

Paper Petition Details

Against Station Road Closure through Burnham Station Bridge

We, the undersigned call on Slough Borough Council to not implement / reverse the current proposal from its Transport team to implement an Experimental Road Closure to all motor vehicle traffic through Burnham Station bridge. Without trying alternative road traffic calming measures first. Ideally with width restrictions, better signage, improved signalling and improvements to the bus stops nearby.

Also we request that full consultation with local residents and local businesses be carried out first.

This petition was received on 3rd September, 2015.

This petition was passed to the Acting Head of Transport on 4th September, 2015.

This petition was responded to by the Acting Head of Transport on 23rd September, 2015.

Final Results

Number of Signatures	4,965
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Council Response

I would like to respond to the petition submitted on 3rd September, 2015 with regard to the proposed Station Road closure. As it may be known by now, the scheme has been through a scrutiny panel and has been subject to a report to the councils Cabinet. The outturn from the Cabinet meeting was to direct council officers to proceed with the closure for Station Road.

To help understand the process the council has followed, I will explain how officers have recommended the closure. Firstly, a modelling report was completed in 2014 but was not conclusive as to which option was the best, all options had an impact. Officers discussed the implications at a working group and also with members and it was agreed that some of the options be trialled, this was captured in a significant decision report. The scheme proposal for Station Road is to close the road under the bridge so that officers can evaluate the actual impact on the road network rather than rely on modelling reports. The reason for the scheme is to address the congestion issues on Burnham Lane and around the station as well as improve access to the station. The closure will also help the council understand whether future development opportunities are viable so before the council commits to the final scheme, it needs to be sure which option works well, once this has been determined the design will be completed and included in a tender.

There has been some misinformation about what the council is actually proposing so for clarity, I can confirm that the entire scheme will include the following changes:

- Closure of Station Road except for pedestrian and cycle access
- Changing Burnham Lane to southbound but still maintaining access from the A4 to residents
- Alterations to the traffic signals along the A4 between Dover Road and Huntercombe Lane North
- Moving of the bus stops from Burnham Lane to outside the station
- Parking restrictions on Burnham Lane and Littlebrook Avenue

The permanent scheme will look at also the following:

- A new parking area for commuters

- Upgrades to the station car park
- New ticket hall
- Access to all the platforms at Burnham Station
- New zebra crossings on Burnham Lane
- Upgrades to the 5 points junction
- Improvements to drainage to reduce any existing flooding

The petition referred to alternate options being considered first; such as width restrictions, better signage, improved signalling and improvements to bus stops. Some of these options suggested are already incorporated into the experiment or will feature in the final scheme. We are not proposing to implement this scheme to stop bridge strikes though this does reduce incidents there is no business case to make this change on our network.

In terms of the consultation process it is clear that residents feel we have not consulted them. Experimental traffic orders do not require pre-implementation consultation but the consultation process will start as soon as the experimental scheme is implemented. The total period for the experimental process is 18 months, the first 6 months is used for consultation/feedback and the remaining 12 months affords the council time to make a decision. The consultation and the decision period do not have to extend to the full timescales and so the council can make a decision sooner if possible. However, we are keen to engage with all those who live, work or pass through this area, to understand what the issues are once the scheme is in place and therefore we will be undertaking a leaflet drop to affected residents when a firm date for the closure has been agreed.

I hope this information is of some help to enable a better understanding of the process officers have followed, for any further questions please let me know.