

Belmont Avenue - Restricted Access (Listed by Date of Receipt)



Comhairle Cathrach
Bhaile Átha Cliath
Dublin City Council

Observation Ref	Details	Response	Date of Query	Date of Response
O-01	<p>Dear Sirs, We agree that the new one way system is advantageous to the residents of Belmont Avenue and to traffic flow of the area in general but please note that the associated placement of a certain number of bollards on Sandford road prohibits the safe entry and exit of those of us living adjacent to the road.</p> <p>The attached photographs may go some way towards demonstrating the great difficult we have accessing our home.</p> <p>Of particular issue is the access from the city inbound lane and I suggest this could be remedied somewhat if a small number of the bollards directly in front of our line of exit / entry were removed. Please give the matter your most urgent consideration as there are several drivers in our household, all of whom are subject to increased anxiety, not to mention abuse from other drivers, as we try to navigate safely.</p> <p>I would be happy to meet any of your representatives should a visual inspection be deemed necessary and would indeed encourage same.</p>	<p>It is acknowledged that the scheme as implemented has resulted in some movements being less viable for some property owners. As outlined by the comments provided, the trial scheme has developed with the objective to limit access, traffic volumes and speeds on Belmont Avenue. In order to ensure that access from Sandford Road is as limited and unattractive as possible to all road users in the trial phase, the extent of bollards has been maximised on Sandford Road / Belmont junction with the consequent impact on some movements.</p> <p>The measures implemented are on a trial basis, the final layout / permanent scheme will seek to improve access to all properties and address the concerns noted by providing curtailed traffic delineation measures on the junction as a whole.</p> <p>After this trial phase, it is expected that the general public will be familiar with the restricted access from Sandford Road and therefore some less restrictive permanent delineation will be provided on the junction.</p>	02/09/2022	07/09/2022
O-02	The plastic bollards on Sandford Road restricts access and egress to [redacted] (Comments received verbally through DCC)	Please refer to response provided for Observation 01.	02/09/2022	07/09/2022
O-03	<p>I wanted to pass on some feedback on the new arrangements which are in place on Belmont Avenue.</p> <p>It is clearly too early to evaluate the success or otherwise of the new arrangement but certainly there is less traffic on the road and the school drop is a lot easier (and less dangerous) to manage.</p> <p>There is however one thing which is causing confusion. As we know, the road continues to be a two way road albeit there is no access from Sandford Road, however, there seems to be a lot of confusion with many drivers travelling from Donnybrook now thinking that it is a one-way road. This is resulting in residents driving towards Donnybrook often being beeped (or worse!) when driving that direction.</p> <p>I wonder if it would be possible to put a new two-way road sign in place on the Donnybrook side of the avenue to clarify/remind drivers that they may encounter cars coming the other way. This would also help address the fact that some cars are travelling much quicker than was previously the case as they think it is now a one way road.</p> <p>I would appreciate if you would consider if this would be possible</p>	<p>The concern is noted.</p> <p>The two-way sign referred (W 080) is typically used where a one-way road connects to a two-way or vice versa or at the end of dual carriageways as outlined in the Traffic Signs Manual (TSM) 2019. Provision of the sign as suggested would not be in line with guidance of TSM and may set a precedent inconsistent with locations where the sign should be correctly provided.</p> <p>As this is a trial period, it is anticipated that this issue highlighted will reduce in times ahead.</p> <p>To aid informing drivers along the whole road (and likely more effective than a single sign which could be missed) more effectively, lane indication arrows (RRM 004) are proposed to confirm to drivers that traffic will be travelling in 2 directions.</p>	06/09/2022	07/09/2022

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Observation Ref	Details	Response	Date of Query	Date of Response
O-04	<p>Dear Colleagues,</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p> <p>We have been working in the Donnybrook area for some considerable time and are well accustomed to traffic volumes at varying times of the year</p> <p>Whilst we appreciate the concerns of residents [REDACTED] this traffic calming measure is having serious adverse affects on traffic which is now compelled to move through Marlborough Road. As a result of the increased volume of traffic now using Marlborough Road (which also has a school) we have experienced many motorists having to mount the path to allow cars to move from Morehampton Road to Sandford Road therefore pushing the health and safety concerns of residents on Belmont Avenue to their neighbours on Marlborough Road.</p> <p>Once you manage to get to the end of Marlborough Road travelling from Sandford Road, the sequence of traffic lights allows approximately 3 or if you are lucky enough 4 cars to pass through the lights. Today it took 25 minutes to get from Sandford Road to Morehampton Road at 8.40a.m.</p> <p>The schools have only recently re-opened and already there are bottle necks from Milltown to the Sandford Road, and from the Sandford Road through Marlborough Road. This is extremely concerning especially as a lot of students in Muckross College appear to be walking as the weather is good. However, once the weather gets worse this will no doubt increase traffic to the school and cause complete chaos and health and safety concerns for pedestrians and cyclists.</p> <p>Whilst we appreciate the reasoning for the traffic calming measures, the resulting consequences have created more difficulties for road users of every kind, trying to navigate the surrounding areas in a sufficient and safe manner.</p> <p>As such we would be much obliged if you could respond to this email to confirm what other measures shall be put in place to ease the position ie: changing sequence of traffic lights to allow easier flow of traffic and perhaps if Belmont is to be a one way street in one direction, Marlborough should be one way street in the other direction.</p> <p>We look forward to hearing from you.</p>	<p>Thank you for the comments and observations.</p> <p>The measures implemented are on a trial basis, during this period we are monitoring changes to traffic movement in the surrounding roads and streets which include the junctions.</p> <p>Adjustments to the timing and sequencing of traffic signals needs to be done carefully and requires the adjustments to be done incrementally to ensure there is no negative consequence to surrounding roads and junctions which could result from such changes. The adjustment of the signals will be assessed in the coming weeks and months by DCC Traffic Signals team.</p> <p>Where the scheme is to be made permanent, additional measures on surrounding roads and streets will be investigated also that may need to be done in parallel to making the scheme final and permanent.</p>	05/10/2022	21/10/2022
O-05	<p>We spoke on the phone re the above at the end of August (re bike access from Sandyford Road).</p> <p>I would like to draw to your attention to one result of the scheme, as implemented that is a safety issue. Traffic coming up bBelmont Ave from Donnybrook seems to be under the impression that the road is one-way only and as a result they are taking possession of the whole road, i.e leaving no room for any traffic coming down or indeed any cycle or motor cycle traffic going up to pass stationary traffic queuing to get out onto Sandyford Road. In the evening this que can extend 1/2 way down Belmont Ave.</p> <p>On Wednesday lunchtime I observed a push bike been ridden down along the footpath by a boy to avoid conflict with cars coming up Belmont Ave who were taking possession / using the entire width of the road.</p> <p>Even more worrying on Thursday afternoon around 6pm I observed a motorcycle going up Belmont Ave traveling at speed on the footpath because there wasn't room on the road for him to pass the stationary cars and he wasn't willing to wait in line.</p> <p>As the main purpose of the scheme , as I understand it is to safeguard pedestrian, especially children, using Belmont Ave, the scheme is not achieving this aim.</p> <p>Is it possible to put signage at the bottom of Belmont Ave indicating that the road is two way and that traffic coming up Belmont Ave must keep to their own side or giveaway to on-coming traffic?</p> <p>In general the scheme has certainly reduced traffic conflict on Belmont Ave but not at key times (8 to 9am and 4.30pm to 6.30pm).</p> <p>I would be grateful if you would consider how this safety issue (bicycles and motor cycles using the footpath) can be addressed.</p> <p>I look forward to hearing from you</p>	<p>Thank you for the comments and observations.</p> <p>The measures implemented are on a trial basis, during this period we are monitoring changes to traffic movement in the surrounding roads and streets.</p> <p>The feedback we have received thus far has been largely positive. We acknowledge there are some consequences to the changes. Unfortunately, we cannot control cyclists or motorcyclists using the footpath as you have outlined prior to this scheme being in place or after it.</p> <p>The two-way sign referred (W 080) is typically used where a one-way road connects to a two-way or vice versa or at the end of dual carriageways as outlined the in the Traffic Signs Manual (TSM) 2019. Provision of the sign as suggested would not be in line with guidance of TSM and may set a precedent inconsistent with locations where the sign should be correctly provided.</p> <p>As this is a trial period, it is anticipated that this issue highlighted will reduce in times ahead where people are clear this is a 2-way road.</p> <p>To aid informing drivers along the whole road (and likely more effective than a single sign which could be missed), lane indication arrows (RRM 004) are proposed to confirm to drivers that traffic will be travelling in 2 directions.</p>	08/10/2022	21/10/2022

[illegible]