

# Middleton Circus Bus Interchange Leeds Transport Hubs

## Engagement report

Consultation and Engagement Team  
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# Overview

## Engagement exercise

Phase 2 of the Leeds Transport Hubs and Walking and Cycling Schemes public engagement ran over the period November 2019 – March 2020. The Middleton Circus Bus Interchange engagement ran from 4 November 2019 – 2 December 2019.

During this time residents, bus users, businesses and community members were invited to comment on the proposed plans, visit exhibitions of the plans, or attend drop-in events to meet and discuss the plans with Leeds City Council and West Yorkshire Combined Authority officers.

## Background

The Transport Hubs Improvements are a part of the Transport Hubs and Connecting Communities workstream within the Connecting Leeds Programme. Connecting Leeds came about following a conversation that started in 2016 with people who live and work in Leeds about the future of transport in the city. This had more than 8,000 responses, with a clear message that people want to see improvements to public transport. We were told details of what the transport issues were, and solutions were also suggested. Public feedback helped us shape the vision for the city's transport strategy, which led to the development of the Connecting Leeds vision, [leeds.gov.uk/connectingleeds](https://leeds.gov.uk/connectingleeds).

As part of Connecting Leeds, planned transport improvements include new rail stations, bus lanes and other infrastructure to speed up bus travel, better provision for cyclists and pedestrians, new park and ride facilities, improved travel information etc. For the Transport Hubs and Walking and Cycling schemes, they will create new or upgrade existing facilities to improve the waiting environment and travel information offer as well as enhancing connections within and between other public transport hubs and communities by improving walking and cycling links.

## Engagement activities

For the purpose of the engagement exercises websites were created and populated with the scheme plans for each improvement area and the information necessary for public participation. On each dedicated webpage was a survey that asked questions about the plans, and invited comments. The websites were designed, built and hosted by the West Yorkshire Combined Authority on their 'Your Voice' engagement website (<https://www.yourvoice.westyorks-ca.gov.uk/LeedsTransportHubs>). These websites were linked to and from the Leeds City Council Connecting Leeds website (<https://www.leeds.gov.uk/parking-roads-and-travel/connecting-leeds-and-transforming-travel/bus-travel>)

## Engagement materials

To complement the public engagement exercises, A1 and A3 boards and posters were produced for each public engagement with background information, the aims for the schemes, the plans and a signpost to the website and information on drop-in events.

A3 posters were displayed in bus shelters, shops, schools, lampposts and community buildings for the areas in question.

## Analysis

The results of the public engagement for Middleton Circus Bus Interchange and Rothwell and Robin Hood walking and cycling improvements have been presented in this report. Quantitative and qualitative response data are presented together to provide overall sentiment, and a contextual narrative to the responses.

In this report the qualitative data that has been collected is presented anonymously and unedited for full consideration by officers involved in developing the scheme. The comments have been considered

and coded to themes. These themes have been contextualised to provide a narrative to the feedback received.

Stakeholders who provided feedback by alternative channels (emails or letter or through the YourVoice question and answer function) are also listed in full in the appendix.

**Please note:** All comments, including those used as illustrative quotes within this report, have been copied verbatim from their source. No changes were made to the information received so as not to inadvertently misinterpret or misidentify the intension of the respondent.

**Please note - [Redacted]:** Any information that could potentially identify an individual has been redacted from the content of this report to retain anonymity, and best practice data handling in line with our privacy statement. Redacted information includes names, addresses and contact information or other information that could be used to identify an individual. Where this information is relevant or necessary for a timely response to have been provided (emails), this information has been given freely, however redacted for the purposes of this report only. Please also note that these comments have been copied verbatim from their source and have not been altered, updated or amended.

# Middleton Circus Bus Interchange

## Background

Middleton Circus is a busy location which is served by several high frequency bus services. This scheme proposes to bring all bus stops closer together, creating a new bus waiting area, well linked to local amenities such as the local shops, Aldi, schools and Middleton Park. Improvements to travel information will also make it easier to use the bus. This scheme will also create better loading and parking opportunities for local and small businesses.

The proposals for this location are:

- To provide a bus interchange area at Middleton Circus with all bus stops located together
- To provide enhanced bus shelters, with real time information displays
- To provide additional parking outside the local shopping centre
- To provide safe and convenient pedestrian/cycle routes with CCTV coverage and improved crossing opportunities

## Engagement

The plans for Middleton Circus Bus Interchange were produced into easy to read and understand maps and information. These were made available on a dedicated page on the YourVoice platform alongside information about the scheme and could be downloaded. They could also be made available in a larger format or different languages, or access requirements, on request. The page also hosted an extensive list of Frequently Asked Questions which provided further information on the scheme and plans such as the options considered, funding, timescales and impacts of the scheme.

The scheme was promoted via social media, using the West Yorkshire Combined Authority and Connecting Leeds twitter accounts. It was also organically shared and discussed on other social media platforms. A press release was also distributed locally and to key relevant media outlets across the region. The engagement was also publicised in 'Metro messenger', the Metro transport newsletter, with a link to the scheme where people could find out more and take part in the public engagement.

These plans were also made available offline. A3 posters of the scheme were displayed in bus shelters and key locations around the area for the duration of the engagement. A3 posters were also placed in key community centres in the area, and lampposts in the area. Messages to promote the public engagement were included on real-time bus shelter displays in the area. An A5 flyer was also distributed to the houses that were in the vicinity of the proposed plans.

Two drop in events were held. One on Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> November 2019 from 3.30-6.30pm at St Mary's Parochial Hall. A second was held on Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> November, from 10am-1pm at the St George's Centre. Staff from Leeds City Council and West Yorkshire Combined Authority were on hand to provide information, answer questions and encourage people to complete the short feedback survey on the plans. Paper copies of the survey were also available to complete in person, and these were then inputted online by West Yorkshire Combined Authority colleagues and kept securely for audit purposes.

Targeted emails were sent to key stakeholders in the area, namely local community centres and some schools to encourage them to participate in the engagement, as well as share to their networks both online and offline. Targeted emails were also sent to the Councillors of the area with an encouragement to share amongst their networks to expand the reach of the engagement.

Feedback on the plans was collected on the dedicated YourVoice page via a short survey which asked for extent of agreement with the plans and invited comments. On the YourVoice page people were also given the opportunity to sign up to stay informed about project updates.

The YourVoice page also offered a 'Question and answer' function for respondents to submit questions on the scheme. The YourVoice page also listed a contact email address ([yourvoice@westyorks-ca.gov.uk](mailto:yourvoice@westyorks-ca.gov.uk)) to take further feedback, questions or provide more information on the scheme, on request.

## Results

### Results - Survey:

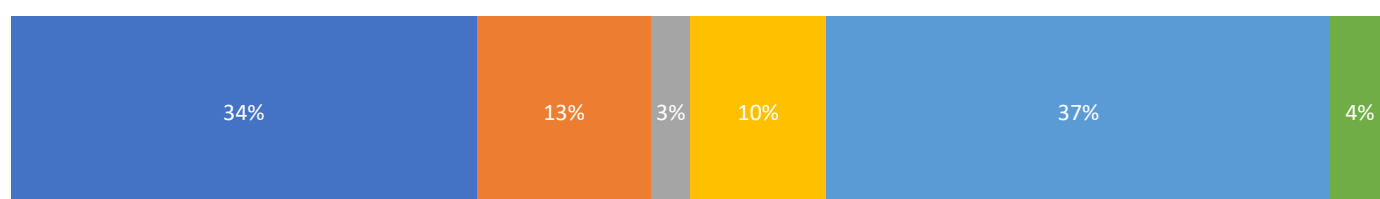
There were 72 responses to the survey in total.

*How strongly do you agree with the proposals to improve Middleton Circus bus interchange? N= 71*

Response	Number	Percentage
Strongly agree	24	34%
Agree	9	13%
Neutral	2	3%
Disagree	7	10%
Strongly disagree	26	37%
Don't know	3	4%

*Agreement with proposals:*

■ Strongly agree ■ Agree ■ Neutral ■ Disagree ■ Strongly disagree ■ Don't know



*Do you have any other comments on the scheme at this stage? [56 responses]*

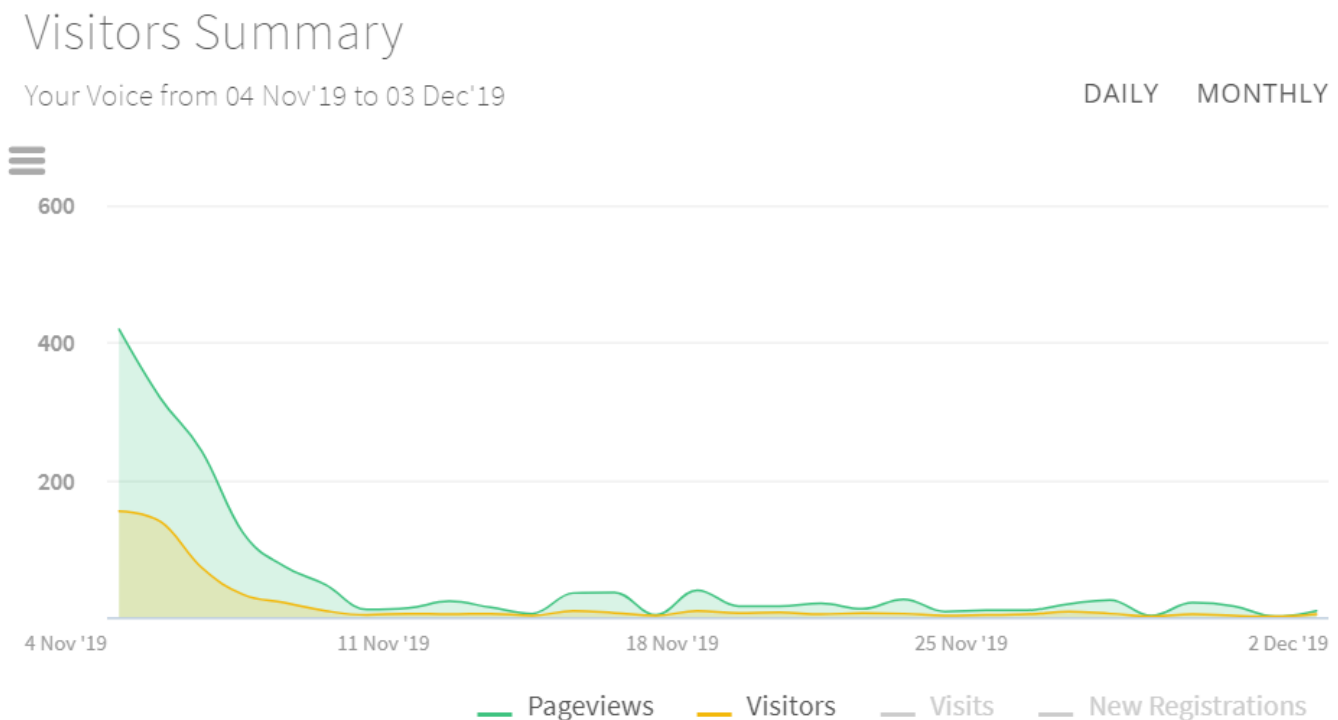
Statement	Total
Negative about plans	30
Misc.	13
Feels plans would not be useful/make the situation worse	12
Bus service needs to be improved first	6
Positive about plans	6
High expense	5
Concern over vandalism	5
Bus stops will be too far from shops	3

### Results – YourVoice:

614 visits were made the engagement website: [www.yourvoice.westyorks-ca.gov.uk/MiddletonCircus](http://www.yourvoice.westyorks-ca.gov.uk/MiddletonCircus) during the engagement period 4 November – 2 December 2019. The highest number of website visitors on one day was 154 with 419 page views. Visitor numbers were highest around the first week of the engagement period.

Visitors to Your Voice are split into three categories: 'engaged', 'informed' and 'aware'.

An 'aware' visitor is one who has made at least one visit to the website page but has not accessed any additional information or participated in an exercise/activity. We can suggest that the 504 'unique' site visitors were 'aware'.



An 'Informed' visitor has clicked on something, accessed an image or document, which suggested they were interested in the project. 56.2% of visitors to the site were informed with the most common actions taken being visiting multiple project pages or downloading a document.

An 'Engaged' visitor is one who has contributed to an activity. In this case the online survey, 11.1% of visitors to the site were engaged.

Traffic to the engagement site came from several different sources. The highest proportion of visitors came directly to the YourVoice website, then followed by social media and through a search engine.

The YourVoice page also hosted a question and answer function for respondents to ask questions or find out more information. No questions were received during the engagement phase.

Several emails were received to [yourvoice@westyorks-ca.gov.uk](mailto:yourvoice@westyorks-ca.gov.uk) about Middleton Circus Bus Interchange, these are listed in Appendix 1 – Middleton Circus Bus Interchange.

## Analysis

The public engagement on Middleton Circus Bus Interchange received an adequate response, utilising several offline and online methods used to promote the engagement.

An equal percentage of respondents selected some agreement ('agree' or 'strongly agree') as those who selected some disagreement ('disagree' or 'strongly disagree') to the proposals. However, considering the comments provided in the option free text box, most who provided comments were of a negative nature about the scheme, the full comments can be seen in Appendix 1 – Middleton Circus Bus Interchange. These commonly cited a higher level of traffic caused by the changed plans, direct and indirect negative impacts for residents, concerns over noise and air pollution and negative consequences for the community, safety, and house prices. Additionally, there were concerns surrounding the need to manage antisocial behaviour in the area. There were also several miscellaneous comments that surrounded amends to the route, funding queries and wider transport issues.





# Appendix 1 – Middleton Circus Bus Interchange

*Do you have any other comments on the scheme at this stage?*

Pointless waste of money and moves stops away from the shops. More green space taken up with tarmac. Sort the buses out and actually get them running before thinking about frivolous plans like this
First need to run a reliable service before thinking of this. First contract for Leeds should be removed
A lot of money to move bus stops away from the shops
Can't see benefits and will not improve traffic flow
I commute to Leeds daily and have been for the last 16 years.
I commute to Leeds daily and have been for the last 16 years.
I don't understand the benefit that it will bring at all. There is no benefit to local businesses who are now more likely to miss passing trade. Seems like a strange way to invest money. All it will do will encourage people to congregate in this area.
Currently disagree with spending so much for such a small change. The area has an ageing population and they will potentially have to walk further to access a bus service. This may be good for the local shops and those that need to change buses to travel further on. I believe it is too linear and simplistic thinking to suggest that a more user friendly bus stop will encourage people to use buses instead of their cars or taking a taxi. First buses just put their prices up (again) yet fail to deliver a reliable service - which is far more important for getting people back onto public transport. There was talk of bringing the trams back to the area, but nothing has developed from that. The local roads are in terrible condition also and I feel the money allocated Middleton Circus Bus Interchange could be spent better elsewhere. How else could Middleton benefit from this money?
Nothing wrong with it as is now. Don't move stops further away from shops for old folk that are main bus users to have to walk further with bags. How you lot get this type of plan through is beyond me. Yet again no consultation with council tax payers until you've all but sealed the deal
Not necessary. Everything works well as it is. There will be huge amounts of disruption and expense for very little, if no gain. Also it will be easy for all the local kids to smash all the bus stops in one easy move
The current stop on the circus often blocks traffic trying to get round the roundabout. Any improvements need to avoid this
It's going to make it harder for people with children getting to and from schools or shops.
waste of money. I would rather spend the money on cleaning our street, parks
waste of money. everything will be destroyed in no time. This is the neighbourhood we have to live with! I would rather spend the money on our safety and cleaning our street, parks
The proposals seem to be all about making it easier for the bus drivers no longer having to navigate the busy roads at the top of the circus. Instead you're proposing to make the elderly and infirm cross the busy roads instead.
These proposals will also take customers away from the local shops as people waiting for their buses will no longer have quick access if they want a paper or a sandwich.
The only bit of the proposal I agree with is the additional toucan crossing - this will make it easier for pedestrians and for road traffic trying to exit the circus at busy times.
Waste of money!
In theory it should streamline services and bus provision, so approve.
Do need to consider car traffic for Aldi though
Not sure how possible it is but if there is a way so that buses from the east can bypass the pelican crossing and lights at point 2, that would make the scheme better. I know that then pedestrians have another crossing but it will mean all the buses won't have to stop at the lights before turning left so it should reduce traffic overall.
Looks great
Seems to be making improvements for the bus operators rather than the passengers

The car park is no way near big enough for the amount of people that shop in this area. Half of the car park is taken up by the people that work their. I have often tried to shop their but found no parking so have ended up at asda instead. But I would much rather use Oxley's butchers a local shop for example rather than go to asda. I think a lot of people have this problem which doesn't do the small local shops any favours.
I believe the money being spent on this scheme is wasteful.
I use the bus most days to get to and from Leeds. This will be vast improvement on the current bus stop situation. Plus it's a nice bit of modernisation for the area.
Hi there we live at [redacted] so would need more info as to where exactly the interchange will start and finish? We have in the past had lots of trouble with buses parking outside the house eg noise which buses leaving engines running which caused vibrations through the house, privacy, pollution from buses....., We have lots of questions as to how much it will affect us Will it affect our property valuation Health with the buses giving out harmful pollutants? Noise? Traffic congestion? Would need to be reassured of the above.
Making the roads one way leading to Aldi is not fair it pushes traffic round past houses which is bad for everyone!
There is no provision for bicycles in these proposals. No new junctions have any ASLs, and though there appears to be plenty of room to create segregated facilities none are earmarked. I do not support these plans.
Middleton is a large town. We need some form of public toilets
money could be used elsewhere, the bus stops work without problems at the moment and the area needs more investment in other ares like leisure
first make the buses reliable and cheaper fares prefer to go to white rose or morley where there is free parking than got to leeds
Not for now
yes it does not matter what proposals you come up with until first provide a decent bus service for belle isle/ middleton no new intercahange will help. buses are constantly late and do not turn up or if they do they are not in service i catch the first bus on a morning to get to hunslet so i can catch an arriva bus as i work in wakefield this bus is never on time which is quite amusing as at that time of morning there is hardly any traffic on road
Waste of money. More money should be spent on more police patrols and cleaning the streets
This is a pointless waste of money, the bus stops work fine as they are. What doesn't work is the reliability of the buses, usually late, being taken out if service or just plain not turning up & the arrogant 'I don't care' attitude of the bus drivers when clients complain about the service. No amount if moving atopos will improve times etc.
Some of the things said to family members who complained would have meant being sacked in any other industry but when complaints are made to management, nothing is seen to be done & complainants are told not to contact them again. Use the money to fix the company rather than disrupt the community even more. It will end up just being yet another excuse why buses are late etc.
Not clear which buses will go where I think an express bus should be introduced as per other locations in Leeds
This city needs a mass transit system, not more tools to be held hostage by companies like first who have nothing but contempt for its customers and see them as nothing more than an inconvenience. Nothing but failed projects and scrappy unreliable service. Clearly someone in LCC has a vested interest in that company as any other would have lost the franchise years ago.
I have concerns mainly about the amount of passengers who will be crossing the busy main road of Middleton Park Road. Although I realise there will be Toucan crossings there wll be many who will short circuit this and cross over the main road unless there is a barrier system preventing passengers from crossing over Middleton Park Road without using the Toucan crossing points

<p>I would like to know where Leeds City Council obtain funds for this? More to the point the speeding of cars on my side road MIDDLETON PARK ROAD on the side of Aldi is unacceptable, the speed is 20MPH very few cars do that, if this interchange goes ahead it will increase the number of cars using this side road. I mentioned this to Cllr Groves and she said that she would look into the speeding of cars we are still waiting. How about reducing the number of buses to protect the enviroment, too many people including young woman use the bus for two stops instead of walking. NO ONE WANTS TO CHANGE to help the enviroment!</p>
<p>Waste of money, leave them as they are, bus service is not good.</p>
<p>Too much for the area. Traffic and parking issues need investigating. Aldi is the problem.</p>
<p>Great - hopefully with good information and up to date buses with on board info.</p>
<p>I don't like the idea of no crossings to and from Aldi. It is very difficult for pedestrians</p>
<p>Noise, pollution, devaluation of property. Parking outside [redacted]. Bus shelters used as a club for young children drinking</p>
<p>I don't think removing some of the footpaths near to bus stop 5 is a great idea at all/ [redacted]. I use my bicycle daily to take my child to school, and have to use whichever path is the least busiest. I often see taxi's and other vehicles parked, obstructing the path outside Aldi, thus making crossing there dangerous. Removing the other paths would almost certainly cause a bottle-neck effect, with pedestrians trying to cross at the Aldi site only. With the increased traffic due to the bus only area, meaning all vehicles from Aldi and possibly some traffic from St philips school, will have to turn right on exiting Aldi. I feel this would increase the risks to pedestrians greatly, when crossing in this area.</p>
<p>My only concern is the amount of bus passengers who will then have to cross the busy main road of Middleton Park Road. And unless metal barriers are in place stop pedestrians who will try to short circuit the safe crossing area such as the one opposite the Aldi store</p>
<p>Congregation of disruptipe youths in the shelters who use these areas as a meeting place to drink and cause trouble. This is intimidating for locals who wish to move around in this area. There are already often smashed shelter windows and bottles, cans and general litter in these areas. These areas already need to be better policed as they usually are not.</p>
<p>Do convince me that the scheme has any benefits There are no issues with the current locations of the bus stops. No need to cross the road (at least one way) they are out of the way of traffic</p>
<p>The routes each service will take around the area and the bus stops they will use need to be established Cars stopping/parking on the double yellow line areas need to be stopped</p>
<p>Great, investment in public transport</p>
<p>Stopping cars parking on paths School parking</p>
<p>If it is going to work Parking on the pavement outside P.O and petrol station is an issue, as well as people driving over the pavement. Also, on the other side of the circus, outside the solicitors. Put bollards down to stop it.</p>
<p>I fully support the scheme as it would improve the pedestrian and traffic interface massively to a very busy junction of roads. It would make the area much safer for pedestrians both young and old. It would be a key development to our local area in Middleton</p>
<p>Our names are [redacted] and we live at [redacted]/. We have lived in the same house in Middleton happily for [redacted] years. After attending both drop in sessions it became apparent that every bus heading in a westerly direction would be exiting the proposed interchange directly on the road in front of our house and not on the main ring road. This could exceed 150 buses passing each day. We already have 2 bus routes that pass in front of our house (nos. 13 &amp; 47) with approx. 70 buses passing each day. To more than double this amount we feel is unreasonable and unacceptable. Over the last couple of years we have already seen the volume of traffic passing directly in front of our house increase significantly due to the building of the Aldi store. A more acceptable proposal would be if the interchange for the west bound buses was on the car park side of the circus keeping them travelling in the same direction of the ring road traffic, a rough copy of our proposal was given to [redacted] at the drop in session. The proposed interchange was described as a mini bus station, which is something we definitely do not want. We feel it would attract anti social behaviour even if CCTV was installed. Please give our alternative plan some consideration and we would be happy to discuss any proposals in person or by phone [redacted]. We look forward to your reply.</p>

Our names are [redacted] and we live at [redacted]/. We have lived in the same house in Middleton happily for [redacted] years.

After attending both drop in sessions it became apparent that every bus heading in a westerly direction would be exiting the proposed interchange directly on the road in front of our house and not on the main ring road. This could exceed 150 buses passing each day. We already have 2 bus routes that pass in front of our house (nos. 13 & 47) with approx. 70 buses passing each day. To more than double this amount we feel is unreasonable and unacceptable. Over the last couple of years we have already seen the volume of traffic passing directly in front of our house increase significantly due to the building of the Aldi store.

A more acceptable proposal would be if the interchange for the west bound buses was on the car park side of the circus keeping them travelling in the same direction of the ring road

traffic, a rough copy of our proposal was given to [redacted] at the drop in session.

The proposed interchange was described as a mini bus station, which is something we definitely do not want. We feel it would attract anti social behaviour even if CCTV was installed.

Please give our alternative plan some consideration and we would be happy to discuss any proposals in person or by phone [redacted]. We look forward to your reply.

We need a proper bus service - First Bus need to take responsibility for the late running of buses, rude drivers and the cost of bus fares (hopefully they won't increase again to pay for this!!). Building a fancy new interchange will not solve any of these issues, it will potentially be another target for vandals in the area - broken windows, graffiti etc. The cost of £1.1 million could be used for better things in the area - more policing and something to do for people of Belle Isle, who can't get to Middleton due to the rubbish bus service. I feel very sorry for the residents near the building site who face months of works and disruption (they endured this when Aldi was built). The drop-in event at St Georges on the 28th between 10.00am and 1pm was pointless for people who work (these are the ones who will use the buses). Who dreams up these plans? Two positives though - safer crossings and CCTV in the area.

There are seven buses and school buses entering and exiting the proposed interchange from 4 different directions. The majority of these buses have a 10 minute interval (if they are on time) plus all the local traffic which has tripled in the last 3 years. All this is to be controlled by two toucan crossings. The 2 junctions on Middleton Park Road will be unusable for residents as we struggle now to get out onto Middleton Park Road. A traffic management assessment is required!

The pedestrians will have to cross Middleton Park Road to use the proposed interchange is both dangerous and unnecessary as the majority of buses already stop at the side of the circus. There will be accidents and somebody will be hurt or even killed!

At present there is no bus interchange and all the bus stops are on the opposite side of the road, on the St Philips avenue side of the circus. Asking people to cross a busy road to access the bus service will lead to pedestrians being knocked over on a busy road. I also don't like the toucan crossing at each side of the circus, this will produce a bottleneck of traffic in the circus area as you are doing anyway with 50% of the road. By making Middleton park Road bus only the other side of the road will be controlled by pedestrians and will stop traffic on the road. This will lead to a rat run on Thorpe Road, Middleton Park Mount, Sisson Road. A traffic assessment needs to be done in the area by Leeds City Council highways as in my opinion, the toucan crossing stops traffic that has increased x4 in the last 10 years with Asda/new forest village and the new shops being built at the old bus garage/benyon house.

No crossings near Aldi. Not considered elderly people having to cross roads from local shops when they want a bus around the estate.

### *Emails received to YourVoice on Middleton Circus Bus Interchange:*

"Please see below responses to the consultations from [redacted].

Thanks [redacted].

Middleton Circus Bus Interchange, Leeds

We think bringing together bus stops from around this circus is good for passengers and helps them transfer to other services. The enhanced shelters will attract people to use the bus services. The real time information displays are helpful, but would be better if they are also outward facings so non bus users can see them, in an effort to attract new passengers.

We are concerned that additional parking is being provided for cars. This is part of an inexorable increase in provision for cars, when we need to reduce car use to ease congestion, encourage more walking and cycling, and reduce air pollution.



The consideration of pedestrian and cycling routes will help make this area an attraction for more physical mobility.

Please find attached our proposed outline plan for an alternative bus hub. One of the main reasons for promoting this layout is the improvement of safety in relation to people not having to cross the main road to access both bus bays. With this layout the majority of people would not need to cross the ring road.  
[redacted]



I am writing in regards to the proposed Middleton Circus Bus Interchange.

We strongly oppose to this as you can see on the map where we live (our house number was covered up by "Proposed Plan" seems like we've been disregarded already). We live at [redacted] which we bought [redacted]. By the looks of things we will be one of the most affected by this. Why would you move a bus terminus from a place where it is already working well? There are more than enough bus stops in Middleton for anyone to walk a short 5 minutes to – so the idea of making it easier for people is beyond me? Hearing people moan that they have to walk from Kasa shop to Aldi which is less than 5 minutes' walk - The money that is been spent on this could be better used to fund activities and projects in the area that would then mean people didn't have to get buses to go elsewhere so much, as they would have access to these in their local area. A large amount of money was spent on improving the area where the proposed bus terminus will be only a few years ago?

My husband and I have lived in Middleton all our lives and our parents before us.

We can see the problems before they even start. Firstly we have in the past had trouble with bus noise, buses parking outside the house with their engines running, bus drivers using the woodland area as a toilet, youths robbing the bus drivers and commuting around bus shelters drinking, taking drugs, vandalising bus shelters, using the bus stops as places to meet and congregate late at night whilst planned burglaries and car thefts have happened, we have complained about this in the past and had to do our own monitoring of the buses and send it into the bus company & Leeds city council e.g. Bus times, bus numbers etc. We had no end of problems and took a long time to sort out. Traffic is already bad without adding to more traffic. We have big delivery trucks up and down through the day delivering to Aldi which would be worse as they would have to go round the circus. Traffic congestion around the circus at school times is already horrendous (cars parked in front of our house on the grassed area also parked around the circus right up to the bend which is very dangerous. I

myself have witnessed someone being knocked down by a car). This affects buses already as this is a bus route, I have seen regularly where buses have been stuck for 10-15 minutes at a time because of traffic and the caretaker from St Philips has had to come help sort it out (very dangerous especially to the children coming to and from school)

There are already buses that run in both directions into Leeds on the main road so if you miss one bus it's just a short walk to the other bus stop. I still can't get my head around why you would want to do this despite going to the meeting at the Parochial Hall?

We don't have much green areas in Middleton and this green area separates us from the already busy road.

This is definitely going to affect our house value and chance of selling which I don't think is fair, I would ask yourselves the question would you buy this house knowing that this was going ahead?

The answer would be no, the house will go from being in a well sought after, peaceful area of Middleton to a house within a bus terminus – a little like the house in the middle of the M62 motorway – I'm sure if you've drove past there your first thought would be "who/why would someone live there?"

We were told at the meeting that no other buses would be coming up and down the front of our house when this is done so why would the interchange have to be the full stretch of the road length? Why not put it nearer towards Aldi and just use part of the road?

Absolutely devastated by this.

Regards

[redacted]

Any correspondence Please reply to this e mail address.

[image attached, redacted]

To whom it may concern

My father (who is 86 and does not use a computer) strongly objects to the plans for Middleton Park Circus.

He wrote a letter and asked me to type it up on his behalf to voice his concerns.

Please find the letter attached:

He would absolutely welcome the opportunity to talk to someone about this. If you can please let me know what opportunity he has to discuss it I will pass on the details.

Best Regards

[redacted]

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To: Leeds City Council

From: [redacted]

To Whom It May Concern:

#### PROPOSED PLAN AT MIDDLETON PARK CIRCUS

I am writing to object to the proposed plans that you have to bring bus stops closer together at Middleton Park Circus.

I object for the following reasons:

1. It's unnecessary to create a bus terminus as this is a duplication – one already exists at the end of Middleton Park Avenue;
2. Creating a new terminus will create a build-up of traffic and road congestion; and
3. It is a poor use of funding when adequate facilities already exist and funding could be used on so many more projects that would bring greater benefits.

If you have to do something, in my view a better option is to alter the route of the bus that goes along Town Street so that it continues to the very end of Town Street (at the water tower) and then down to the existing terminus at the bottom of Middleton Park Avenue and then return on the same route.

This simple change would avoid the need for the bus to enter St Philips Avenue thereby avoiding the school making that street a safer place for children and parents and would also enable parents to park there and collect their children without the conflict of a bus to deal with.

In summary, the proposed plan is an example of overthinking resulting in an expensive and unnecessary solution to a problem that doesn't exist. A simple tweak to what already exists would be less costly and increase safety.

Yours truly,

[redacted]

## Find out more

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