

## Highfield Residents Association Submission to OSMC 18 September 2025

### Portswood Broadway Transforming Cities Fund - Review Of Pilot



Highfield Residents Association would like to take this opportunity to provide input to the OSMC. Whilst the Officer Report is factual, HRA considers some important details have not been included and need to be taken into account.

#### Background

HRA has been engaged in the Portswood Broadway Project since its inception; hosting information meetings for Members, SCC Display and Consultation meetings for the public and regularly updating members via Newsletters and e-news correspondence. HRA contributed 7 members to the Steering Group (SG). Despite being sceptical of the scheme from the outset, HRA stated its commitment to engage constructively with the Council process, from the release of the initial plans until the pause in the Trial.

HRA Chair, Prof. Roger Brown, took up the role of the Independent Chair of the SG and stepped back from HRA committee discussions during the live Trial. HRA amassed a huge amount of data and on the ground experience from the consultation processes and during the Trial period. HRA would like to make this available to the OSMC to ensure an unbiased and fair scrutinisation of the Broadway Pilot.

HRA also believes that the OSMC should hold a meeting with Steering Group Members for the same purpose.

If, for procedural reasons, it is not possible for the Committee to meet with outside groups, then HRA requests that an Independent Inquiry, with wider remit than the Council Scrutiny Procedure, is set up extraordinarily by the Chair of OSMC. This is in consideration of the significant amount of public money spent on the scheme with little such result and the consequent serious loss of local trust and confidence on the part of residents, businesses and students.

HRA signposts the following areas, outside of the Officer's Report, which should also be scrutinised as they have had significant impact on the scheme:

- Traffic Modelling / measuring
  - No traffic modelling of a part-time Bus-Gate
  - The non-use of TLW as an expected through route during the Trial
  - The Brookvale Road traffic surge which was not anticipated in the modelling or measured in real time data by the Project Team
- The reliability of pre-scheme Impact Assessments and WSP Baseline Data
  - The Independent Economic Impact Assessment which proved to be widely off the mark (Rise Associates February 2023) [Independent-economic-impact-assessment\\_portswood.pdf](#)
  - WSP Baseline Data Report which had 81 errors/unresolved queries, acknowledged at SG, but not corrected (Baseline Data was crucial for the monitoring of Key Performance Indicators which are not mentioned in the Officer Report) [WSP Baseline Data](#)
- Consultation processes
  - The 2 Public Consultations that were carried out are not referenced in the Officer Report. There was concern over these at the time
  - Resident and SG concerns regarding the consistency in record keeping in Co-Design Workshop processes
  - Implementation of elements into the ATZ design that were not supported in the Co-design Workshops
- Weaknesses and ongoing safety concerns in the Implementation of the TRO/ETROs
  - The 20 mph zone
  - Impact on cycling provision
  - Ongoing safety concerns, particularly on Brookvale Road and outside Highfield Primary School