

Background

The closure of Little Church Road was first implemented in June 2020. Planters and formal signage were installed in May 2021, with traffic surveys carried out between April and July 2021 to measure any change in traffic behaviour before and after their installation. While the data showed a reduction in motor vehicles using Little Church Road after the closure was formalised, the lack of enforcement meant that many vehicles continued to pass through. As a result, it was difficult to accurately determine the impact the closure was having on traffic.

The purpose of these new surveys is to improve the accuracy of the data being collected by better replicating the conditions of a permanent closure. Camera enforcement will commence on Monday 5 December, which should result in a change of traffic behaviour and help us assess the route choices of drivers if Little Church Road were to be closed permanently. Only through enforcement, can we measure the true impact the closure has on the local road network.

In February and March, the council will consult on whether the closure should remain in place. The new data will be widely shared to inform these conversations and we will make a decision which is based on all the evidence.

Survey Types

>> Please refer to the plan overleaf for site locations.

Sites: A, B, C, D & E

Junction Turning Counts (JTC)

Camera's placed at key junctions to track direction of travel. Sites A, B & C will record vehicles and pedestrians entering and exiting the area. Sites D & E provide an indication of the onward journeys of those entering and the origin of those leaving.

Site: F

Automatic Traffic Count (ATC)

Tubes placed across the road, measuring traffic flow and speed. An ATC allows us to make an approximation of the number of through journeys when viewed in conjunction with the junction turning counts.

Survey Dates & Times

Monitoring will be carried out between Tuesday 28 November 2022 and Saturday 14 January 2023. This allows base data to be collected before the start of camera enforcement, and sufficient time to measure the impact.

The ATC will be in place for the full duration, with data recorded automatically each day. JTCs are video based and require manual analysis, which is time intensive. Therefore, these surveys will be carried out 7am-7pm on 12 weekdays and 5 weekend days, between the specified dates. This will establish average trends, and is a standard approach to such surveys.

