

I am sure that Jim's basic reasoning is right. If an existing preferred route (Black Boy Lane say) is restricted but other nearby streets offer an easy alternative route, then some drivers will simply shift over. I have this morning had a quick look back at the data collected in these particular streets in 2016 during the very detailed surveys conducted before and during the long closure of Wightman Road. As some of the St Ann's Road traffic is thought to pass along Wightman Road, the question in my mind was, what impact did the closure of Wightman Road have on the St Ann's area?

I have extracted some raw data from the records that were published during the Green Lanes Traffic Study. Rather than draw hasty conclusions, I have put the data in the attached pdf file. This may aid analysis by other interested people and also may inform recent comers about the extraordinary volume of relevant data that was captured at that time.

The raw data was as follows:

Total vehicle movements during a seven day period

Traffic counting point	St Ann's Road between Rowley & Ritches		St Ann's Road between Cornwall & Hermitage		Black Boy Lane Outside Chestnuts school		Cornwall Rd Between Penrith & Alexandra
Direction	East bound	West bound	East bound	West bound	North bound	South bound	South bound
Before closure	40824	47350	78646	50647	38245	38886	33574
During closure	34713	43605	79724	53178	40869	44621	31615
Change	- 6111	- 3745	+ 1078	+ 2531	+ 2624	+ 5735	- 1959
Change %	- 15%	- 8%	+ 1.4%	+ 5%	+ 7%	+ 15%	- 6%

In January, Wightman Road was carrying between 47K and 68K vehicles a week southbound and between 49K and 59K northbound*. The closure caused the Wightman Road figures to drop by more than 90%. And the question is: how did this affect the traffic in other streets? During the closure of Wightman Road, the ladder rungs also were closed to through traffic so they too experienced a vast reduction. Only Willoughby Road was subjected to an extra 10k vehicles northbound as vehicles displaced from westbound ladder rungs headed for Turnpike Lane. Westbound traffic on Turnpike Lane rose by 16K to 72K and eastbound by 11K to 65K. On Endymion Road, westbound traffic rose by only 2K to 55K and eastbound barely changed.

* Wightman Road traffic was counted at four different points which is why there is a range of figures.