures considering Covid19 has been around since the beginning of the year and can no longer be considered to be an emergency? It appears that the pandemic is just being used as an excuse to implement proposals which have been previously rejected.</p> <p>7 Does the Council have the legal powers to implement the proposals using Covid19 as a reason? It appears a temporary traffic regulation order is being used under the guise of Covid19. To us it appears that the Council is acting ultra vires and this is a similar situation to that that occurred with the East Craigs LTN where it appears the Council acted beyond its powers.</p> <p>8 The proposals appear to be a cut down version of the School Streets proposals of 2014/2015 which were firmly rejected by the local residents at that time and subsequently withdrawn by the Council.</p> <p>9 Lack of consultation with the community council and the local residents. Not all residents have pupils at the school and the school does not engage with the community council or residents. It appears it only informs the Parent Council or parents.</p> <p>10. As the existing situation appears to work well there is no need for the current proposals.</p> <p>11 The proposals are unnecessary - All that is required is proper enforcement of the existing yellow lines at the appropriate times.</p>	
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Public		
Residents		
In favour	Thank you in advance - I look forward to seeing this implemented.	Noted, thank you for the support.
	I fully support the proposals set out and call on them to be extended. I live on Buckstone Lea and we have parents and carers parking in dangerous positions and too close to junctions. This poses a hazard to children who walk, scoot and cycle to school. If it is possible to extend the scheme further than the proposed limited area, we would appreciate it.	Noted – we will liaise with the school on this.
	This is very welcome news, I am glad this change this being seriously considered due to Covid and not the death of a child.	Noted, thank you for the support.
Suggestions	I would suggest using Buckstone Gate as cut off point for any vehicle access coming into the estate. This means for example children could easily access the lane off Buckstone Loan East.	Noted – we will liaise with the school on this.
	I would also like to see white lines painted across drives on all properties on Buckstone Close as well as double yellow lines on all corners on Buckstone Loan, Buckstone Close, Buckstone Loan East and Buckstone Gate.	Noted - This has been passed to colleagues in Roads Operations.
	A traffic-free area round the school I think will encourage parents to drop their children further away from the school gate, so will help with social distancing. I would note that I think the measures are only necessary at school drop-off and pick-up times.	Noted – due to resource we are unable to introduce time specific measures.
	I would also like to flag that the road crossing area at the top of Buckstone Gate frequently has parked cars on the yellow line (parents dropping off and picking up). This	Noted – we will liaise with the school on this.

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	obstructs the view of parents and children crossing there to approach school from Buckstone Gate. The proposed road closures may exacerbate this problem. I have flagged it with the community police team who recommend this area is designated as an official crossing.	
	I do not accept the objection that restrictions around the school will result in problems elsewhere. It will spread the traffic over a wider area, and result in less parents driving to the school - so a net gain.	Noted
Frequently asked questions	Is this measure only going to be at key times during the day, and only during term time?	The prohibition will be in effect 24/7 as we do not have the resource to facilitate part time closures.
	Could this money be used to repair potholes etc	The Spaces for People budget is not used for basic road maintenance.
	Will this result in extra reversing, especially of bin lorries and delivery vans?	The proposals have been discussed with waste and they are happy with the proposed temporary arrangement.
	How do you propose to monitor that access to/via Buckstone Circle is retained for residents only? How do you envisage waste collection to happen in the closed off section of Buckstone Loan East?	Permitted vehicles will have full access via a half-width closure at the junction with High Buckstone.
	Have any studies been carried out to prove that there are problems with social distancing in the area 24/7? If studies have been carried out, please advise when, what methodology was applied and share the findings.	The school have raised concerns and have requested these measures to support parents on the school run.
	- presumably the restrictions will allow for deliveries, e.g Royal Mail, all couriers, Tesco (other shops available of course) delivery and how will this be managed - how will the residents only restrictions and access be enforced - what are physical changes to the roads such as barriers, cycle paths	Residential access, as well as access for blue badge holders, deliveries, school staff, trades in marked vehicles carrying out works, emergency services and waste collection will be maintained. Permitted vehicles will have full access via a half-width closure at the junction with High Buckstone. The measures will be enforced by Police Scotland.
	What about residents rights of access to their home and driveways?	Residents access will be unaffected.
	What about resident's deliveries food or other?	Deliveries are exempt from the order.

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	What if residents need to have building work done?	Trades in marked vehicles carrying out works are exempt from the order.
	Where will teachers park ?	School staff accessing the school car park are exempt from the order.
	Where will School buses park ?	School staff accessing the school car park are exempt from the order.
	What about resident's visitors? how will visitor access be managed	Visitors are not permitted within the prohibition and will have to park out with the measures and walk, unless they hold a blue badge.
	How are these proposed restrictions going to be enforced?	They will be enforced by Police Scotland as and when resources allow.
	How will utility services and delivery drivers be informed of these proposed restrictions?	They will have to adhere to the signage and notices on street.
	Refuse collection, food waste collection and garden refuse collections all take place between 7.30 and 9.00am. How will these be affected?	Waste collection will be unaffected.
	The waste lorries would be able to enter the street from Buckstone Circle. The only way out would be returning the same way as no exit via Buckstone Close or Buckstone Loan East (towards Buckstone Gate) will be possible. Would waste lorries be forced to reverse all the way back through Buckstone Circle?	The proposals have been discussed with waste and they are happy with the proposed temporary arrangement.
	Has a review been carried out as to where bottle necks would be created by closing Buckstone Loan East? If so, please share the findings.	No
	Under the proposal, Buckstone Loan East is to be closed to vehicular traffic at junction with Buckstone Close. Access via Buckstone Circle is to be maintained for pedestrians, cyclists, school deliveries, waste collection and residents. This suggests that residents of Buckstone Loan East living between the school and the Buckstone Close junction would be unable to receive deliveries, have trade people coming by car, order taxi pick ups from home or, indeed, have an ambulance etc as these are not listed as allowed access.	Access to the section of Buckstone Loan East from its junction with Buckstone Close will be via Buckstone Circle.

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Against	it's only going to cause far worse congestion which will spill out of the estate. As the main road as Buckstone Terrace is struggling as a result of spaces for people, the proposed move would create more traffic, congestion and go against what you are trying to achieve.	Noted
	Another problem is illegal and dangerous parking, especially on the corners of Buckstone close, loan east, loan, gate and circle. There are some parking restrictions around these roads, but they are frequently ignored. Probably it is only a small minority of parents, but I see illegally parked vehicles every day. Adding extra double yellow lines could help - as could better enforcement.	Noted – we will request additional enforcement.
	With the reducing numbers of infections and the imminent arrival of a vaccine I fail to see the urgency or reason for any plan to alter traffic flow. While people are inside their cars they pose no infection risk whatsoever to anyone other than their fellow passengers and for the purpose of travelling these roads to the school it would be assumed that the passengers in each car are members of the same family so no risk.	Noted - This is just as relevant now as it was in March 2020 as the Covid-19 threat is still as serious now.
	Sounds like hundreds of homes are going to be effected to accommodate a short window morning and afternoon weekdays just because parents dropping off kids at the school in cars who most probably now live outwith the catchment area. I am particularly concerned about the additional traffic coming into Buckstone Loan East from Buckstone Crescent. There is a very bad bend, and cars have to stop to let other cars pass. Blocking BLE at the other side will only create a bottle neck elsewhere and will lead to accidents.	Approximate 20 homes will be in the area of the prohibition. The traffic situation in surrounding streets will be monitored and we will be working with the school to encourage parents to travel actively to school.
	Blocking the road on Buckstone Loan East near the junction with Buckstone Close will only cause significant problems with traffic flow. Local residents generally adhere to an unofficial one way traffic flow by approaching the school from Buckstone Loan East then	Noted

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	<p>turning right into Buckstone Circle. There are many residents who have multiple vehicles so have to park on the street. That is why the one way system works very well. Two way traffic at school times is when problems arise with some drivers experiencing problems passing other cars.</p>	
	<p>In the main parents who are able bodied need to be encouraged not to drive their children to school, if they live within Buckstone. It is not environmentally friendly or healthy. It sets the wrong ethos from an early age. Likely increases stress, anxiety and reduces independence.</p>	<p>We will be working with the school to encourage parents to travel actively to school.</p>
	<p>1 Why are these proposals needed? We have lived in the area for 42 years, our children attended the primary school and in all that time we were never aware of any problems.</p>	<p>These proposals are in response to the Covid 19 pandemic and will allow parents and carers space to physically distance on the journey to school.</p>
	<p>We have had occasional visits from council parking attendants and police officers to monitor the situation. We have been informed the only way to apply stricter parking regulations would be to change the pedestrian crossing into an "official" crossing area, such as a pelican crossing.</p> <p>Has there been any consideration to changing the crossing ?</p>	<p>We will liaise with the school on this via the school travel plan review.</p>