



17 October 2025

Re: Proposed Roadblocks in Southville for the South Bristol Liveable Neighbourhood Scheme

Dear Councillor Plowden,

We are writing to you in connection with the Green-led council's proposals to introduce a 'South Bristol Liveable Neighbourhood'. We understand this will include plans to introduce road closures on multiple roads across Southville, which a significant number of local residents have expressed concerns about.

At the time of writing, almost 2,000 people have signed a petition raising issues about the Southville section of the planned South Bristol Liveable Neighbourhood. This clearly exceeds the council's threshold of 1,500 signatures to trigger a debate at the Transport and Connectivity Policy Committee.

The deadline to submit petitions to the next Transport and Connectivity committee meeting is midday, Tuesday 21 October 2025. The organisers submitted the petition to the council earlier this week, with verification completed on Wednesday 15 October 2025. Despite this, it has been undemocratically blocked from a debate.

This raises serious questions about whether democratic participation in Bristol City Council is appreciated, and if the Green-led administration genuinely intends to listen to residents who do not agree with its plans in a transparent manner. It is clear these proposals need a rethink. Kicking the can down the road and delaying a debate on a heavily supported petition denies citizens the opportunity to be heard in front of decision makers, at a stage we are led to believe is still formative.

The committee system promised to provide increased public participation in local democracy. Regrettably, this has not been the case here.

On behalf of everyone who has signed the petition, we implore you to u-turn and allow this petition to be debated. People with valid concerns about your council's policy need to be allowed to have their say. Local residents deserve to be heard.

Yours sincerely,

Councillor Tom Renhard
Leader of Bristol LabourCouncillor Tim Rippington
Labour Group Transport Lead

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