

Highfield Residents Association Committee Statement of Principle

Revised February 2026



The SCC Survey

The Highfield and Surrounding Areas Active Travel Zone (ATZ) Survey – February 2026, only considers the issue of traffic volumes, with a reference to safety, on Brookvale Road in a narrow context – that of Modal Filters on Brookvale Road and Russell Place. This does not address how active travel would be encouraged or how the streets would be safer. There is no reference to cycling or pedestrian provision for example. Current traffic data to support this need is absent and only referred to as ‘historic issue of high levels’ (Ref. Letter Cllr Winning’s letter) that have ‘mostly returned to pre-Trial levels’. Traffic volume is also questioned in the pre-survey description, ‘third-party data suggests it might be higher’ but that data is described as ‘unverified’. Residents are confused. (Ref. portswood-project/highfield-active-travel-zone-atz-measures/).

There were significant delays to the delivery of the letter intended to be sent to, ‘residents on roads with the potential to be directly affected by new measures’ *¹. Some households received the letter a week late and some possibly not at all. The delay resulted in the Survey being extended by a further week with limited publicity and an unequal time allowance for responses.

The letter had an accompanying unique code which would allow each household to be individually identified. Some residents might not have wished personal data to be shared with the Council in this way. None of this leads to any level of confidence in the process.

HRA however, continues to support the original TCF vision of the need to:

- Regenerate Portswood
- Improve the health of the environment with greener spaces and cleaner air
- Encourage active travel and safer streets
- Improve public transport

.... in order to create a more sustainable District Centre which is an important part of the City of Southampton so that both residents and businesses can thrive.

The absence of a Council Local Plan is hindering this ambition and makes it impossible to move forwards holistically.

HRA will not support any change to traffic calming measures that physically divide Highfield and cause detriment or disruption to local residents and carers across the area. HRA continues to believe that a wide range of options should be considered that may achieve better outcomes and safeguard the residential areas that we represent, including the use of modern technology such as ANPR across the Highfield area *²

As representatives of local residents we have always sought to engage with the Council and the Project Team. Our purpose would be to seek solutions which achieve the overall objectives and align more closely to those previously expressed by residents and businesses. This may include both new ideas and options previously rejected by the Council and the Design Team.

Barbara Claridge

HonSec. Highfield Residents Association 12/02/26

***1 Letter distribution roads with the potential to be directly affected by new measures:** Brookvale Road, Russell Place, Abbotts Way, Highfield Close, Uplands Way, De Grouchy Lane, Orchards Way, Woodstock Drive, Crofton Close, Oakmount Avenue, Westbourne Crescent, Leigh Road, Winn Road, Westwood Road, Highfield Lane (part)

***2 Highfield Area Map for ANPR**

