

Balerno Main Street Question responses

1. Main Street Safety (Pedestrian Zone)

Key Concerns

- Widespread **non-compliance with pedestrian-only rules**
- **Illegal parking**, especially:
 - Nursery/school drop-offs
 - Takeaways and short visits
 - Evening use (restaurants/pubs)
- **Safety risks for children and pedestrians**
- Lack of **enforcement or consequences**
- Confusion due to **unclear layout (e.g. small parking-like areas)**

Main Themes from Responses

- Strong support for **restricting or banning vehicles entirely**
- Repeated calls for **physical barriers (bollards)**
- Desire to **retain limited access for**:
 - Disabled users
 - Deliveries
 - Emergency vehicles
- Frustration with **lack of enforcement**
- Some minority views:
 - Allow **short-term parking (5–15 mins)**
 - Create **designated drop-off zones**
 - Concern about impact on **local businesses**

2. Speeding Issues Across Balerno

Key Concerns

- **Frequent speeding**, especially in:

- Johnsburn Road
- Lanark Road West
- Bavelaw Road
- Harlaw Road
- Ravelrig Road
- **20mph limits widely ignored**
- Danger to:
 - School children
 - Pedestrians
 - Cyclists and horse riders
- Lack of **visible policing or enforcement**

Main Themes

- Strong support for:
 - **Speed cameras**
 - **Speed bumps / traffic calming**
 - **More enforcement**
- Calls for:
 - **Flashing speed signs**
 - **Road narrowing / chicanes**
 - **Better crossings near schools**
- Split opinion on 20mph limits:
 - Some want **more 20mph zones**
 - Others think they are **unrealistic unless enforced**

Proposals Based on Feedback

Main Street – Recommended Actions

1. Install Controlled Access (High Priority)

- Retractable or automatic **bollards at entry points**

- Access allowed only for:
 - Disabled badge holders
 - Deliveries (time-restricted)
 - Emergency services

👉 This directly addresses the biggest issue: **rule-breaking due to lack of physical deterrents**

2. Introduce Camera Enforcement

- ANPR (number plate recognition) cameras
- Automatic fines for violations

👉 Strong public demand for **real consequences**

3. Clarify Layout & Signage

- Remove ambiguity:
 - Clearly mark **no parking zones**
 - Redesign misleading “parking-like” areas
 - Larger, clearer signage at entrances
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4. Target School/Nursery Peak Times

- Options:
 - Timed restrictions (e.g. stricter 7–9am / 3–6pm)
 - Nearby **designated drop-off zones**
 - Increased **warden presence**
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5. Enhance Public Space

- Add:
 - Seating / planters / café space
- Reinforces pedestrian identity and discourages cars

● Speeding – Recommended Actions

1. Deploy Speed Cameras (High Priority)

- Fixed cameras at key hotspots
- Mobile enforcement units

👉 Most frequently requested solution

2. Expand Traffic Calming Measures

- Speed bumps (targeted, not excessive)
- Road narrowing / chicanes
- Raised tables at crossings

👉 Especially needed near:

- Schools
 - Nurseries
 - Residential streets
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3. Improve Pedestrian Safety

- New or improved crossings:
 - Bavelaw Road
 - Bridge Road
 - Ravelrig area
 - Priority crossings near schools
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4. Use “Soft Enforcement” Tools

- Flashing speed warning signs
 - Digital speed displays
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5. Review 20mph Strategy

- Either:
 - **Enforce properly** (cameras + policing), OR
 - Reassess placement where compliance is unrealistic

👉 Current issue: **limits exist but aren't respected**

6. Increase Visible Enforcement

- Police presence (even occasional)
 - Traffic wardens for parking + speeding overlap
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⚖️ Key Trade-Offs Identified

- **Access vs safety** (business/delivery needs vs pedestrian priority)
 - **Enforcement vs infrastructure** (rules vs physical prevention)
 - **Consistency vs realism** (20mph zones)
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🌀 Overall Strategic Direction

The responses point clearly toward:

👉 **Physical prevention + consistent enforcement = real change**

Without both:

- Rules are ignored
- Safety concerns persist