

PEDESTRIAN ZONE return to 10am – 5pm operational hours

Consultation responses (full extract from WBC Consultation & Engagement Hub)

	PEDESTRIAN ZONE return to 10AM – 5PM operational hours
	I OBJECT TO THE PROPOSAL
1	Persistent pedestrianisation has made the town a much more pleasant experience without having to worry about the movement of cars through the area. Whilst traffic concerns are valid, the town centre route is not an appropriate location to shunt rush hour traffic through.
2	Extended pedestrianised hours help businesses Safer for pedestrians after 5pm with no traffic, especially families with children More vibrant late evenings More attractive environment with added plants and landscaping
3	excluding traffic from the town centre during the evening was a good idea and it should be retained. Many of the drivers in Newbury are reckless and traffic does not mix well with people who just want to enjoy their evening in safety.
4	On balance, I object to it going back to 10-5 from the current 10-11 because it is safer, cleaner (re:exhaust fumes) & much more pleasant as a pedestrian without the traffic compared to with it (after 5pm). Traffic sitting idle in market square whilst waiting for the traffic lights to change throwing out fumes is unhealthy for pedestrians/seated diners in the area. How about a seasonal approach? 10-5 Oct-March 10-11 April-Sept This would give Market Square outside diners a nicer experience April-Sept whilst giving Newbury another traffic route for the Oct-March months. Just a thought
5	It creates a far more pleasant car free environment, reduces air and noise pollution. I regularly walk through the town morning and evening to and from the station and the return journey in the evening is far more enjoyable. It will take time for the night time economy to reflect the closure, it is not immediate - but look at the positives, such as outdoor seating for Lussos. The policy position should favour active modes over the car. I do think something should be done about e-bikes through the pedestrianised area, albeit i am not sure how you can control that. As a Council you need to be brave and not just bow to those that shout loudest just because they want to drive through the town to perhaps save a minute or two in their journey rather than use the the A339! Selfish lot.
6	It feels safer walking home after work when there isn't traffic - it's been nice to feel safe during the extended pedestrianisation hours. It's so busy and congested during rush hour and the pavements aren't big enough for all the footfall over the bridge - it's better having use of the whole road as there are many bikes, wheelchairs, buggies, dog walkers etc. The pollution is also horrible - all I can smell is the exhaust fumes of the cars and vans sat waiting at the traffic lights. It puts me off walking home from work.
7	I like not having traffic zipping by when sitting outside the pub.
8	I object to these proposals on the following grounds: 1. The increased pedestrianisation makes Northbrook Street a safer place to walk and socialise without having to be aware of traffic in the evenings. 2. Less traffic in the centre of town increases the air quality and therefore the health of people visiting as well as those working in the area. 3. From what I have noticed, there has been no detriment to businesses by being closed to traffic during this time as the road is just used as a way to get from one side of Newbury to another. 4. I feel that, given time and investment, the future of Northbrook Street will benefit with more outdoor seating and greenery/water features which can only be developed by pedestrianising the street 24/7. 5. The increasing summer temperatures due to the changing climate will necessitate a more comfortable town centre with features expressed in no. 4 above. I

	therefore urge you to keep the pedestrianisation times the same with a view to increasing to 24/7 in future.
9	I don't see the benefit of vehicles being allowed up and down the main highstreet. As a pedestrian its sometimes unclear of when you should be looking out for a vehicle. I would prefer this to be a no vehicle area.
10	The project didn't work the first time; the town needs people to visit it for commerce. I have avoided the town due to the lack of access for 2 of my kids (both with disabilities)
11	I am objecting the reinstatement of the original pedestrianisation order because I think that the extended pedestrianisation hours support better living standards and make the pedestrianised area accessible to a greater variety of people, be it families and children or people with disabilities using wheelchairs or mobility scooters. It makes the high street safer and more inviting to use for recreation.
12	It should be pedestrianised permanently to allow restaurants and cafes to embrace the European cafe culture of having tables, chairs & umbrellas out, particularly with the UKs temperatures increasing and more people wanting to sit outside.
13	I live close to Strawberry Hill medical center and I work in London. During the winter, it's scary to walk in a dark dead road. Since the road is mostly dead, it seems unnecessary to cause a chaos in the traffic.
14	I live in west fields and regularly walk through the town centre to reach other areas of Newbury. With the pedestrianisation in place after 17.00 it feels much safer as well as the air being cleaner to walk here.
15	I enjoy traffic free evenings
16	I live in West Fields area and work on Northbrook street near the clock tower. The increase in pedestrian hours has made my entire commute more pleasant. I hate walking to work with idling cars spewing exhaust in my face as they wait for the light to change over the bridge. It's incredibly unhealthy, not to mention unsafe trying to find a place to cross in between traffic. If it must be changed again, would prefer 6pm most days of the week, and maintain 11pm on Thursday, Friday, and Saturday, to allow for safe and healthy pedestrian experience. Most cars are not stopping to shop - they only use it to cut through town.
17	The town centre should remain traffic free until 9pm This allows for people to spill out of pubs & restaurants after work, onto the pavements - especially in the summer months The traffic fumes are really unpleasant I loved the imagined images of Northbrook Street lined with many trees - we should aim for this - we need to do what we can to try & reduce temperatures Overall I am in support of the ban on cars but I think 11pm is too late & it should be 9pm
18	The town centre would really benefit from embracing the European Cafe culture and the street should be pedestrianised 24/7. By having any form of traffic (excluding a few delivery trucks) allowed down the high street means bars and restaurants can't expand their outdoor seating areas or have incentive to do so. Most restaurants won't have space to store extra tables or heaters for winter inside and need to be able to have the extra pavement space to leave them out all the time. The road section through the high street would then be the new pavement walking area for people.
19	As someone who lives in the town centre. The evenings are quieter with less traffic. Going for a walk through town after work is more peaceful. I would maybe understand reinstating 10am-5pm in the late autumn / winter months. But as someone who actually sees Newbury high street past 5pm, the obvious business boost is outstanding and there is a greater sense on community. I also find it is safer, for example, with the football on, the pubs and bars have been full and when people spill out after games, it is a safe environment for pedestrians.

20	It's clear to most that the trial has not been successful. Perhaps consider doing it during the summer months, but why on earth do it from September to April? The traffic between is pushed out into the A339 during the evening rush hour for no reason!
21	The area around the Corn Exchange feels very continental at night with people milling around. With the work on the Kennet Centre it should become ever more popular. Keeping it pedestrianised would benefit Newbury
22	I would like to keep them 10am-11pm. I'm in favour of as much pedestrianisation as possible as believe cars are a blight on our town centres.
23	We need to slow traffic down. This was a good traffic calming scheme which also improved the environment and safety for town users.
24	I live a five minute walk from the high street, which means I frequently walk down the high street to get to different places throughout the week. The extended pedestrianisation has made the town feel much safer, everyone is able to walk without worrying about cars speeding down the street in the evening. The extended hours also benefit town centre businesses, allowing them to have extra seating outside. For example Lusso has been able to expand their business as a result of this. The council should be encouraging walking over the use of cars, and the extended pedestrianisation helps toward this. The last thing we need is more cars travelling down the high street
25	I believe the evening pedestrianisation to have been a great addition to the town centre, however more now needs to be done to reduce parking charges at nearby car parks to encourage more people into the centre in the evenings, and perhaps beautify the space with planting so it is more than just a wide carriageway. I would also support businesses to be allowed to encroach more into the carriageway during the pedestrianised hours to enable more outdoor use of space.
26	Why oh why are the Council wasting yet more money on ridiculous surveys? The previous "trial" was opposed by the majority but yet still went ahead! They even shortened it because of it not working. For pity's sake have they genuinely nothing better to do? Or are they genuinely stupid?
27	I think the experimental TRO extending the pedestrianisation hours is a good thing for Newbury Town centre. To create a vibrant street life takes time, but it's already more vibrant than it was. People-centered spaces set us apart from other towns--it's our USP, along with the canal.
28	The extended pedestrian ionization of the town center has transformed the character of the entrée at night. Families, couples, and people out for a stroll now have the town cent back. It means restaurants and bars, feel easier to access and their income, and footfall seems to have gone up. The most progressive towns around the world are boosting pedestrian ation schemes because it makes town centers more human and livable again. There are plenty of roads for the cast to drive on, let's do what's right for people on foot. It's good for the town in the community. I fully support extended pedestrian hours.
29	I think that having the town centre car free is a much calmer, more pleasant experience when eating out or visiting the bars. I think the council should support the restaurants with planning to utilise outside space better though. Less traffic and pollution People moan about driving around the ring road but it's really not that bad I lived in London and this is nothing they are just moaners who think it is still the 1970s Having a traffic free high street makes it much more inviting to come to town
30	I would like to keep traffic out of the town centre entirely, apart from the necessary delivery vehicles and waste collection. No through traffic ever needs to be there, they can go around town instead. It's so nice at the moment in the evenings, no longer having to dodge cars.
31	I enjoyed being able to walk through town after dinner or drinks, safely.

32	Pedestrianisation until late at night, as per the current arrangement, allows restaurants and other venues to use Northbrook street without competing with traffic. It is a safer and cleaner/quieter space for pedestrians. Traffic needs to be kept outside of Newbury centre and it is counterproductive and counterintuitive, given environmental issues, to do otherwise.
33	As a pedestrian, cyclist and motorist, aged over 70, there are often occasions when I need to get from Wash Common to somewhere north of the canal or vice versa. From 5pm to 11pm it is no problem to drive the slightly longer route using the main road. There are also occasions when I would like to spend time around the Market Place between 5pm and 11pm and when cars etc are driving through they create noise and pollution that spoils the enjoyment of the Market Place as a pedestrian area. Bartholomew Street now has several new bars and restaurants and again is best enjoyed without cars etc driving down it during the evening. This also makes it safer as the potential for accidents increases when there is vehicular traffic.
34	I didn't enjoy the high street during the darker months. There were often intimidating groups of youths hanging around and I certainly wouldn't want my teenage kids in the town centre after dark. I don't understand why the closure can't be seasonal and also from say Thursday to Sunday in the summer. Equally on weekends when the traffic is lighter, the high street should be closed to traffic from 8am as I have witnessed many people walking in the middle of the road unaware that it is live to traffic. In summary, the road should reopen to traffic as before, with a view to more targeted closures.
35	I am not entirely sure why it is a very black and white situation and elements in between cannot be considered. Specifically around these areas: 10-5pm versus 10-11pm is a significant difference. Until 6pm there is still large numbers of foot traffic, especially in the summer, and I believe this should be measured and timings extended accordingly, albeit conceding 11pm is probably too late. I would also advocate for the restriction starting at 0900hrs on the weekends for that very same reason. I am regularly walking in town with my kids at 0930 and the traffic can be dangerous. Why can we not look at different hours for different days or seasons? During daylight savings time the pedestrianised period should be longer. Currently you can see lots of people enjoying tables outside in the evening and this will all be wiped out if cars are allowed back into town. We should be looking at 8 or 9pm in the summer and 6pm in the winter. Likewise we should be looking at different days having different rules. I think the weekend should remain with longer pedestrianised hours whereas the business week can revert. For me the either / or approach is ludicrous and does not serve anyone's interests.
36	I like having a pedestrianised town centre, I think it has contributed to a safer and more joyful atmosphere and enjoy being able to walk through town without navigating cars. If necessary, I think the later evening hours should be instated through summer months of daylight saving to allow local restaurants an opportunity to increase footfall through outdoor seating, and reduce the hours during winter months.
37	Having the main high street pedestrianised means people of all ages can go about their shopping and social needs without worrying about being hit by a vehicle. Too many drivers do not adhere to the speed limits.
38	Newbury Town centre doesn't have pavements going through Northbrook Street. I feel it is unsafe for cars to come through when the shops are open. Please bring back the car free times of 10am to 11pm. Think of blind and hard of hearing people or people with disabilities.
39	I think pedestrianisation should start earlier because you have a lot of employees walking to work .maybe have 2 slots early morning and later at night
40	It is still good weather in September and it is great to sit outside to eat or have a drink after 5pm on the high street and it is much more enjoyable without traffic.

41	I personally think the pedestrianisation extension has many positives. It is important to note my opinion has changed since it was introduced. The removal of vehicles revving at traffic lights spewing out fumes and unnecessary noise when folks are enjoying an evening beer or dinner is a significant benefit. Likewise it is an absolute pleasure to walk or cycle through town in the evening without the same noise and fumes. However, I feel it should be extended to 10pm not 11pm as it serves no useful purpose to be that late whilst there are benefits for traffic to use it. Also, and I feel strongly about this, consideration should be given to the disabled on accessing venues particularly in the Market Place, whether it be to access the Corn Exchange or restaurants.
42	The town centre has been a much improved environment since the extension of the pedestrianisation hours. I and my family have increased our visits to the town centre to visit restaurants/bars and to enjoy being able to walk around without constantly watching for traffic. The future of Newbury should not be centred around vehicles.
43	Your original application failed, you need to re-open as per the original setup
44	I eat regularly in Newbury and don't have a worry about cars when sitting down outside to eat it's very relaxing. If cars are allowed it'll be noisy and having cars parked and passing while sitting outside having a drink isn't inviting.
45	It has been a pleasure with no traffic in the evening walking in Newbury town centre
46	a pedestrian area is comfortable in the evening and allows businesses to extended their footprint without have to be concerned about passing traffic impacting on their service proposition. it may encourage more premises to offer out door amenities
47	Since the hours banning traffic from central Newbury were extended to end at 11pm, the town centre has become a much more pleasant place to walk and socialise. Before the traffic ban was extended, motorists used to queue up to rush through Northbrook Street and the Market Place from 5pm even though the streets were full of pedestrians. The fumes from car exhausts were an unpleasant accompaniment to any activities involving sitting down, socialising, dining etc, within the designated area. As a resident, pedestrian, cyclist and motorist I object very strongly to the council caving in to the motoring lobby and reinstating vehicle access between 5pm and 11pm.
48	When The roads are closed I as a disabled person with Blue Badge I find it difficult to park The Broadway parking is always busy right up to MCDonalds where cars are parked without a BB in disabled spaces. From where I live I have to travel all around via Robin Hood roundabout to get to exercise sessions at Everyman Active, costing me extra fuel.
49	I think it would be good to have the longer pedestrian times in place for the summer, to allow for more use of outside areas by restaurants while the weather allows it.
50	I would like to see extended summer hours or a re-route of the current road to exclude the market place.
51	I would prefer the existing 10-11pm hours to remain.
52	much better closed until 11pm
53	It's been great to be able to walk through the town centre in the evenings without having to dodge cars, vans and lorries. I've been able to enjoy sitting outside restaurants on summer evenings, now I'll be breathing in exhaust fumes. I regularly drive round Newbury at rush hour and haven't noticed any measurable delays on the A339 - it's always busy after work. Changing the hours to 5pm has several drawbacks and no benefits.
54	I object to the current proposal. Traffic eases in summer around Newbury so I see a solution being a seasonal closure but in order for that to work shops should be encouraged to open later than 5;30pm or there is no pull to attend town. Fewer people in this economic climate can afford to eat out all the time and you will see more people heading to Victoria park than in town itself. There is no need for the town to be shut to

	cars in the winter, traffic is horrendous enough and no one will be dining outside. An alternative solution would be to shut the road to cars Thursday to Sunday but an all year round ban is ludicrous and damaging businesses in the high street
55	The pedestrianisation makes the town centre considerably safer in the evenings, especially as these are some of the busiest times with pedestrians visiting restaurants, pubs and the cinema and corn exchange. It also helps to promote the feeling of an open and welcoming community space, as there are no cars dividing the main thoroughfares
56	i see no reason for traffic to be removed from the high-street after normal trading hours, specially as you are trying to house more people in that area
57	A pedestrian center transforms a city into a much safer, more vibrant space for families and young people. By removing cars, children gain a massive, secure environment to play, walk, and explore without the constant danger of traffic or the stress of air pollution. For teenagers and young adults, these zones serve as natural "third places"—accessible public spaces outside of home and school where they can meet up, skate, bike, or just sit and socialize without needing to spend money. The lack of engine noise creates a relaxed, inviting atmosphere where street performers, outdoor cafes, and community events can thrive, turning a simple walk into a shared social experience. This lively environment acts as a major magnet for tourism and local commerce. Tourists are naturally drawn to areas where they can comfortably stroll, take photos, and absorb the local culture at their own pace. Because foot traffic moves much slower than driving traffic, people notice things they would otherwise zoom past. Pedestrians can easily window-shop, pop into a local boutique, or grab a bite at an outdoor table.
58	The benefits of a vehicle free environment are to be valued.
59	Completely support pedestrian zones. It was for me one of the draws to the town. I think common sense can be applied here as agree it is of benefit to allows cars to drive through at peak times My suggestion would be variable and align with the peak footfall time windows. During GMT time: Weekdays - 10-17 pedestrian time Weekends and BH - 10-18:30 pedestrian time During BST time Weekdays 10-19 Weekends 10-21 Or something to that affect. We want to enjoy outside seating and risk free walking when the weather/year allows us too. Going back to a rigid 10:17 whilst works for winter. Does not reflect the additional enjoyment had by all during the summer months and weekends too.
60	I prefer the existing 10am to 11pm restrictions. Knowing Northbrook St is closed to traffic in the evening makes for a far safer and healthier environment.
61	Air pollution from traffic - alternative routes are available away from shops/businesses.
62	To keep traffic away and keep pedestrians safer
63	The extension of pedestrianisation made the town centre much more accommodating and safe for people in the evenings, when groups and families want to shop and use restaurants. It improved cycle safety and reduces pollution in the centre. I have not seen the financial review but I cannot understand how there would be cause and effect in reducing footfall and revenue. I believe other options could be considered to encourage footfall, around parking charges, and increase use of outside spaces e.g. the market square could have a shared covered space. This seems like a backward step in the quality of the town centre.
64	Town center need to be for pedestrians This route is dangerous when car drive on it there is no safe space for pedestrians
65	Historically the town centre has become a dangerous to pedestrians when it becomes a rat run at 5pm with people using it to avoid the major roads. I would support a change that opened the road once most of the shops and cafes have closed at 6pm

66	Pedestrianised zones create a safe, low-emission zone where families, children, and the elderly can move freely without the threat of cars, plus a car-free environment provides a continuous, safe surface for wheelchair users and those with visual impairments. The shops and restaurants don't close at 5pm, and evening users should be able to enjoy the town centre without fumes and congestion that cars bring. Plus, many schemes have shown that decreasing the hours that encourage walking and linger in order to allow cars in sends the message that the town centre is simply a thoroughfare, rather than a destination, and can decrease footfall and local spend. Plus the charm of Newbury town centre is, especially in the summer, the "cafe culture"; allowing car in will restrict outdoor seating, street markets, and community events and make it another road that people will avoid as pathways become crowded trying to avoid cars. Not to mention the air quality and emissions that come with allowing more cars through the town centre. I vehemently oppose this idea.
67	The longer hours in the evening as pedestrian area will make town centre safe for people going out and walking around the town centre. Deliveries can be done in the morning.
68	The pedestrianisation has just made getting around Newbury extremely difficult, especially if you want to drive from south Newbury to north Newbury, do you not realise that if you ban the car you ban the people. Also if you walk into and around Newbury later on in the evening the town feels and looks dead, we are not the Mediterranean and most of the cafes and pubs with seating outside are not busy, so what is the point of pedestrianisation. I do not even support the road being closed off at 10:00 am, Newbury has been ruined by this.
69	10am - 11pm best
70	The Town centre should remain pedestrianised from 10am -11pm. It is important for the well being and safety of Newbury citizens.
71	I think the town should be pedestrianised 24 hours a day like most town / city centres. I went for an evening meal in the town centre last week and it was so much nicer having no cars on the street in the evening. There was lots of people out on the high street and it felt a lot more safer and peaceful. It's also nice to have less pollution from traffic in the town center.
72	I enjoy sitting outside in one of the restaurants during the summer months without cars going by
73	The opportunity to walk along Northbrook Street safely with young children and without car fumes impacting my asthma has encouraged me to visit the town centre more often and actually enjoy the experience . Being able to sit outside to drink a coffee or eat a meal and listen to the buskers or shop without dodging vehicles makes Newbury town centre worth a visit.
74	I believe longer pedestrianised hours are better for the town in that it encourages a culture of meeting and sitting outside, and improving air quality and general safety on our high street.
75	Rather than a full closure until 11pm, I would support a balanced approach where vehicle restrictions begin once the majority of retail shops have closed, perhaps around 8pm. This would allow shoppers to continue accessing the high street during trading hours while creating a safer, more pleasant environment for evening diners and pedestrians. The reduction in vehicle movements would improve air quality, reduce traffic noise and enhance the overall attractiveness of the town centre without unduly affecting daytime access.
76	I really enjoy walking/cycling through town in the early evening without the constant traffic. Sitting eating outside the Corn Exchange or Cobrizo Lounge or Lusso etc is idyllic with no traffic noise/smells/pollution. Please don't revert back to 10-5! Maybe shop opening times could start later so that more shops could stay open later?

77	Its awful to go to town when the cars are driving through in the evening. Loud, smelly and idling near places like zizzi.
78	I object to reinstating the 10:00 am–5:00 pm vehicle access hours because I believe the current arrangement has made the town centre much safer and more pleasant for pedestrians. Without cars driving through during the busiest hours, people can walk around more safely without worrying about vehicles travelling at excessive speeds. This has made the town centre feel more welcoming for families, children, older people, and other pedestrians. During the autumn and winter, when it is raining, many drivers do not slow down and often drive through puddles, splashing pedestrians. Restricting vehicle access during the day helps prevent this and improves the overall experience for everyone using the town centre. For these reasons, I believe the current restrictions should remain in place rather than reinstating the 10:00 am–5:00 pm access hours
79	Reduces noise, pollution, difficulty crossing the road. Stops cars parking all along and blocking paths.
80	I think it is dangerous to allow traffic back through the pedestrianised area at 5pm as at this time there are many shoppers going in and out of the shops and I have previously witnessed near misses on multiple occasions when people have exited a shop and walked into the middle of the road unaware traffic was now allowed. Is the pedestrian hours are to be reduced, they should finish no earlier than 6pm when most of the shops have closed for the day.
81	As someone who regularly walks the high street after 5pm, having cars driving up and down, especially during the darkness of winter is dangerous and an accident waiting to happen. The pedestrian walkway is poorly marked and often blocked by benches, signs, and restaurant seating. It is extremely dangerous squeezing past and staying out of the way of oncoming traffic.
82	The extension of the pedestrian time is creating a better environment not just in terms of less traffic but also with local businesses now using the space outside their premises for outdoor seating. This was never going to happen overnight, and with the relocation of businesses from the Kennet centre they are some that are taking advantage of the space. Reintroducing traffic will make these initiatives less attractive to customers if vehicles are too close. Keep the extension of hours in place please
83	Traffic is unsafe during the hours from 5-11pm. Traffic is too fast. Number of vehicles that park on the paths down the highstreet before 10am. As a pedestrian it is not safe. To get across to the other side of the high street before 10am it's not safe. Volume of traffic and speed of traffic.
84	The Pedestrianisation should stand, ideally long term I would like to see no cars using that road so we can free up that space for outdoor space, i.e. seating areas, trees to bring in wildlife, etc.
85	I use the town centre everyday. Since traffic has gone the town is much nicer and safer. What needs to happen now is banning electric bike use through this area. Making the junction by KFC two way again would make the traffic more efficient
86	The town centre being pedestrianised for large parts of the day makes enjoyment of the town centre much better than when vehicles are passing through. The noise, danger to pedestrians and pollution are negative factors. The town centre has been a much more pleasant environment since pedestrianisation hours were extended. There is no need for the times to be fixed as a constant throughout the year.
87	I don't know why you don't allow traffic after 8pm. 11pm is strange! It's nice to finish work and not have cars rushing past. I feel that the town is safer with traffic not racing through. There are plenty of rites for traffic and parking options. People are just Brats. There needed more development of the street with flower beds and outdoor seating to make the project work.

88	Clean air, safe for using high street, cafe vibes
89	No need to shut street after 5 as nobody has done anything new to improve the streets usage after 5
90	Newbury is full of pedestrians diversity from young to elderly, able body to wheelchair users, families to single independent people. All of these pedestrians move at their own pace. The Newbury high street is a place where all these people can roam safely and freely to support local businesses by purchasing their goods or necessities and/or meet family, friends or support networks. By allowing cars on the high street from 5pm you limit the pedestrians ability to do the above safely. There are many roads and ways around Newbury high street which allows cars multiple access to get from one side to the other.
91	The pedestrianisation creates a much nicer, welcoming feel to the town centre. It feels safer and community feels stronger. The idea that people drive through the town centre and decide to shop is ludicrous as they would have to move out of that area in order to park up anyway. There are multiple areas where people can be dropped off near to it. If there needs to be allowances made for people with disabilities then make allowances, ultimately it gives everyone more space to move through it. I love seeing families walking together without having to worry about a car bombing it down the road. There may be issues with delivery bikers going too fast but I don't think the answer to that is to bring back cars to the town centre. Please reconsider this. People are who are happy with the way things are, are always less likely to respond to these things so the viewpoint is likely to be biased.
92	I would like the pedestrianised hours to remain from 10am to 11pm. The town feels so much safer and less polluted with the high street closed to cars during this longer period. The characterful, community feel it provides was one of the reasons that attracted me to move to Newbury in the first place. I genuinely cannot think of a single benefit in cutting the pedestrianised hours back.
93	I think the pedestrianised high street is integral to Newbury's community and character. It creates a town centre focused on people, not vehicles, and provides a safer environment for everyone. Increased pedestrianisation encourages people to walk and healthier habits. It reduces pollution and dangers to others.
94	I want to continue to use the many new cafes and restaurants in Bartholomew Street in the evening without the noise and smell and fumes of passing traffic. Keep the town car free in the evening. Children from the flats can now play in the street. It's lovely. There was an orchestrated campaign on FB to remove pedestrianisation. The real people of Newbury want to be car free.
95	The town feels a lot safer with the longer pedestrian hours, and the town centre actually acts as a town centre, bringing a much needed sense of community back to the town. It has been a phenomenal success, and bringing back the hours to 5pm would only realistically satisfy people who don't live or work in the town centre.
96	Much prefer the 11pm without traffic. Freedom to walk around without traffic.
97	I don't want the cars back but even if you do bring back the cars please do not allow it until later in the evening, the shops are still open until 6 so if you really have to reopen to traffic do it when the shops are shut. I always go into town later to do my shopping and leave when the shops shut I don't want to suddenly have cars driving towards me while still shopping. We have some lovely cafes since pedestrianisation and this will be ruined by boy racers repeatedly going through town when you want to sit outside for a meal choking on car exhausts
98	The rest of Europe is finding ways to improve the areas that we live and work. We have the A339 and the A35. Let's have a clean town centre

99	After the last review this was heavily voted against by business and customers alike. Bringing this back to vote is just proving that you ignore results and will keep going until you get your way.
100	It worked well before the change - the traffic congestion has increased, the town centre is sterile, and it's been a contrived idea that was significantly rebuked in the original 'consultation'.
101	Keep the area pedestrianised and safe for people
102	I love having a traffic free area at night, enabling us to eat outside without traffic fumes. I would happily accept reduced hours in the winter, but please save our traffic free spring and summer evenings. I live one side of Newbury and work the other side, yes it is a pain to drive around, but it is fine and now I am used to it.
103	I strongly support retaining the extended pedestrianisation hours from 10:00 AM to 11:00 PM and formally object to any proposal to reinstate reduced hours. The longer pedestrianisation window provides measurable benefits to Newbury's town center, its residents, and the local economy. Beyond ensuring significantly cleaner air and creating safer streets free from the dangers of through-traffic, the extended hours actively support our evening economy by making outdoor dining and nighttime foot traffic viable and welcoming. Furthermore, it fosters a vibrant community space, encourages sustainable active travel, and protects our historic town center from vehicular wear and tear during its busiest operating hours
104	The system to ban traffic was a far better experience within the town centre. No noise or fumes and being able to cross the road in relative safety,. However with cyclists and scooters this had not always been possible. As a disabled person I find walking on the pavement dangerous due to the uneven surface and will use the roadway instead. I have in the past fallen after catching my shoe on a raised brick .i find it appalling that motorists can dictate what should happen because they are not prepared to wait for 5 to 10 minutes longer. I used to drive to Reading to work and either left early or later to avoid the rush hour. If as some are stating about the A34 being closed then Northbrook Street would not be able to cope with the volume. What I do not understand is why it has to be open to traffic from 5pm until the following morning . It is not being used because of volume of traffic after 7pm.
105	We do not need cars in the main street of Newbury. I have lived here 32 years and have never even thought of driving down the pedestrian street. Plenty of other routes
106	It has not been a success for local businesses for the few days a year that people can have some food outside. We do not live in Spain. The culture here does not match whatever they're trying to emulate on their holidays. It causes more traffic problems and delays people getting to and from work. The Newbury traffic cannot cope as it is and closing off a main way through town during rush hour is not worth it. Besides the restaurants that do have outside seating still do not encroach on the road so it's utterly pointless.
107	I would like to see a vibrant town centre offering easy access by car with parking back in the market place and Northbrook street. I would then be encouraged to pop in and out bringing business back to the local shops. At the moment the town centre is dead and I prefer to park at the retail park where parking is very close to the shops.
108	I object to the proposal to reduce the pedestrianisation hours from 10am–11pm to 10am–5pm and strongly support retaining the current arrangements. The extended pedestrianisation hours create a safer, more attractive and more welcoming town centre for residents, visitors and businesses. Newbury has developed a vibrant evening economy, with restaurants, cafés, pubs, cultural venues and events that rely on people being able to enjoy the town centre without conflicts with vehicle traffic. Reintroducing vehicles from 5pm onwards would reduce the quality of the public space at precisely the time many people are arriving to socialise, dine or attend events.

	Keeping the town centre pedestrianised until 11pm encourages walking and cycling, improves safety for families and vulnerable road users, reduces noise and vehicle emissions in the heart of the town, and helps maintain a pleasant environment that benefits both residents and local businesses. It also aligns with wider objectives to create thriving, people-focused town centres rather than prioritising vehicle access. The existing 10am–11pm arrangement has been in place long enough to demonstrate that the town centre can successfully operate as a pedestrian-focused space throughout the day and evening. Reverting to a 5pm end time would be a backward step that would undermine the character and attractiveness of Newbury town centre and diminish the experience for those who use it during the evening. For these reasons, I believe the current 10am to 11pm pedestrianisation hours should be retained.
109	It is wonderful being able to walk safely through the town freely without concern of cars and vehicles, especially with young children. There's a distinct lack of noise and air pollution when there is no traffic running through the town centre. Sitting outside in the restaurants and bars feels like you're relaxed and calm without vehicles queue at the traffic lights. I have found the traffic along the A339 during the 10-11 trial adequate and concluded there is no need for a rat run through the town to alleviate traffic on a dual carriageway that can clearly handle the volume of traffic.
110	Prefer to keep the existing hours (until 11pm). I use the pedestrianised street - it is fundamental to the appeal of the town centre. A vocal and mobilised group has loudly objected without much material substance.
111	Keep the extended hours PLEASE
112	The town is so much more welcoming and enjoyable to pedestrians/cyclists without the cars. I've really enjoyed Newbury town centre this last while due to the absence of traffic.
113	Traffic is horrendous in Newbury as it is as you already have pedestrianised the bridge over the canal by the library. All people do in Newbury is sit in traffic. It's awful.
114	I think the extended pedestrian hours have made the centre of Newbury a much nicer place to be in the evening even when balanced against the perceived impact on traffic on other roads. Drivers and cars dominate the majority of Newbury, it's been great to have one small area that has felt safe from the dangers and pollution that cars bring to an area.
115	I live in town centre 10 years and never liked young lads with loud exhaust. If you like open road from 5pm alright but noise should be regulated rapidly. Specially in summer time.
116	The centre won't grow to a modern pedestrianised centre without giving it the correct amount of time. There are plenty of roads about for cars
117	Its dead, pedestrianisation of the town centre is killing it.
118	Current hours improve the life of people who actually live and work in the town centre - Newbury is safer, cleaner and more pleasant than it has ever been. High street is also doing the best I've seen since I've lived in Newbury with plenty of thriving local businesses. I visit the high street almost every day, often after 5pm, and this proposal would make me reconsider visiting as frequently.
119	The town centre has been a joy without all the traffic and fumes running through, people just use it as a cut through but since it's been pedestrianised, the centre has been wonderful in the evenings to go out for drinks and eat
120	PLEASE don't rescue the pedestrianisation. It pollutes a lovely peaceful street with noisy cars and creates a rat run for boy racers creating an unpleasant anti social environment. It doesn't help traffic, it just creates another traffic jam. People can still very easily access all the town centre amenities. There is no need for it at all. People just like to moan on social media with false claims.

121	The long term future of Newbury is home building at Kennet centre and a cafe culture. The area should be pedestrianised full time.
122	Pedestrianisation of the town centre is safer for pedestrians and it ultimately makes town a nicer place to be. Allowing businesses to have outdoor seating without fear of cars disturbing the peace is great, especially during summer months. There are ample routes for cars to take to avoid town and I am not convinced it adds that much time to journeys. We want the town centre to be a peaceful and welcoming place, not one where you're dodging cars constantly
123	Traffic is horrendous on A339 5-6pm when Northbrook street is closed
124	Newbury Town Centre has been far more accessible and enjoyable ever since the extension of the pedestrian hours. The ability for hospitality businesses to put seating on the street in the afternoon/evening helps drive footfall, creates a more lively town centre, and makes the street far more enjoyable. Previously walking or cycling at night down the town centre has been worrying, with some drivers not adhering to speed limits or driving at speed close to pedestrians. Especially with the road cutting through the square where there are several pubs/clubs that operate late in the night. I believe giving up a small fraction of the road during the day has not inhibited my ability to drive around Newbury, and the cleaner air whilst shopping, eating, or enjoying a drink in the town centre has been a welcome addition to living in Newbury. This proposed change undoes the excellent work of bringing in the extended pedestrian hours. Please reconsider your proposal.
125	Clean air quality for residents and users of the area.
126	I actually dont think this matters The issue is price for drinks nights out and taxis
127	Means places can let people eat alfresco.
128	Because it clearly does not support our businesses, plus the delusional Lib Dems have done nothing to solve the traffic issues with everyone having to use the bypass
129	I think that the current trial of keeping the evening traffic free until 11pm has made the centre of town more pleasant. Places to sit outside cafes/pubs without traffic fumes. There are still plenty of parking close to town and everywhere is easily accessible. We should discouraging car use in our town centres. Do we really want to go back to the five o clock traffic at the northbrook and market square lights idling and pumping out fumes. I find it hard to believe that the evening time businesses have been negatively impacted.
130	Stop with the pointless consultations, such a waste of money, time and energy. Leave it behind, it's working and it's 0.3 miles of road.
131	I understand that some people would like a quicker route through town, but cutting through the centre is only likely to save a few minutes. As more vehicles use the route, it could easily lead to queues and congestion in the very heart of town. The bypass is usually quiet after 5 or 6pm, so there is already a practical alternative. Our town centre should be a place where people feel comfortable walking, shopping, meeting friends and enjoying the growing number of cafés and restaurants. A pedestrian-friendly high street is a real asset, particularly for older people, children and families who should not have to worry about traffic passing through. Keeping cars out helps preserve the calm, welcoming character of a market town. We have parking available, and protecting the town centre as a space for people rather than through-traffic feels like the right long-term choice.
132	As a parent of two young children, I find the current pedestrianisation hours make Newbury town centre much safer and, in turn, more enjoyable to use. As both a parent with ADHD and the parent of a child with ADHD, I particularly value being able to move around the town centre without the constant concern of traffic. Personally, I find busy, high-traffic environments extremely overstimulating and stressful. Navigating traffic while supervising young children requires a significant amount of concentration,

	particularly when one child has additional needs and I am often also managing a pushchair. The pedestrianised area removes many of these pressures, allowing me to focus on my children's needs and enjoy spending time in the town centre rather than feeling anxious about their safety. The current arrangements make Newbury feel more accessible and welcoming for families like mine. Reintroducing vehicles after 5pm would make the town centre feel less safe and less enjoyable to use, particularly for families with young children, disabled people, and those who may find busy traffic environments overwhelming. The traffic-free environment encourages families to visit, supports local businesses, and creates a welcoming town centre. Reintroducing vehicles after 5pm would reduce safety and make the area less pleasant for residents and visitors, particularly families with children. Pedestrianisation also creates a more pleasant atmosphere for both residents and visitors. It allows families, older people, and those with mobility difficulties to move around more comfortably and confidently without the worry of traffic. The town centre feels more accessible, inclusive, and attractive when people can walk freely and enjoy the area safely. In addition, Newbury's evening economy benefits from the current arrangements. Restaurants, cafés, pubs, events, and community activities all benefit from a pedestrian-friendly environment that encourages people to stay in the town centre for longer. Keeping pedestrianisation in place later into the evening helps maintain Newbury's character as a destination to visit and enjoy, rather than simply a route for vehicles to pass through. For these reasons, I believe the current pedestrianisation hours should remain in place and I object to the proposal to reduce them.
133	1. Businesses in Newbury town centre, especially in the summer months, expand their customer seating area to outside the shops. And although it doesn't cross over onto the path where drivers would drive, mostly, it would be negatively impacted by cars whizzing by and the pollution. 2. As a disabled person it is impossible to navigate Newbury town centre without moving onto the path cars would drive on because of the numbers of people there. If the cars were driving I couldn't get from a to b. 3. Newbury town centre has worked hard to bring in family oriented businesses, a place for people to shop and eat as a family after work, the pedestrian nature ensuring it is deemed safe and welcoming. Opening up the road at 5pm would ruin this for my friends and family and all families and no doubt cost those businesses huge amounts in lost revenues. 4. There is a huge dual carriageway, and plenty of alternative routes around Newbury town centre, there is no need other than laziness of car drivers, no need at all for them to cut through the shopping area of town between 5pm and 11pm. There is no real upside to removing the pedestrianisation, no real value to allowing cars to drive through the town centre as early as 5pm, there are only downsides, all of which will ruin the town centre and the revenues of the businesses there. Don't change the pedestrian times, realise the intrinsic value to residents, visitors and businesses and protect it.
134	There is very little benefit to being able to drive through the town centre in the evening. I'm afraid the anti active travel people have been too vocal in this case. How are we going to change travel habits and attitudes by making it harder to walk or cycle?
135	I like being able to walk through town in the evening without traffic.
136	Congestion!
137	It's a sure waste of time as you have probably seen no one goes there. People could park in town and have a walk and go to the pubs without paying high car park payments it has been very dead every evening
138	It's a sure waste of time as you have probably seen no one goes there. People could park in town and have a walk and go to the pubs without paying high car park payments it has been very dead every evening

139	The current hours of 10am to 11pm should remain. As we come into summer there will be more use of the area by cafes, pubs and restaurants after 5pm.
140	Walking through town is almost impossible when cars are also tearing through there due to the amount of outside signage and other obstacles. Never mind all the cars that then just pull up and park in the pedestrian area. I walk everywhere with a blind dog in tow and its one hazard after another. Additionally as a single woman I actually feel safer walking when there are no cars. I can walk in the middle rather than be squashed against all the hidden side streets. Finally the vibe is just so much nicer and friendlier without the idiot drivers
141	I prefer it being closed to traffic in the evenings and do not support returning to the previous hours.
142	I prefer the pedestrian where the traffic isn't allowed until 11pm. It's much nicer going into town on an evening without any traffic. I live in Speen and used to regularly drive through the town as a cut through. However I still prefer the traffic to not be allowed until 11pm.
143	We have already had survey after survey regarding putting the hours back to what they were 10 am to 5 pm. Have you not read the last damning report, which was critical of the new hours and how it's impacted trade and traffic, and people feeling unsafe, as well as impacting people with disabilities? I suggest you read it, as clearly you haven't or don't want to. This has pushed all the traffic onto the A34, causing congestion and a significant increase in greenhouse gas emissions. Trade and footfall are down, and over 78.8% of residents voted against it if you bothered to look, which is pretty conclusive. You were voted in by the people of Newbury to represent them, but, unfortunately, the Liberal Democrats are anti-democratic, as we've seen with this pedestrianisation. The definition of stupidity is doing the same thing over and over again, expecting a different result, as is the case here. For God's sake, just put it back to what it was, as the Newbury residents clearly voted for.
144	Northbrook st and the surrounding area works better without pedestrianisation it killed the shopping area when it was done and for what ? You hide behind pollution effects but there is no evidence especially now fuel and vehicles have been all sorted these days are you just going to keep waisting my tax money until you get the answer you want it seems the council knows best
145	Having only just ended the experimental period because it was so unpopular I find it very odd the Council now wants to make the scheme permanent. Feels like the Council is determined to do something mere citizens do not want so keep asking for approval until they get the 'right' answer. This smacks of dogma ahead of proper prioritisation of service delivery
146	I think the town has been enhanced by the extended pedestrianisation hours. I have seen no downside
147	I would open the town up to traffic at 7pm instead of 5pm. Many of the shops are still open at 5pm and it has become comfortable and pleasant to walk down Northbrook Street without a constant flow of traffic. 7pm opening also gives the bars and restaurants a time where they could encourage folk to sit outside their premises too.
148	I have really enjoyed the safety of the longer pedestrianised hours and feel going back is retrograde progress. I am disabled (blind) and the difficulties in crossing Northbrook Street when cars are going through it is significant. Without any textured paving and vans parked up, it is extremely hazardous. As for those complaining about disabled access - there is a lot of disabled parking around town VERY near Northbrook Street and I don't think it's an issue. Perhaps shops should be opening later and closing later as that would keep footfall higher? I LOVE the pedestrian hours and wish it would be pedestrianised earlier in the morning too (which is a massive hazard).

149	I have young children and we regularly visit Newbury Town centre. We have really enjoyed being able to use the town centre freely without having to worry about traffic when spending the evening in town. I do not support stopping the pedestrianisation before 8pm.
150	It seems retrogressive to be de-pedestrianising the town centre. Thousands of towns in Europe have succeeded in pedestrianising larger town centres to their great benefit.
151	I want to be able to actually be dropped off in the town in the evening. I don't feel safe walking up the street in the evening with no cars.
152	It is safer for shoppers and participants in the night-time economy if they do not have to contend with vehicular traffic, a significant proportion of which is using the town centre as a short cut / 'rat run'. If the Council is minded to go ahead with this proposal, I suggest that it actively considers how the one-way arrangements might be reconfigured to limit the use of the town centre as a short cut - e.g. by making Bridge Street one-way southbound.
153	It was lovely to be able to walk through town at any time of day without fear of traffic or petrol fumes. Pedestrianisation encourages people to patronise restaurants and other businesses that are open into the evening, potentially creating a vibrant street culture akin to that on the Continent. Otherwise, the town centre can feel unwelcoming at night, with cars speeding through. It is easy for drivers to choose other routes that avoid the town centre, and the shortcut will still be available overnight. Please start the pedestrianisation from 9 a.m. for people walking to work and other commitments (such as my volunteering).
154	Full pedestrianisation cuts off vital trade to the town centre
155	I like the extended hours to 23:00hrs as it makes me feel safer when out and about in town for a meal or just having a drink. Perversely, I have almost been knocked over by young daft lads using it as an ease track to show off. Not something you want on an evening out. If it goes back to 17:00hrs I will avoid town at night.
156	Traffic in the mornings and evenings discourages pedestrians and increases safety risks. It also limits outside dining options and the enjoyment thereof due to exhaust and noise. There are ways to allow for deliveries and commercial traffic without Northbrook becoming a freeway in the morning and late afternoon.
157	I object on the grounds that the start time of the pedestrianisation is too late for the public passing through Northbrook Street, on their way to work, and parents taking children to school. The pedestrian hours should start from 0800hrs, giving time for deliveries to be made before pedestrians are moving. The companies who require deliveries can instruct their suppliers to deliver before 0800hrs. I had occasion to be in Newbury, a couple of weeks ago, and found it very difficult to cross from one side of the road to the other because of the amount of traffic. Pedestrianisation should be, no vehicles allowed.
158	I like the longer pedestrian times. I think it has not been given a fair chance.
159	I have enjoyed being able to walk freely, as a pedestrian, through Newbury Town Centre in the evenings. This freedom encouraged me into the town centre on a daily basis since the 10am-11pm pedestrianisation was introduced. To allow traffic to return to the main street is a step backwards. The pollution caused by traffic must have a negative impact on the environment. I was so disappointed when I learned that there would be a reinstatement of pedestrianisation hours from 10am-11pm to 10am-5pm. In order to prepare well in advance for the upcoming reinstatement, I have already purposely changed my behaviour in the evenings and have stopped using Newbury Town Centre as a pedestrian - such a shame.
160	There were a lot of people who were against the original proposal. I believe that the trial for the extended hours has worked. There is plenty of parking in West Street, including the public car park and the Northcroft area. On the other side, the

	underground Parkway carpark and the wharf provide a great deal of evening parking space. Deliveries to some of the retail premises might be a bit restrictive but early morning deliveries seem to have been made without problems but I would consider that the Bid might confirm that or otherwise.
161	The current hours, 10am to 11pm, make the town centre MUCH SAFER and more PLEASANT in the evenings - there are shops, bars, restaurants etc all open. I'm far more likely to go into town in the evenings. When the pedestrianisation continued only until 5pm, there was a sudden rush of vehicles, the great majority seemingly simply using the town centre as a thoroughfare. And many were clearly there, with their deliberately noisy cars and motorcycles simply to show off. Local businesses have access to the street side of their premises until 10am every morning, quite sufficient. Anyone else who has a legitimate access during these hours can surely be given it by some simple process.
162	I believe the pedestrianisation scheme has been a huge benefit to the town, there are more shops than have been for a long time. It is pleasant to sit outside pubs and restaurants in the evenings without being subjected to exhaust fumes, loud vehicles etc. My only point would be perhaps it should start earlier, perhaps 8am, as market days can be challenging early on trying to dodge traffic.
163	I want much more pedestrianisation
164	As someone who visits the town centre regularly and often needs to travel from one side of town to the other, I find it very convenient to be able to drive through the centre. The town centre is also a lovely tourist attraction, and driving through it allows me to appreciate its character and appearance. It also helps me keep up to date with which shops are open and whether any new businesses have arrived, as these are things I can easily miss if I do not pass through the town regularly. On another note, when I am on foot, I feel that the town centre lacks atmosphere. Seeing cars, people, and the general hustle and bustle contributes to the sense of a vibrant and thriving town. Since the pedestrianisation, traffic on the surrounding roads has become much heavier, and it now takes considerably longer to travel from one side of town to the other. This has made journeys less convenient and has increased congestion on roads that were already busy.
165	I guess the 5pm opening, allows for a rabbit run between the various parts of the town. Saving some people some time, and reducing some of the traffic off the main roads. However it confuses people, and also does it save that much time? Surely someone has done a traffic survey? For me, keep it closed, I am not sure it makes that much of a difference to the drivers but it is much safer for the pedestrians.
166	Pedestrianisation makes Newbury high street a nicer environment to visit + shop in
167	Fantastic change for people who walk into town. Increased opportunities for independent and chain bars and restaurants to utilise external space. Feels safer walking around in the evenings. Less noise around the town in the evenings.
168	The longer hours of pedestrianisation make the town centre a much more pleasant and safe place than when the road is lined with traffic from 5pm. There are undoubtedly health (air quality) benefits. The road is used by high numbers of pedestrians and cyclists after 5pm who are subject to all the negative impacts of passing vehicles and queuing traffic if the road is open to vehicles. To increase vehicle capacity will also encourage greater car use, contrary to policy (and all the other efforts to manage climate change).
169	It has been much nicer to walk around the pedestrianised part of the town centre in the evening without having to worry about traffic.
170	I object to the proposal because the flow of traffic after 5pm will be a nuisance for pedestrians using the town centre and will also be dangerous and increase pollution.

	As a result there will be less evening footfall making the town centre feel less welcoming and vibrant.
171	I think the pedestrianisation of the high street is a good idea but needs to be taken further, allowing restaurants to spill out further across the high street and investing in more greenery to make it seem less like a vehicle thoroughfare and much more of a community space.
172	Keep the street clean from cars and businesses their customers can enjoy a terrace stay with no cars running fast motorbike make huge noises I would suggest to keep it like it is we feel more safe and create nice environment
173	There is a much better ambience in the area when traffic is not allowed. More people come and it is much more pleasant to sit in the cafes/ restaurants on their outside tables. There is also less pedestrian mental confusion when they do not have to worry about crossing busy roads especially during evening times. Allowing vehicles before 10am is sufficient time for shops to organise their deliveries etc.
174	I live in Northcroft, the centre of Newbury - and it has been lovely to walk to the Corn Exchange in the evening along the pedestrian area with no cars! I think there is a compromise - I know there was a lot of objection regarding deliveries to the shops etc. - can this not be managed in a different way - i.e. allowing deliveries at other times? I have an 89 year Dad and he has a walker and the traffic shoots along there in the evening and backs up and there's pollution. If the cars are reinstated THERE MUST BE AN ABSOLUTE 20 MILES AN HOUR LIMIT ON THAT ROAD WITH CAMERAS SO ENSURE EVERYONE CRAWLS ALONG AND PEDESTRIANS ARE KEPT SAFE. 20 MILES AN HOUR IS THE MAXIMUM SPEED AND CAMERAS MUST BE INSTALLED. I think this will deter people from using it a little. It will be noisy for the people sitting out in the restaurants on the tables and the pubs - noise, traffic, pollution - Wales has gone down the route of 20 miles per hour for traffic calming etc. I now agree with this. Thank you for listening - I do believe it will be reinstated unfortunately, however, can measures to ensure traffic calming be put in place.
175	I understand the impact on business as part of the extended pedestrian hours, wider felt traffic flow issues, as well as the positives as a pedestrian (especially in the summer months). However, I feel like this is choosing between two extremes. There is a degree of chaos/uncertainty created when updating the hours so this should not be taken lightly. I'd be more in favour of revising the hours as somewhere later than 5pm without resorting to 11pm, and then perform a singular change to the hours just the once in the future.
176	Safety of people using Newbury town centre during the evening. A compromise would be to have extended hours at the weekend all year round and/or extended hours 7 days per week in the summer.
177	We are regular visitors to Newbury and especially to the evening events at the Corn Exchange and St Nicholas Church. We usually park at the Railway station or use the train and walk into the Centre. We really appreciate the lack of traffic in the town centre that makes walking enjoyable and safe. It also is good for our health as we will be sitting still for a number of hours so a safe walk before and after is much appreciated.
178	Evenings without the traffic are so much more pleasant
179	Maintaining pedestrianisation in Newbury town centre will continue to create a safer, cleaner, and more attractive environment. Fewer cars mean reduced emissions of pollutants such as nitrogen dioxide and particulate matter. It will continue to encourage community interaction, and promote sustainable travel. Outdoor seating, street markets, and events will become more viable which will eventually attract more visitors and support local businesses. Pedestrianisation supports walking and cycling, contributing to healthier lifestyles. Vehicular access does not impact on footfall to retailers/service providers as there is no parking within the pedestrianised area.

	Opening Northbrook Street to traffic at 5pm only encourages "rat-running" traffic at the detriment of a safer, cleaner environment. The argument that it damages businesses because of delivery/access issues is spurious. This was brought home to me after a recent trip to York, which has embraced pedestrianisation of the Town Centre yet still has a thriving retail environment. Looking further afield, continental cities have a high level of pedestrianisation and you only have to look at the success of the pedestrianisation of Strøget in Copenhagen which was massively objected to in the very beginning. The objections of restricting deliveries and lack of disabled access can be met with work around solutions similar to those in place in other highly pedestrianised Cities. The support for a reinstatement of pedestrianisation comes from a lobby group that sees "autonormativity" as the norm and has no rational argument to support it.
180	To keep pedestrians safe. I should also like to ensure that the ban on motorised transport should extend to illegal e-bikes, which often pose a much greater risk to the public and should be urgently addressed.
181	SAFETY: From a safety perspective, 5pm is far too early to allow vehicle access. Families and children will be suddenly faced with dangers that they were not prepared for. If Newbury Town centre had wanted to become a 'destination' for an evening out then cars must be excluded. Incentives for increased places to eat (as in Reading) would have been needed for it to succeed.
182	The current 10am to 11pm pedestrianisation should remain to provide a safe environment to all users of Newbury town centre.
183	I have really enjoyed the extended pedestrianisation time of the high street, it brings different feel to the area. It makes the town center more of an inclusive place, able to be enjoyed by people who work and children. Walking into the center for dinner with my children of an evening and sitting out on the street makes me feel like I'm on holiday, it's a great feeling. It would be such a shame to deny this feeling to the people of Newbury just to open it up to be a rat run for people driving home from work.
184	I know this is a subject with many views. Personally, our household would suggest that it's not the pedestrianisation that is the issue. It's more what the vehicles do if they are allowed to use the town centre. Primarily, try walking on the supposed walking zone before 10am. You are constantly being forced into doorways and single file obstacles, because cars / vans continually translate vehicles being allowed to it being park on every bit of footpath available. There have been countless times you are forced to walk into the road / vehicle zone because someone has dumped a vehicle fully outside of Greggs (or wherever) to "pop in". Some feel the area outside of Boots is car parking because they are overweight and have a blue badge, McDonalds - well that's reserved for dozens of Deliveroo bikes isn't it. Try navigating the town centre before 10am on a market day, it's twice as bad. The trader by Mansion House, he blocks the footpath one side completely, as it's full of his stall / shelves /etc. The opposite side (outside Gails) is again blocked by his truck, which is there for quite some time, it's not just to unload...you have no choice but to walk in the road with cars heading towards you. So, the real question is; How can you make the streets safe for pedestrians 24/7? Because currently they are not, at some point there will be an accident. The pavement is NOT free parking for the lazy (BUT it currently is, there is no enforcement whatsoever). So we objecting on the grounds that vehicle owners cannot conduct themselves in a "safe for all" manor. Although what's the point typing this? The question is clearly inferring you'll change it back to 17h00 regardless Do those wishing to support this have to outline their grounds for response?.
185	Pedestrianisation should be permanent
186	Keep 10am to 11pm - perhasps allowing deliveries between 5pm and 11pm Try and encourage more people to stay/visit the town centre in the evenings.

187	Increased footfall is a direct requirement to support town centre business. The Newbury roads are congested. Disabled people require better access to town centres. Closing vehicle access to Northbrook St does not support any of the above.
188	I object on the grounds that pedestrians are pushed to the edges and vehicles dominate the larger part of the space through Northbrook Street, I think it is safer that vehicles don't use the space until after 11pm. With the increase in the 'cafe culture' from various cafes and restaurants along Northbrook Street it seems less appropriate to reinstate the traffic driving past from 5pm, it is much more enjoyable and safer to have a traffic-free town environment in the evenings, and this of course encourages people into the town to eat and drink and this in turn supports the town economy. My main objection is to the safety and health aspect of the vehicles passing by i.e. the increased traffic and chance of someone being hit by a vehicle, the increase in noise and traffic fumes, and the deterioration in the enjoyment of the place because of the traffic volume.
189	I believe the centre of Newbury should be a traffic free zone at all times, for many reasons; to reduce pollution, reduce noise disturbance and anti social behaviour and for safety. I hate when cars drive through the centre, it is not necessary. I say ban cars entirely!
190	As someone who visits Newbury town centre I find it much safer and nicer not having traffic on Northbrook street
191	The removal of evening pedestrianisation makes people visiting the local restaurants and shops in the evening less safe and adds no benefit to the local traffic, as for the majority of the time, access to vehicles is granted outside peak traffic time.
192	The air quality and safety of pedestrians in the town centre.
193	I think it is extremely dangerous to be pedestrianised one minute and then have vehicles down it the next especially in winter when it gets dark early. This is especially problematic for visitors to Newbury. There are also no road markings; pavement and roadway are virtually impossible to tell apart. I would feel safer walking if it was all pedestrian.
194	Its a much nicer in the evenings without traffic, all the cafes and restaurants that have now opened down the bottom of the street will benefit from the longer hours staying
195	The hours should be kept between 10am to 11pm to allow for extended shopping and eating out on Fridays and Saturdays. On all other days the hours can be changed back to 10am to 5pm.
196	I think it has made Northbrook Street, Bartholomew Street and the Market Place a much nicer and safer environment in the evening. It's been so nice to sit outside of a restaurant or pub and to enjoy the evening without the noise and pollution of traffic. Even to be able to walk through those areas without the traffic is so much nicer (although bloody deliveroo bike, e-bike and e-scooter riders AND some inconsiderate cyclists should not be allowed to speed their way through!!!!). I think at the very least, keeping the area pedestrianised until 11pm should be implemented, particularly during the summer months/April to October.
197	It's working! Look at the number of cafes opening with street seating. The other issue safety. Children and older people are particularly vulnerable to the switch at 5pm when the road suddenly opens. This is, at best, a short termist solution to traffic in Newbury when better solutions may be more expensive but should be considered as long term investments these include: a) instituting a Coventry-style VLR from the Kennet Centre car park, along Northbrook Street as a hop-on/hop-off service to counter accessibility claims. This could eventually extend to the train station and even beyond up to the college/retail park where a new council-run multi-storey park and ride solution could be instituted. Likewise extension the other way to Vodafone and even Chieveley services could allow a similar park and ride solution. b) work with National Highways

	to develop a new junction (as has been developed at Lodge Hill) for the A34 along Enborne Road. This would allow traffic flows out of South Newbury at this point and rejoining the other side of town at Speen or connecting to the M4 at Chieveley. c) work with the Department for Transport and GB Rail to develop proposals for expanding rail in Newbury. This could include a new line to Didcot via Harwell and East Isley mirroring the A34 route and vice versa connecting to Winchester and Southampton. A new turn instituted near Theale station would allow services to run directly from Newbury onto Reading Green Park and indeed onto Basingstoke. Existing lines could deliver improved services through timetabling changes which would allow a new service running from Newbury to Reading and onto Wokingham to Guildford and Gatwick and/or Newbury to Reading to Bracknell without having to change at Reading. Either or all options are clearly preferable and should be part of any long term transport planning.
198	The reduced hours of the Pedestrianisation will make Newbury Town Centre less enjoyable for people who use the Town Centre and reduce ability to host events for the Community. The objections to extended Pedestrianisation were because of the failure of the Council to consult residents & businesses prior to introduction and poor implementation. Instead of cancelling the trial early, the Council should work with businesses and those who actually use the Town Centre to come up with proposals that work. Northbrook Street should not be a rat run.
199	I think that the pedestrianisation should start at 10am and go on until 10pm this allows cafes to have outside areas during the summer, people and events to happen traffic free during the day but allow for morning traffic to pass through the town to avoid blockages on the other roads when school traffic is at its peak.
200	I think we should prioritise people in the town centre at all times. Traffic is unnecessary in a town centre that is relatively small. We are starting to see a more active evening vibe in Newbury and re-introducing evening traffic is likely to affect this negatively.
201	Queues of polluting cars queuing up for a rat run through the town centre from 4.45 every day. Turning the town centre back into a road instead of a pleasant place to walk Reverting backwards rather than continuing to improve the town centre environment, due to the noisy views of people with no vision None of these are the actions of a thoughtful forward looking administration
202	It is causing shops to close as not enough footfall it is causing traffic jams and the entire idea is idiotic
203	I object to the reintroduction of vehicle use through Newbury town centre. Businesses are now starting to invest in the high street with outdoor seating & bars, restaurants and cafes have been packed for the last few weeks/months. It would be a devastating move to reverse this & all the money/time that has been invested for these establishments to now lose space. I would not want to be sat outside with cars, vans, lorry's and bikes trundling up and down the road, Or sat idling in traffic. The traffic along the a339 has barely been affected on my experience. It would be an absolute shame to introduce cars back into the town centre but I do agree there needs to be some allowances. Perhaps not as late. 10pm reopen or that delivery Lorries are permitted to enter the zone. Maybe even rerouting a bus service along Northbrook st would allow more people to access the town
204	I love having the town centre prioritised for pedestrians. It creates a wonderful atmosphere in the evenings down the high street. I would also say that it feels like progress. The way the town looks now, open instead of pavements, looks so much better and will draw people to the town. Keeping cars out matches this progress. It feels so much safer for children too, as it's difficult to suddenly warn them to stay away from the road section, which isn't that easy for them to identify. The reports of additional traffic levels outside of the town seem very overblown to me, and reports

	that footfall in town has dropped are completely the opposite to my experience. Please do not go backwards on this. There seem to be lots of people complaining on social media, but if you read comments on local social media post about other topics, it's incredibly depressing what other backwards views get expressed - About Pride for example.
205	As a disabled person I feel less safe when cars are down the high street. When the pedestrianisation is 10am - 5pm I feel pressured to make sure I have finished shopping and left town before 5pm. I would not go to town in the evening. Currently I stay out later than 5pm spending more time and money in coffee shops that open late enjoying the high street. Children's safety. Most children have become used to no cars and they tun and play across the high street. it feels more dangerous for them to suddenly have cars down the high street - i fear they may run out. In general it looks nicer, feels nicer, smells better and sounds better with no cars. I would I'd like some more trees and benches tho please. I do not mind the slight inconvenience of driving around to avoid the high street and don't believe it has made traffic significantly worse. I believe it is mostly lazy people objecting to the extended hours.
206	The town is much nicer without cars. Some grumpy old men wanting to use it as a rat run shouldnt ruin it for the rest of us. People who want to complain will voice complaint. The silent non commenters are happy with it just not passionate enough to comment usually. Maybe servey those walking through there in the evenings or at the cafes. For a useful feedback.
207	I believe WBC is making a grave mistake in reverting to the old pedestrianised hours. The retail analysis was performed over the first 13 weeks of the trial. Even then it showed that pedestrianisation could not be linked to any footfall changes. WBC should assess retail trends over the entire period before coming to a conclusion on wether to end it. WBC own consultation shows a clear motorist bias on the consultation responses, yet no adverse traffic effects were noted (Roads within capacity). Retail is evolving post-covid, and I fear that revoking the extended pedestrianisation will harm business appeal in the future. Several establishments have introduced seating outside along the street, which you are now essentially throwing under the bus by allowing traffic back through. Who is going to want to eat/drink at these places with the noise/fumes from traffic. I suspect many businesses will be begging to bring it back before too long, as I can see a large drop in evening footfall next summer. The town centre has been far more appealing in an evening, especially for younger people, who have come to expect that town and city centres should be from traffic. The removal of traffic has provided a safe cycling route through the town in the evening. Reverting back to the old scheme will essentially remove a safe cycling route, which goes against WBC own commitments to active travel in the district. The whole purpose of revoking the extended pedestrianisation is clearly a ploy to appease a vocal minority of local residents and has not taken into account the best interests of Newbury residents as a whole. The council has made no effort to actually help residents access the town of an evening without a car either. There have been no active travel improvements, and there are still no evening bus services for a large part of the town. There has been zero committment from the council in actually trying to make this a success, and have ditched it as soon as they have received the slightest bit of push back. The town centre will eventually be pedestrianised fully, as that is the way the world is trending. But through council incompetence, this has probably been set back about a decade.
208	I much prefer the extended pedestrian hours and would like to continue to see pedestrians prioritised over drivers. I believe it is better for people and business with the town centre being more usable and having a more pleasant atmosphere; better for health through reduction of pollution and better for safety by not mixing pedestrians

	and vehicles. If the pedestrianised hours do return to the reduced hours (10-5), I believe there should be a much more obvious separation between road and pavement, and pedestrian crossings MUST be installed.
209	Objection Reference: Reinstatement of pedestrianisation hours for Newbury Town Centre / Future Masterplan Consultations (Ref: 2526PEDETRO) Location: Newbury Town Centre (Bartholomew Street, Bridge Street, Mansion House Street, Market Place, Northbrook Street, and Wharf Street) Matter: Objection to Expanded/Permanent Pedestrianisation Restrictions and a Formal Request to Model the Town Centre Strategy on Successful Arterial High Streets Formal Notice of Objection I am writing to formally lodge my objection regarding the ongoing planning, master planning, and traffic regulation strategies that seek to limit vehicular access to Newbury Town Centre. While I welcome West Berkshire Council's (WBC) decision to curtail the 10am–11pm Experimental Traffic Regulation Order (ETRO) ahead of schedule, this objection is directed at any future attempts to permanently expand pedestrianisation. Any further restrictions will significantly damage the economic vitality, commercial viability, and overall community safety of Newbury. Decision makers must learn from failed local precedents and look instead to thriving models that balance traffic flow with vibrant independent commerce. Key Grounds for Objection 1. Severe Adverse Impact on Vitality and Viability: The "Desolate Space" Reality Proponents of extended pedestrianisation frequently cite an idealized, European-style "café culture". In practice, removing vehicular traffic outside core shopping hours strips the town centre of natural energy and movement. Instead of creating a bustling hub, it produces a stark, desolate, and uninviting space. The absence of low-speed car movements reduces spontaneous passing trade, severely penalises evening hospitality, and dampens overall retail footfall. Furthermore, a deserted town centre creates a vacuum that fosters anti-social behaviour and safety concerns after dark, deterring families and visitors. 2. Precedent of Economic Failure: The Andover High Street Case Study WBC decision makers must actively review the clear historical warnings from neighbouring Hampshire. The aggressive pedestrianisation of Andover High Street stands as a stark lesson in local authority self-harm. In that instance, the local authority leadership overrode local sentiment and aggressively fought to overturn the Planning Inspector's initial refusal to grant a highways order banning traffic. The resulting total vehicular ban did not save the high street; instead, it hollowed out its economic core, creating a sterile environment that stifled independent businesses and alienated shoppers. Newbury cannot afford to repeat this administrative hubris. 3. Proved Commercial Success: The Stockbridge Model In sharp contrast to the stagnation of fully pedestrianised spaces, WBC should look to Stockbridge on the A30. Because it is located on a vital transport artery, Stockbridge cannot close its High Street to traffic. Rather than suffering from this vehicular movement, Stockbridge thrives because of it. It remains an exceptionally bustling, dynamic location, continuously inundated with tourists, regional visitors, and passing trade. This accessibility directly sustains: • A highly diverse multitude of successful independent retailers. • Several high-performing gastro pubs and eateries. • A resilient micro-economy driven by convenient parking, visibility, and unhindered access. Actionable Advice to West Berkshire Council Decision Makers I urge WBC to permanently abandon the flawed doctrine that a town centre must be entirely car-free to be attractive. Instead of attempting to artificially engineer a continental plaza model that is unsuited to our climate and geography, WBC should: • Halt Future Restrictions: Maintain the return to the standard 10am–5pm hours as the absolute maximum boundary for restrictions, ensuring evening businesses are never again choked by 11pm closures. • Model

	Strategy on Stockbridge: Actively design the refreshed Newbury Town Centre Masterplan around the lessons of Stockbridge. This means embracing managed, low-speed vehicular flow to maximize consumer convenience, ensure blue-badge drop-offs, and maintain a visible, active streetscape. • Avoid Past Executive Blind spots: Reject the historical approach seen in Andover, where leadership actively combated sensible planning refusals to push through ideological transport agendas. Newbury's recovery requires a pragmatic framework that supports independent retail through accessibility, convenience, and continuous vitality.
210	I loved having the extended pedestrian hours as I felt it made the town centre more pleasant to use all day. I feel that vehicles driving through the market square is extremely dangerous as the area does not look like a road and it is easy for pedestrians to be put in harm's way.
211	Rather than increase traffic in our town the council should adopt policies that aim to do decrease it. Bluntly, people need to be coaxed out of their cars. So what is really needed is an upgrade to our public transport to support the pedestrianisation: a much improved and cheaper bus service, better cycle lanes, even, perhaps a park and ride. You may think this is blue sky thinking but look at our carbon emissions, look at the weather patterns and look at the Lib Dem policies. Access for vans and the disabled needs sorting alongside this To fund anything: increase car park charges. Don't tell me businesses wilt suffer, they won't is there are alternative transports in place and there will be no businesses left when global warming kicks in, the kennet floods etc etc
213	We love walking through the town and do so most days! When the road is open for cars, it is noisy and dangerous for dogs, children and the elderly. We have noticed that cars and bikes fly down the road and have discussed many times how worried we are that someone might get run over. The noise from the cars is so unpleasant when trying to enjoy the restaurants on the road. We sit at coffee shops and restaurants very regularly and do not wish to be bothered by noisy cars driving past. Please do not open up the hours! We are loving the peace and quiet! As well as the freedom to walk late into the evening
	35x Object to the measures proposed. (Note: Objections with no supporting reasons for objection can be discounted)