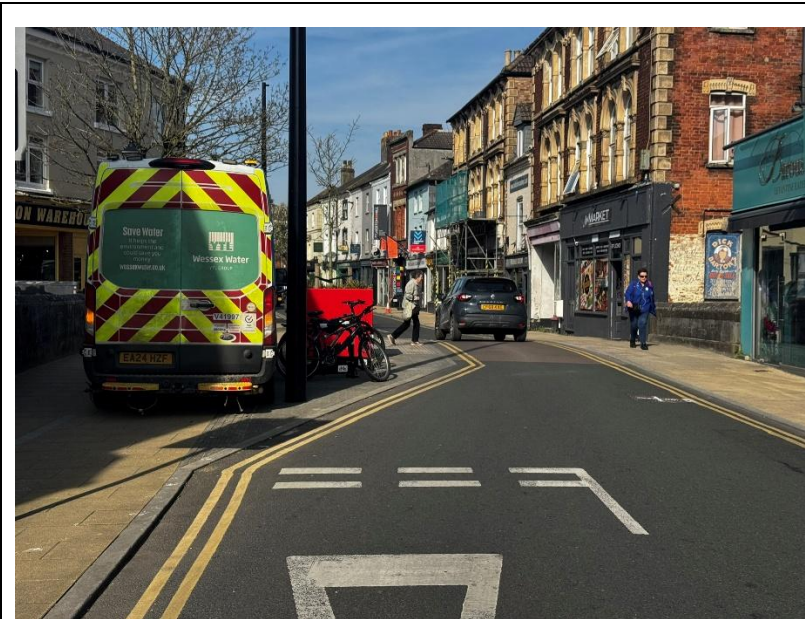


Highways Improvement Request Form

Issue Details

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| Location of Issue: | Fisherton Street Pinch-Point by Water Lane |
| Community Area: | Salisbury |
| Parish or Town Council: | Salisbury City Council |
| Nature of Issue: Degraded forward visibility on Fisherton Street due to the siting of large metal 'planters' at the pinch point | |
| <p>This Highways Improvement Request is submitted following discussions with Wiltshire Council Highways Officers and as directed by Jack Francis (Highway Project Engineer, Major Highways Projects) via email to Cllr Chris Taylor dated 7 May 2026 following initial discussions at the most recent Cycle Liaison Panel meeting (18 March 2026). At the CLP safety concerns were raised about the pinch-point or buildout located on Fisherton Street adjacent to the junction with Water Lane.</p> <p>Fisherton Street Pinch Point has been the location of numerous 'near misses' and at least one accident since its installation as part of the Fisherton Gateway project completed in October 2024. The pinch-point reduces the width of the two lane street to a single lane and has signage indicating traffic driving into town has priority over those heading westbound out of town. The pinch-point or buildout itself has been deliberately cluttered with street furniture including lamp posts, cycle stands and large red metal planters which restrict the view of road users and arguably prevent the timely sighting of oncoming traffic.</p> <p>Following the evaluation of 26 November 2024 the Road Safety Audit Report Stage 3 from AtkinsRéalis dated December 2024 includes the following text:</p> <p>Problem RSA3-3 - Planters restrict visibility of oncoming vehicles <i>'Whilst westbound vehicle users approaching the narrowing can see oncoming vehicles to the left of the two planters, once they become stationary at the give way line, it is difficult or not possible to see further along Fisherton Street to subsequent approaching vehicles. A number of conflicts were observed where drivers were reacting to the narrowing by failing to give way and using deliberately aggressive driving. However, many other instances appeared to be due to misjudgements or the inability to see approaching vehicles due to the planters. Numerous instances of drivers failing to give way to oncoming traffic, many of which were pulling away from the give way line, led to avoiding action to prevent head-on collisions. Whilst the conflicts involving vehicles in opposing directions sometimes involved hard braking and swerving, it also included a number of westbound vehicles mounting the footway and driving over the tactile paving narrowly avoiding the planters. This type of manoeuvre could lead to pedestrians being struck, head-on collisions between opposing vehicles or contact with the planters.'</i></p> <p><i>Recommendation: The planters should be relocated or replaced by lower level planters that do not obstruct forward visibility.'</i></p> <p>Wiltshire Council have so far elected not to accept the recommendation and have been monitoring accident statistics. Unfortunately these stats only include serious accidents that have been reported via the police and do not capture lesser incidents or unreported accidents. For example SCC CCTV recorded a collision between a BMW car and a cyclist (who was knocked off his bike) at the site at 17.03 on Friday 24 April and yet this was not formally reported. Feedback from road users frequently criticise the safety of this road feature and the poor view of the road ahead largely caused by the location of the red planters. The planters are not fixed to the ground and can be relocated relatively easily and hopefully at minimal cost.</p> <p>This request form is submitted to request that the Road Safety Audit Stage 3 Problem RSA3-3 recommendation is complied with and that the red planters are removed from the Fisherton Street</p> | |

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| Pinch-Point. The planters are not affixed to the ground and their removal should not be costly and the removal decision could easily be reversed in the future should it be warranted. | |
| How long has it been an issue? | Since October 2024 |
| What would you like done to resolve this issue? | |
| Remove the Red Planters | |
| Have you been in touch with your local Wiltshire Councillor? | Yes |



View of the Pinch-Point when heading west bound – heading out of town.



View without the parked van

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View of the Pinch-Point
when heading into town.