

Update on Bournville & Cotteridge Places for People project consultation – September 2023

[Places for People in Bournville & Cotteridge](#) aims to reduce traffic in residential neighbourhoods so that it is safer for people to walk, wheel, and cycle and nicer to be outside, for children to play and neighbours to chat.

Between 3 June and 2 July 2023, we ran a [consultation](#) on a proposed layout option for this area. The consultation received over 1,200 responses to the online survey, around a further 100 emails, and included two very well attended drop-in sessions. We would like to thank everyone who took part in this consultation. It has provided very useful data and insightful information which will be invaluable for informing the continued development of this project.

There was a mixed response to the various proposals consulted on. There was support for the aims and principles of the project, with 46% of respondents expressing positive sentiments towards this compared to 43% expressing negative sentiments.

Some of the proposed measures were broadly welcomed, such as an area-wide 20mph speed limit and traffic calming on certain roads. Other proposals were less popular, with respondents expressing general concerns around restrictions to traffic movements, proposed changes to access routes, and the impact that this could have on surrounding streets.

Concerns were particularly highlighted in relation to:

- the proposed introduction of modal filters on Willow Road and Elm Road
- proposals to make some roads one-way, especially Beaumont Road and Hole Lane
- a proposed segregated cycle track on Heath Road

It is clear that there is a need for further engagement with residents, businesses, and other groups to refine these proposals or develop alternative options. This would be arranged on a localised basis, bringing people together to consider measures for a certain group of streets, while still developing a holistic scheme that delivers benefits across the whole area.

There are three things that we hope to achieve from this:

- 1) confirm the main traffic issues that we are seeking to address here – Places for People is mainly about reducing traffic levels, so we need to clarify where this is needed and wanted.
- 2) consider different options that could be introduced to address these issues, including ideas from residents (some of which have already been put forward during the consultation).
- 3) Attempt to reach consensus around a preferred option. This does not mean that everyone will agree with or like what is ultimately proposed, but there would need to be some level of agreement on and support for measures to be taken forward for delivery.

Over the coming months, we will work closely with the Councillors for Bournville & Cotteridge ward, Cllr Liz Clements and Cllr Fred Grindrod, to facilitate further meetings and discussions with residents and other stakeholders to develop ideas for a revised scheme, as outlined above.

Through this, we hope to produce a revised concept design (in a similar style to the previous plan, but with different proposed measures where appropriate) to share with everyone in early 2024.

We would then look to progress the detailed design work needed, obtain necessary approvals, and advertise Traffic Regulation Orders (TROs) - including statutory consultation on these - such that a final scheme can be delivered before the end of 2024.

Notwithstanding the requirement to comply with any spend restrictions in place in advance of the Council setting out its Financial Recovery Plan, the funding allocated to this scheme comes from income which is ring-fenced for transport-related strategies and policies that help improve air quality and cannot be used to fund any wider financial pressures across the City Council.

The Bournville & Cotteridge Places for People project consultation report can be found at:

- <https://www.birminghambeheard.org.uk/economy/bournvillecotteridgefp/>

Please contact connected@birmingham.gov.uk with further enquiries.