

Comhairle Cathrach  
Bhaile Átha Cliath  
**Dublin City Council**



# **Sandymount Village Traffic Free Summer 2022 Options**

**February 2022**

### INTRODUCTION

Following an initial public consultation in May 2021 Dublin City Council made the east side of Sandymount village traffic-free from 3rd July to 31st August 2021.

This was part of Dublin City Council's Office of City Recovery to support business in the City and facilitate outdoor dining and was planned and implemented by the Traffic Department in DCC.

A non statutory consultation was held on between the 23<sup>rd</sup> September – 14<sup>th</sup> October looking to seek people's views on:

- Their experience of the traffic-free street
- What options should be explored for Sandymount village for the future

643 submissions were received. Overall it was a positive experience for most people -78% felt it improved their experience of the street, 63% said they visited the street more and 78% said they wanted to see the street Traffic Free. Whilst 85% of respondents want to see it Traffic Free permanently, those more directly affected living or working in the area were not so in favour of a permanent arrangement.

### OPTIONS

Based on the consultation, correspondence and a special meeting with South East Area Councillors on the 18<sup>th</sup> January 2022 the following are the most feasible options:

Option 1 – Traffic Free Friday to Sunday, June – September

This option would facilitate the space being Traffic Free from Friday morning to Sunday evening. This would be achieved by a similar system to summer 2021 with bollards installed early Friday morning and removed early Monday morning (before 6am). Parking would be suspended from Thursday night so that no cars are left in the area. Contact will be made with the one property that requires access to facilitate that. Alternatively the arrangement could be managed under light traffic management, however this would incur a cost of approximately €30-€40,000.

Option 2 – permanent 24/7 Traffic free

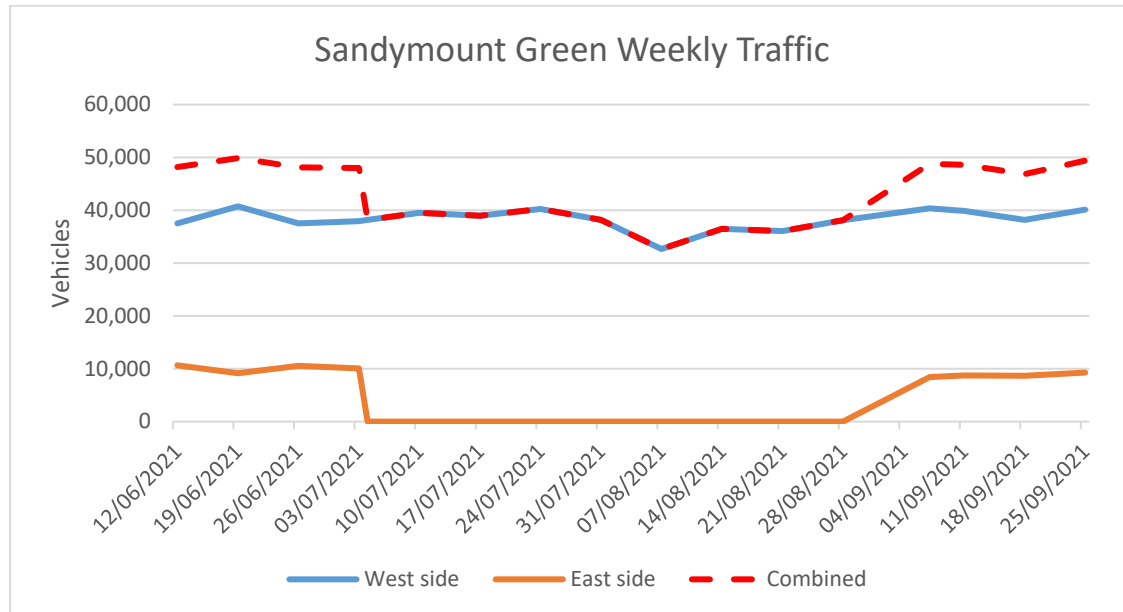
This is a similar arrangement to summer 2021 and is the option most favoured by the public. This option requires little resources or cost to the city council other than initial set up and removal. However there is strong opposition locally to this arrangement and there access to one property that needs to be maintained. Observations and feedback show the space was often unused in the early part of the week.

### RESPONSE TO SPECIFIC ISSUES

A number of issues have been raised:

#### **Traffic**

There were concerns that closing one side of Sandymount Green led to an increase in traffic on the west side. This did not occur and in fact traffic dropped slightly on the west side.



#### **Parking**

The proposed arrangement will result in the suspension of approximately 12m of parking (2 parking spaces) and the suspension/relocation of two disabled bays during the Traffic Free hours. These are no loading bays in the proposed location.

#### **Access**

Access to one property is to be maintained, the owner will be contracted directly to agree access.

#### **Litter**

The Area Office will liaise with Waste Management to arrange for enhanced cleaning during the weekends as per last year.

#### **Events**

The Area Office will arrange for music on Sunday afternoons as per last year.

#### **Authorisation**

If Option 1 is pursued this will be carried out as a temporary road closure for the relevant hours and days. If Option 2 is pursued a 24 hour closure for a continuous number of months this will be carried out under Section 38 of the Road Traffic Act.