



14th November 2019

Dear Councillor Macinnes,

At the meeting of Portobello Community Council on 28 October 2019, concerns were raised regarding the road safety of pupils from our area who attend both Brunstane School and Duddingston School.

Brunstane School

Representatives from Brunstane School raised fears over the safety of pupils crossing Milton Road. Speeding is an issue here and they questioned why the speed limit had not been reduced. As we understand it, the changes to improve safe routes to school that were agreed following the Towerbank catchment review, have not been implemented, or fully implemented. Are you able to give us any further information in this regard please, and can we request that this issue be looked into urgently?

Duddingston School

The problems experienced by parents and pupils at this school concerned parking during drop-off and pick-up times along Duddingston Road, in particular the stretch outside the new St John's School. Parking advisory notices are yet to be installed outside the school, which has been open for a year, and faded yellow lines and zig-zag lines have yet to be repainted. We understand that following a deputation from Duddingston School to the Transport and Environment Committee on 11 October 2019, officers were directed to look at the possibility of installing double yellow lines and greater enforcement as interim measures. We would ask you to look into these interim measures as a matter of urgency.

Further to this, we understand that technical feasibility work has been undertaken on the delivery of a segregated active travel path on Duddingston Road and this has shown a proposal to be deliverable. Such a proposal would likely enable safe walking and scooting, while also narrowing the overly wide road and slowing traffic speeds. We are keen to explore this proposal with the Council and the community further, and would be happy to assist the Council with matters of community consultation and engagement.

St John's and Towerbank School

Since the meeting we have also taken in views from St John's Parent Council, who have also flagged up concerns about parking along Duddingston Road and would like to see action taken. The PCC representative for Towerbank School has also raised concerns that the signage at the top of Figgate Street is not doing an effective job at advising motorists



Portobello Community Council

that the streets are closed at set times and the school would like to see greater enforcement of the School Streets regulations.

As these are all issues of significant importance and seriousness, we would ask you to give them your urgent consideration and put measures in place to address them before a potentially serious incident occurs.

If it would be helpful to discuss the issues and suggested solutions with members of our PCC, please let us know and we will organise suitable representation to attend an urgent meeting with you.

Yours Sincerely
Portobello Community Council

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