



Agenda Item 9

## Wells City Council

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<b>Presented By (if different)</b>	Haylee Wilkins
<b>Subject</b>	Traffic Update Report
<b>Date of report</b>	27 <sup>th</sup> August 2025
<b>For consideration at</b>	Outside Spaces Committee
<b>Date of consideration</b>	4 <sup>th</sup> September 2025

### **Introduction and Background**

There are many actions being supported either directly or indirectly by the City Council, associated with highways of traffic within the City. As this committee has newly included this topic as a standing item, it was considered appropriate to provide an update of all known and current issues or actions, to allow the committee one update, following which, actions can be provided at each meeting to update specifics that have taken place. The table below offers a view of each project.

It should be noted that this report and the below table takes into consideration actions within the Memorandum of Understanding between Wells City Council and Accessible Wells, as well as Somerset Council and Wells City Council.

There are 16 identified projects within the Accessible Wells and Wells City Council MOU and these are highlighted in red within the table where applicable.

### **Recommendations**

Outside Spaces Committee is asked to:

1. Note the content of attached report.
2. Reference to the Town Clerk any additional projects which have not been captured to ensure that the Committee continues to have one view of actions expected.
3. Recommend to Finance Committee for future budget consideration associated with traffic improvement works, such as 20 mph zone increase.

Title of Works	Description of Works	Lead Responsible Party	Supporting Parties	Current Position / Update
Market Place Traffic Regulation Order (TRO) (Identified MOU Project)	Implement permanent order to replace the back to back temporary orders that have been in place for some years, seeing improved signage and understanding of use of the space and restrictions.	Wells City Council	Somerset Council	The order draft was discussed with Somerset Council on 6 <sup>th</sup> August 2025, awaiting final draft. There will then need to be consultation completed with surrounding businesses (although TC of WCC has already engaged with all local businesses and no negative feedback received) before the order is finalised and sealed. At present, a temporary order is in place. There will be a need to amend signage at the front of the market place to ensure all are aware that the space will be a Pedestrian Zone (note the different wording from the temporary order).
20MPH Speed Limit Adjustment	Increase the 20MPH zone across the city to encompass all school locations and all areas considered part of the immediate city centre.	Somerset Council	Wells City Council Accessible Wells	Proposal for the current 20 mph zone to be extended outwards and additional signage to be placed on the road surface and on repeater signs to remind motorists and create a compliant zone. This would see all schools within the City covered with a restriction, and resolving concerns in multiple locations. Cost implications need to be considered by WCC as part of 2026-27 budget setting, as extending the zone further than phase one suggestions would need to be absorbed by WCC.
Sadler Street Bay Amendments (Identified MOU Project)	Bus stop movement and loading bay adjustments	Somerset Council	Wells City Council	There have been some concerns raised regarding the bus stop at the end of Sadler Street, adjoining the Market Place causing obstruction, and suggestion to utilise the coach pull in at the start of Sadler Street as a replacement stop, thus allowing free flowing of traffic. In addition, the adjacent loading bay is often not used for loading, but short stay parking, and isn't actively monitored. It is

				proposed that the loading bay hours be extended to 8pm (currently 6pm)
Title of Works	Description of Works	Lead Responsible Party	Supporting Parties	Current Position / Update
High Street Adjustments and mounting of kerbs including Disabled bays and Loading bays (Identified MOU Project)	Reducing the ability for mounting pavement by any vehicle	Somerset Council	Wells City Council Accessible Wells	Disabled bay and loading bay adjustment referenced separately. Use of street furniture, such as planters, more sympathetically, to reduce spaces along High Street. Using removal street furniture where possible to account for event needs, such as carnival.
Cathedral Green/ St Andrews Street (Identified MOU Project)	Amendment to current bays to ensure enforceable and fit for purpose	Somerset Council	Wells City Council Accessible Wells	Intension to mount additional and correct signage on current lampposts to ensure bays enforceable. Move disabled bays which sit at "gap in wall" to the lower end of St Andrews Street to create one larger disabled rank, allowing more disabled parking, and in one allocated location, next to dropped kerb provision and closer to pathway accessibility. Awaiting Somerset implementation dates.
Becket Place	Request for additional disabled bays to be applied	Somerset Council	Wells City Council Accessible Wells	TC of WCC understands that a request has been made for additional disabled bays in this location, but details of the request are limited. Can the committee confirm if this is known to them and the rational/need for change to allow TC to follow up.
Tucker Street (Identified MOU Project)	Yellow line extension and limited wait bay amendments	Somerset Council	Wells City Council Accessible Wells	Somerset looking to shorten the length of limited wait bays and extend yellow lines to cover extent of dropped kerbs as people currently parking across dropped cause and restricting accessibility.
Ash Lane/Ash Grove	Extension of Double yellow lines to include entrance of Ash Grove onto Ash	Somerset Council	Wells City Council	Report previously provided to committee and agreement reached to support resident request. Information passed to Somerset council and consideration to be included within the next available round of consultation/change. No timeframe provided by Somerset for this consultation or

	lane for safety of junction			completion of works thereafter. Continued engagement between TC of WCC and Somerset.
<b>Title of Works</b>	<b>Description of Works</b>	<b>Lead Responsible Party</b>	<b>Supporting Parties</b>	<b>Current Position / Update</b>
St Thomas	Weight restriction management and enforcement	Somerset Council	Wells City Council Avon and Somerset Police	Following residents and businesses of St Thomas Street noting concerns to the Town Clerk associated with the lack of enforcement to the current weight restrictions, Somerset Council were asked to provide a copy of the order to allow the TC to seek a series of “action” days with Avon and Somerset Police. Whilst the police are keen to support, they can not do so without confirmation of the order that is relevant to the space. Somerset Council can not locate the original order and as such are having to reapply through the normal process, including consultation, for a new provision. Once this is in place, the action days can be arranged.
Queen Street	Loading Bay	Somerset Council	Wells City Council Accessible Wells	Somerset suggestion that the loading bay within Queen Street be reduced in size to allow additional accommodation of disabled parking alongside. Also application of loading bay restriction extending to be 08:00 – 20:00
Millers Gardens, St Thomas Street and Tor Street	Prohibition and restriction of stopping, waiting, loading and unloading and on street parking at the noted locations and the	Somerset Council		Somerset Council issued the prohibition notice dated 22.08.2025, as well as notification to those residents directly affected. Residents have been asked to pay for parking permits (costs within notice) with the order coming into effect on 1 <sup>st</sup> September 2025. Update sought from Somerset Car Parks Team regarding the level of feedback received from residents associated with the short timescale for delivery and the impact to

	introduction of residents permits			them, which was, from previous correspondence not fully appreciated or requested.
<b>Title of Works</b>	<b>Description of Works</b>	<b>Lead Responsible Party</b>	<b>Supporting Parties</b>	<b>Current Position / Update</b>
Speed Indicator Devices (SIDs) (Identified MOU Project)	Introduction of mobile Speed Indicator Devices (SIDs) to remind drivers of appropriate speeds, to be (re)deployed on an intelligence led basis in conjunction with neighbourhood policing team	Wells City Council	Somerset Council Avon and Somerset Police Accessible Wells	Following initial requests for the purchase of SID devices, the Town Clerk has sourced some from storage, previously purchased by WCC and not used for some time. Checks being completed to devices to ensure they are correctly calibrated and able to be deployed. Town Clerk will engage with Accessible Wells, Somerset and Avon and Somerset Police to determine and apply necessary governance and protocol for deployment as well as “hot spots”. Further report expected to Outside Spaces Committee in October.
White Line review	Review of all white lining within the city to ensure markings remain fit for purpose and can be enforced against.	Somerset Council	Wells City Council	Following advise from Somerset officers, that contractors had not been able to complete works before the end of contract, and thus, any information would be lost on transfer, Wells City Council OS Team supported a standalone audit of white lining within the city, to map, photograph and accurately document where there were lines which were considered below tolerance. This information was passed to Somerset Council in June 2025 and we are awaiting confirmation of the work schedule for completion. It was felt that supporting this action would aid in the overall look and feel of the city, and its cleanliness.

Dropped Kerbs (Identified MOU Project)	Consider and apply remedial action to locations where dropped kerbs are unsuitable or eroded in some manner.	Somerset Council	Wells City Council Accessible Wells	Somerset to appoint its contractor Keir to make appropriate remediations. 15 marked for remediation. Tor Street/Moat crossing identified by Accessible Wells as significant gap in network of accessible pathways around the City. Consideration to be given by all as to any opportunity to improve this element.
Traffic Lights (Identified MOU Project)	The audible signals to be reinstated on all traffic lights between 08.00 and 21.00 hours in order to comply with the needs of blind residents and visitors of the city.	Somerset Council	Wells City Council Accessible Wells	Accessible Wells provided a review to Somerset Council of 15 locations, which was completed with a blind person and offered observations. Sent to SC 14/08/2025 and awaiting feedback.
Stagged Metal Barriers (Identified MOU Project)	Address a number of locations where staggered barriers make it difficult or impossible for accessibility	Somerset Council	Accessible Wells	Locations identified by Accessible Wells and provided to Somerset Council. Remedial works either completed or in progress in all locations.