

I am writing in strong support of the proposed bus lane, goods vehicle loading bay, and 20mph speed limit. A view that I know we share with many other residents, which I hope you have also heard from.

As residents we have many reasons to move between Phases 3 and 4 and Phases 1 and 2 of Elmsbrook. There is a primary school, there are friends and family members, a business centre, and soon to be a community centre and cafe. For residents, these journeys are short and we should be encouraging the use of public transport and active travel to achieve them. This is in line with the local planning policy under which the Elmsbrook Eco Town was proposed.

Elmsbrook has many young residents and visitors. We know this as we live on the main public path in and out of Elmsbrook. Daily we see the foot and cycle traffic of residents and visitors going to the primary school or going into town. Those active travellers are able to enjoy their journey because of reduced traffic. Lowering the traffic further would allow even more young people and parents to travel by foot and cycle without feeling intimidated by traffic.

Apart from journeys, we regularly see young people able to play and cycle safely on our quiet local streets - something that's becoming increasingly rare in many communities. We believe the current low traffic levels are what make this possible, and that further reductions would enhance this safe environment even more without negatively impacting drivers who always have the option to drive via the B4100. On the contrary, reducing traffic will work to enhance the experience of those who do have to drive.

We're also concerned that rejecting this proposal might send the wrong signal about traffic expectations in the area. If Charlotte Avenue becomes seen as an acceptable bypass for the busy B4100, combined with unenforced speed limits, we could see through-traffic levels that would completely undermine the peaceful and safe environment around Elmsbrook and its primary school.

Similarly, by allowing a loading only bay, we enable a cafe and community centre business to function logistically on the site. By providing more facilities on site, this again helps prevent what could otherwise become unnecessary short car journeys to facilities in town.

We hope you see the sound reasoning in these points and look forward to you making the best decision which serves us well to continue to keep Elmsbrook a safe and peaceful environment for all.