

**The Society has sent the following letter to Cllr. Wilcox regarding the Kerb Design Review in Widemarsh Street.**

Dear Cllr Wilcox,

Thank you for sending us a copy of the report on Kerb Design Review in connection with the current improvements in Widemarsh Street. We were somewhat disappointed by its contents and particularly by its attempts to blame the victims of the trip incidents for the mishaps. The report has done nothing to meet our previous criticisms of the scheme, which still shows an obvious lack of logic in the provision of kerbs in some parts but not in others and also in its claims of consistency with a so called 'City centre streetscape strategy.'

It is regrettable that our Council has rejected the opportunity, available early in the scheme of work, to modify the design by removing the kerbs, which have proved to be a hazard to the public.

It is not our wish always to offer nothing but destructive criticism. Recalling that the main objective of our Society is "Encouraging High Standards in Architecture and Town Planning", we cannot remain silent where we see the possibility of violation of these standards.

It gives us pleasure at last to find a Council project of which we can actually approve. What a pity that it has been spoiled by stubborn adherence to one minor but damaging feature. The comments set out in the appendices to your report, especially by the auditors, make interesting reading.

The Widemarsh Street Project is now almost complete. We can only wait now to see how the public copes with the surface design. We wish to be on record as having raised concerns about its safety.

We would be very interested to know the council's plans for admitting motor traffic into Widemarsh Street, as the improvements are unlikely to fit the strict definitions of shared space, shared surface or full pedestrianisation. We expect a very interesting twelve months in 2011.

Detailed comments on the kerb design review report are available [here](#).