

# Project *Newsletter*



**October 2024**

## **Welcome**

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Thank you for expressing interest in the Leith Connections project. We are creating safer and more comfortable conditions for walking, wheeling and cycling and a more attractive street environment where residents can spend time in their local streets and outdoor spaces.

Below you will find an update on:

- Foot of the Walk to Ocean Terminal construction
- Information on liveable neighbourhood trial monitoring results
- Progress with the new bridge connecting North Fort Street to Lindsay Road
- Sharing your views on updated designs for the Hawthornvale to Seafield route
- Lothian Buses ticketing
- Lochend Road pavement upgrades

## **Foot of the Walk to Ocean Terminal – construction start**

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Construction work will start this autumn on the new walking, wheeling and cycling route between Foot of the Walk and Ocean Terminal. The first phase of work will be on Great Junction Street, Henderson Street, Sandport Place and Dock Street. Alongside safer cycling facilities connecting south towards the city centre, this new route will also:

- provide new signalised pedestrian crossings on Great Junction Street
- improve pavements
- install new soft landscaping areas
- make permanent changes to the temporary arrangement at Sandport Place Bridge
- make Yardheads and Parliament Street accessible for motor vehicles only from Cables Wynd



Our construction contractor will share more detail about the construction programme directly with you before and during the work.

You can also keep up with construction dates and traffic management details once available on our website

[www.edinburgh.gov.uk/leithconnections](http://www.edinburgh.gov.uk/leithconnections)

## **Experimental Traffic Order monitoring results and next steps**

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Last year we made a number of changes around the area which included:

- Creation of three areas of community inspired artwork
- Installation of 15 new benches
- Six areas of new planting with pollinator and native species
- New pavement buildout areas around Leith Links to aid pedestrians crossing to the park
- New or improved dropped crossings and tactile paving at 17 locations
- Decluttering of pavements, removing various unused signage and poles

Alongside this work we have put in place some trial measures on Tolbooth Wynd, Wellington Place, John's Place and Links Place to change how motor traffic moves through the area and reduce non-residential through traffic. We have also made some changes to allow contraflow cycling on one way streets and introduced new pedestrian crossing points.

We are monitoring a range of 'before' and 'after' data to assess the scheme's impact on the area. Indicators that we are measuring include

- gauging community reaction to the on-street changes via general feedback and responses to the traffic order consultation which ended in April
- gauging community reaction to the on-street changes via market research surveys and focus groups
- traffic surveys of the number and speed of vehicles using the streets
- air quality monitoring
- noise monitoring
- business surveys
- visits with Edinburgh Access Panel

We have recently published our 6 month monitoring report alongside results of on street market research, a survey of business owners and focus group research. You will find this information on our [How we are monitoring and evaluating the project](#) webpages.

Results of community feedback and monitoring data will be reported to the relevant council committee early in 2025 when a decision will be made on the future of the trial.

## Hawthornvale to Seafield – share your views on our updated designs

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We have received funding from Transport Scotland through Sustrans Scotland's Places for Everyone programme to continue design and community engagement on the proposals for improvements linking Hawthornvale Path and Seafield. This will provide improved walking, wheeling and cycling conditions and improved public spaces along Lindsay Road, Commercial Street, Bernard Street and Salamander Street.

We would like to get your feedback on the updated designs. An online survey will be available at [Consultation and Engagement Hub](#) until 17 November 2024.



## Come and speak to the team

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Come along to our information session at [Leith Community Centre](#) (first floor of the Newkirkgate Shopping Centre) on 29 October from 2pm to 6pm to find out more about what is happening and when and to view design drawings. Drop in to talk to the project team about what you can expect from these stages of the project.

## Connecting with a new Lindsay Road Bridge

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Lindsay Road Bridge is a much-loved landmark and important part of Leith's local history. It provided a safe and convenient walking, wheeling and cycling route between North Fort Street and Newhaven. In December 2021, the well-used bridge was closed due to health and safety concerns.

In the spring we held a series of events and conducted an online survey to gather input from the public on the proposed design for a replacement. We also engaged with a number of specialist and local community groups.

Thanks for all your feedback which we have looked to incorporate in the final design. We have now submitted a planning application under reference 24/04552/FUL, which is available to view on the [Edinburgh planning portal](#). Once the design is fully completed and following completion of statutory processes, we will move forward with confirming construction funding and timescales for construction.



## Connecting with your buses

Travelling across Edinburgh and the Lothians has never been easier. For adult passengers, just tap the same card or mobile payment device for every journey across our entire network, and the following morning we'll automatically charge you the cheapest adult daily fare for the journeys you've made. On Lothian city buses, this is capped at £4.80 per day!

You'll never pay more than you need to, even if your plans change.

Keep using the same card or device all week and once you've reached one of our weekly caps, which run from Monday to Sunday, you won't pay any more for the rest of the week. On Lothian city buses, this is capped at £22.00 per week!

Visit [lothianbuses.co.uk](http://lothianbuses.co.uk) to learn more.

## Lochend Road pavement upgrades

As part of our footway maintenance works around the city, the pavements on Lochend Road (between Vanburgh Place and Hermitage Park Grove) will be resurfaced in the coming weeks. The work commenced on 30 September and will take around 20 weeks (with a break over the festive period) to complete.

Alternative walkways will be made during the works. Please do take care when travelling along these paths.

Pavement resurfacing and improvements on Duncan Place to the west of Leith Links is planned for early next year.

### Get in touch

Email [leithconnections@edinburgh.gov.uk](mailto:leithconnections@edinburgh.gov.uk)

You are being sent this email as you signed up for updates on Leith Connections. If you don't want further updates, please respond to this email asking to be removed from the mailing list.

Find out more about the Leith Connections project on our website [www.edinburgh.gov.uk/leithconnections](http://www.edinburgh.gov.uk/leithconnections)