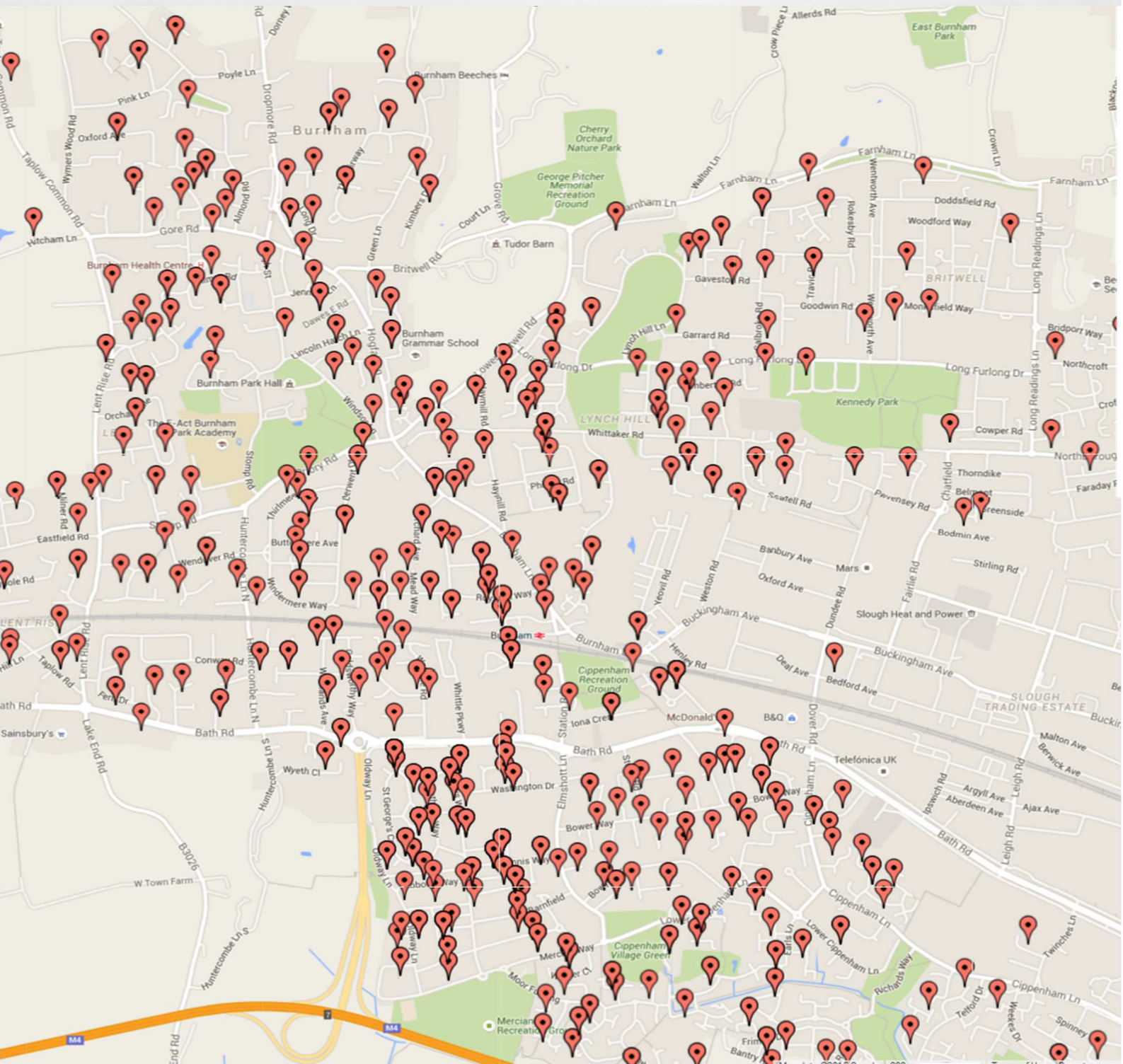


# DON'T CLOSE STATION ROAD



Burnham Station Road Traffic Scheme - Open Letter

Over 900 Signatures



# **DON'T CLOSE STATION ROAD**

Ruth Bagley,  
Chief Executive's Office  
Slough Borough Council

Dear Mrs Bagley,

We, the discontented residents of Slough and South Buckinghamshire, are writing to express our grievances regarding the implementation of the Station Road Experimental Traffic scheme and the negative impact that it is having on our local community.

Further, we are disappointed at the lack of engagement and transparency from Slough Borough Council, the views of the local community have been completely disregarded in the implementation of the "experimental" scheme. The closure has created a considerable level of anger and upset within the local community and below are the key factors, we as a community, feel are the most impactful;

## **Increased Congestion**

Far from being a success, the closure of station road has resulted in increased traffic congestion in both Slough and South Buckinghamshire, with drivers experiencing significantly increased journey times and stress on a daily basis, this has resulted in a negative impact on both the professional and personal lives of residents and businesses in the affected areas.

## **Public Safety**

As a direct result of the bridge closure, a number of serious safety concerns have been highlighted; these include but are not limited to:

- a) Negative impact to emergency vehicle response times accessing north of the railway line.
- b) The high number of one way transgressions at both Burnham Lane Bridge and the Station Road triangle, putting drivers and pedestrians at increased risk since the plan was implemented.
- c) Lack of lighting or CCTV creating a safe haven for anti-social behaviour under Station Road Bridge.

## **Bias**

It is the general consensus of the local community that the Council's online survey is narrowly focused on the impact to Burnham Lane and the targeted traffic improvements around the station.

We are dismayed that there are no direct questions relating to the negative impact that this scheme may have in other areas and it is our contention that these have been deliberately excluded from the survey, to ensure a 'successful' outcome for the scheme.



# **DON'T CLOSE STATION ROAD**

Further, we are concerned that very little monitoring is happening in other areas that are being adversely affected by the scheme.

## **Lack of Communication**

The refusal to consult with the local community prior to the closure, and the consequent dismissal of the petition in opposition to the closure, has revealed a serious lack of engagement and left a local community feeling completely disenfranchised.

## **Environmental Impact**

As a community we are deeply concerned by the environmental impact that increased congestion is causing and sincerely question the planning phase of this project. No environmental impact evaluation before the plan was implemented and consequently no baseline was created in order to measure the impact to noise/emissions during or after the "experimental" plan.

## **Divided**

Our community has been physically divided and this division has seen a discernible reduction in trade for local businesses as people deliberately avoid journeys which were previously effortless, but are now become more time consuming and problematic since the closure.

We are concerned that there is a sense of isolation developing, particularly with the more vulnerable residents and carers and health care practitioners are reporting that it is increasingly challenging to reach their patients to care for them.

We, the undersigned, demand the immediate reinstatement of Station Road Bridge Northbound in order to create a balance within the current traffic management scheme.

Thank you for in advance for your consideration and co-operation in this highly emotive issue.

Yours sincerely,