

Traffic Regulation Orders Team (100TS)
PO Box 3399
Bristol BS1 9NE

Mr David Martin
Director of Campus Development
Campus Division
University of Bristol
Bristol
BS2 8BB
9 May 2023

Dear Sir/Madam,

Subject: Objection from University of Bristol to TRO proposal, ref: CAE/NMT/P-1262

I am writing on behalf of the University of Bristol to object to the proposed removal of the prohibition of driving and extension of one way on University Road, Central Ward (ref: CAE/NMT/P-1262).

The University wishes to object on the following grounds:

1. Since its introduction in 2020, the prohibition of driving on the lower part of University Road has improved conditions for pedestrians, cyclists and other non-motorised users from the junction with Queens Road as far as Woodland Road (including safety for building users following fire evacuation routes) without significant impediment to vehicular access to the University;
2. Permitting motor vehicles to turn left off Queens Road risks creating a further 'rat-run' for drivers seeking to avoid the Clean Air Zone (in force since November 2022), resulting in higher traffic levels on University Road than before the prohibition of driving was introduced two years previously; and increased traffic congestion on Clifton Triangle as vehicles turning left wait for pedestrians to cross the bottom of University Road (in accordance with the Highway Code);
3. Any increase in motor traffic on University Road as a result of the removal of the prohibition of driving will have a negative impact on the safety of more vulnerable road users, including many hundreds of University students and staff circulating on foot and by bike on the streets around this part of Clifton campus, and is likely to cause delays to the bus services using these roads (U1 and 72).
4. The proposal conflicts with the road user hierarchy embedded in national policy and guidance; with the city council's own vision for Clifton Triangle presented as part of the Number 2 bus route consultation (showing the southern end of University Road closed to motor traffic); and with the University's ambitions to create a more pedestrian and cyclist - friendly campus, e.g. with the new traffic-free public realm to be created on Woodland Road as part of the Library project.

We sincerely hope the city council will reconsider this proposal and would welcome the opportunity to work together to make the current prohibition of driving permanent as part of its wider vision for the streetscape around Clifton Triangle. Please liaise with Amy Heritage, Sustainability Manager Transport (amy.heritage@bristol.ac.uk) on this work going forward.

Kind regards



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