



# City Centre West to East Cycle Link and Street Improvements – Update 19

April 2021

## Project Updates

This is the nineteenth CCWEL update. These are issued regularly to keep all stakeholders up to date. When construction commences on site (expected late 2021) updates will be issued more frequently with details of construction and traffic management.

## Project timeline

We are close to completing the preparation of the statutory orders, and the detailed designs for the CCWEL project, however our tender price return was above expectations. We are currently working on revising the designs in order to minimise costs and ensure a cost-effective project delivery. Updated proposals, including cost savings, will be reported to the Transport and Environment and Finance Committees later this year.

Unfortunately, this process has resulted in a further delay to our programmed project delivery which is not expected to commence until late 2021. This is disappointing, but we are continuing to work hard to deliver this project within the relevant budgets at the earliest possible time.

## Site investigations

During the period until we start on site, we will continue to work validating designs and de-risking the project by doing a set of further site investigations (slit trenches) on Sections 1 and 2. Further details on timeline and traffic management will follow but we are expecting to commence with these works in summer 2021.

## Consultation – Statutory Procedures

The development of the project has involved significant stakeholder and public consultation, attracting a high level of interest and engagement.

An update on the latest developments regarding the statutory procedures is outlined below:

## Statutory Orders for Section 1

The required Statutory Orders for Section 1 of the CCWEL (which runs from Roseburn to Haymarket) have now been made following approval from the Scottish Government.

## Redetermination Orders for Sections 2 and 3b

We continue to await a decision from the Scottish Government regarding the Redetermination Orders for Section 2 (from Haymarket to Randolph Place) and Section 3b (North St David Street) and hope to be able to make these orders in the near future.



## CCWEL Baseline Monitoring Report

Consultants, SYSTRA, have been working to produce the baseline monitoring report which will provide us with a thorough and comprehensive set of information against which the overall impact of the project will be assessed. The information will also help to:

- understand the outcomes from the project
- quantify the scheme's benefits
- demonstrate value for money
- provide valuable insights into what can be expected from other, similar projects in the future.

A range of techniques and data sources were used to collect the data, including on-street surveys, video surveys, manual and automatic counts, existing data, direct stakeholder engagement and direct assessment and site audits. We are currently reviewing the draft report which will be published in full on our website soon.

## Findings from the household surveys along the route

Nearly 2,800 households were surveyed as part of the baseline monitoring, with nearly 400 surveys returned. From a sample weighted (for age and gender), around 58% of respondents had heard of the CCWEL project with most having heard about it from the Council directly. Almost half (49%) supported the project with only around 1 in 10 stating they were opposed. The remaining 40% were unsure.

The majority of respondents (63%) travelled on foot to their shopping destination, with only 1 in 10 travelling by car. Around 1 in 10 respondents felt there would be difficulties with traffic congestion, visitor parking and their own parking and less than 10% were concerned about safety, loading/delivery activity or pollution.

These results are very promising and suggest that many people are supportive of the project and expect it to provide a net benefit to the surrounding area. We will carry out further monitoring following the implementation of the scheme and it is hoped that this will show that people's positive expectations have been realised.

## Vision for George Street and City Centre

The proposed renovation of George Street will form a pivotal part of the CCWEL route connecting from Randolph Place and Charlotte Square in the West to St Andrew Square and North David Street in the East. The updated concept design for the transformation of George Street has been unveiled and is available to view online where detailed artist impressions and a [3D fly-through](#) show how the street could look from 2025.

Improvements are being delivered as part of a coordinated package of projects under Edinburgh City Centre Transformation. This includes the George Street and First New Town scheme, alongside the forthcoming Meadows to George Street and the CCWEL which will transform walking, wheeling and cycling routes and connections across the city centre. These schemes also support the City Mobility Plan, a ten-year strategy to overhaul transport and mobility in the Capital to deliver a sustainable, net zero carbon and inclusive future.



## More information

We will continue to keep you updated on developments through the Project Updates and the project webpage at [www.edinburgh.gov.uk/ccwel](http://www.edinburgh.gov.uk/ccwel)

For further information on the CCWEL project please contact Eileen Hewitt on 469 3502 or [ccwel@edinburgh.gov.uk](mailto:ccwel@edinburgh.gov.uk)

Please also use these contact details if you wish to be added to or removed from the mailing list, or to have your data amended.

## Data Protection

We are delivering this project in partnership with Sustrans Scotland and design consultants AECOM and WYG. Any information shared with us will be used to inform the development of this project and may be shared with these organisations also if deemed necessary and appropriate. At the end of the project all personal data will be permanently removed.