

19 December 2025

I am an Andover resident.

I am writing with regard to the proposal to change West Street in Andover from one way traffic to 2 way traffic.

West Street is a short section of road which comes off Western Avenue, passed a carpark, passed the sports centre, passed a retirement complex and row of houses opposite, passed the service area of Waitrose and the bus station and back onto Western Avenue.

There is also Lidl's but their customers and delivery lorries come off Western Avenue into their carpark and they exit opposite the bus station on West Street, the one way road and straight onto Western Avenue. They have no major impact on the main part of West Street at present.

People who come into town by bus or use the multi storey carpark but wish to shop at Lidl can do so easily. West St is narrow at that point and often traffic will stop to let pedestrians across. This makes it relatively easy if you are elderly and not very good on your feet, using a mobility scooter or some other aid or if you have little children in buggies or prams.

Any crossing would have to be put further away with the cars, commercial vehicles and buses going both ways with the proposal thereby making it more difficult for the above people.

At certain times of the day, particularly lunchtimes. There can be crowds of students from the college coming into the shopping centre. They cross West St twice, easily, at present.

Now I come to the residential properties off West St. There is Portland Grove which has been there for a long time.

Also Chantry Lodge, a Churchill retirement complex. As I understand it, there were going to be retail units on the ground floor. This never happened and they were turned into apartments. Those ground floor apartments front straight onto the pavement on West St. they have a railing close to their windows. I also understand that when it was agreed to make these ground floor apartments, Test Valley Borough Council widened the pavement in front of them.

I would imagine that those people on the ground floor will be dismayed to have the pavement narrowed so that it is closer for everyone to pass by. Also they will then have more than double the traffic, including commercial vehicles and buses passing more constantly than now. There will be increased noise and pollution. This will affect Portland Grove too.

It will make shopping at Lidl, the closest supermarket, difficult and in some cases impossible to access.

Even if a pedestrian crossing of some sort is put in place it will lead to congestion of the traffic when it is in use.

It seems to me that even traffic will be having to cross opposite traffic

Therefore I am making these my objections to the proposal to change West Street from one way traffic to two way traffic.