



**Winchester**  
City Council

**COUNCIL MEETING – 20 July 2005**

**Question under Council Procedure Rule 14(2)(a)**

**Minute 124 and 125 Cabinet 29 June 2005**

**QUESTION 11**

From: Councillor Pearson

To: The Portfolio Holder for Economy and Transport and the Portfolio Holder for Environmental Health

"Do the relevant Portfolio Holders agree that the Parchment Street traffic switch experiment was premature? Further that it would be better to wait for the outcome of the full County financed holistic study of the traffic movement in the City centre along with a full set of air quality figures before further piece meal experiments are made?"

**Reply**

"No, the Parchment Street traffic experiment was not premature. We are encouraging the County Council to progress the study but it is still appropriate to deal with individual proposals in the meantime if the circumstances warrant action. The traffic situation being experienced by the residents of Parchment Street was a significant problem that needed to be resolved. There are no other minor residential streets in Winchester that experience the same level of usage as a short cut, and there are not therefore likely to be any similar experiments carried out in advance of the proposed County financed study of traffic movements in the town centre.

There were concerns by some opponents to the Parchment Street experiment that the extra traffic on the main one-way system as a result of the experiment would result in traffic gridlock within the town centre. The experiment has shown that traffic gridlock has not occurred, and this demonstrates the benefits of carrying out this type of experiment where temporary measures can be implemented at low cost before any decision to implement a permanent scheme."

The experimental order continues so that further data and information can be obtained. The Cabinet (Parking and Traffic) Committee will then review the position in December 2005.