

Committee : Salisbury Joint Transportation Committee

Date : 26th February 2001

Report of : Transportation Officer

Subject : A360 Devizes Road - Avon Middle School Crossing Request

1.0 Purpose of Report

1.1 To consider the way forward in dealing with the Avon Middle School's request for a Pelican crossing over Devizes Road.

2.0 Background

2.1 Parents and Governors at Avon Middle School have drawn attention to hazards faced by children attending school and crossing Devizes Road. A request has been made for a crossing facility.

2.2 The situation has been exacerbated by withdrawal of teachers escorting children across Devizes Road after evening activities and by the impending loss of the school crossing patrol.

3.0 Issues

3.1 Traffic measures associated with the school, whilst a matter of prime concern are not part of the current programme of measures agreed for implementation by this committee.

3.2 However, in recognition of the concern expressed by the school, proposals (previously agreed by this committee) to implement bus infrastructure measures on this section of Devizes Road have been halted pending resolution of the school access issues.

3.3 In view of the traffic concerns on Devizes Road, the withdrawal of the service by teachers in seeing children across the road after evening school activities and the loss of the school crossing patrol it is appropriate to reassess priorities in this locality.

3.4 In doing so it is important to acknowledge that any solution must recognise the complementary roles to be played by the Highway Authority, including the Road Safety Officer, the school, the parents and above all the children.

3.5 Traffic management measures can be most effective when combined with other initiatives to increase traffic/travel awareness amongst children and onsite initiatives undertaken by the school.

4.0 Conclusions & Recommendations

4.1 In order that a mutually agreeable solution can be developed, it is suggested that a small working group is established comprising officers, school representatives, elected members and representatives from the local community. It is also suggested that the same group reviews the previously agreed measures to enhance bus stop infrastructure in the locality and that no further action on this is taken at present.

4.2 It is therefore recommended that:

1. this committee request the establishment of the above mentioned group;
2. requests that the group undertakes studies into the issues involved, prepares proposals and undertakes appropriate public consultation, and
3. the group reports its findings to a future meeting of this committee with a view to inclusion of a scheme into a future works programme.

5.0 Financial Implications

5.1 Bus infrastructure measures elsewhere in the city have been substituted for the delayed proposals on Devizes Road.

6.0 Legal Implications

6.1 None

7.0 Personnel Implications

7.1 None

8.0 Community Safety Implications

8.1 The proposed works group will deal with community safety issues and will include close involvement by the Police.

9.0 Environmental Implications

9.1 The proposal is aimed at promoting safer routes to school for school children.

10.0 Human Rights Implications

10.1 The human rights relating to this have been considered and any interference with them is legitimate.

11.0 Core Values

11.1 This report supports the core values listed below:

- Communicating with the Public
- Excellent Service
- Fairness and Equality
- Open, Willing Partner
- Protecting the Environment