

**CABINET MEMBER FOR HIGHWAYS, STREET SCENE & FLOODING –
CLLR NICK HOLDER**

HIGHWAYS ASSET MANAGEMENT AND COMMISSIONING

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REFERENCE: HSSF-27-24

CHURCHFIELDS ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ORDER AMENDMENTS, SALISBURY

Purpose of Report

1. To:
 - (i) Consider the comments received following the formal advertisement of various Traffic Regulation Orders (TROs hereafter) amendments in Churchfields Road, Salisbury in support of the introduction of a Zebra crossing facility;
 - (ii) Recommend proceeding with the introduction of the TRO amendments as advertised.

Relevance to the Council's Business Plan

2. The proposal contributes to three of the themes set out in the Council's Business Plan 2022- 2032.

Theme 1: Empowered People

- Help the people of Wiltshire to increase activity levels and improve their health.

Theme 3: Thriving Economy

- Deliver infrastructure to enable local communities to live, work and play locally, businesses to invest and everyone to take responsibility for the environment.
- Help create and support vibrant town centres.
- Help build an efficient and effective transport network, including viable alternatives to the car.
- Maintain and improve the existing transport infrastructure.

Theme 4: Sustainable Environment

- Support decarbonisation of existing transport and increased use of public transport options as well as walking and cycling.

Background

3. Wiltshire Council, in partnership with Network Rail and South Western Railway, has developed proposals to enhance the forecourt at Salisbury Railway Station to make it more attractive and accessible for visitors to and residents of the city. The enhancements at the station forecourt forms part of the Government's Future High Streets Fund (FHSF) programme, the aim of which is to renew and reshape city centres and high streets in a way that helps to drive economic growth, improve the user experience, and ensure the future sustainability of city centres.
4. The proposals at the station forecourt link directly to the Fisherton Gateway project being delivered in Salisbury as part to the FHSF programme. The combined aim of the Station Forecourt and Fisherton Gateway projects is to provide an enhanced strategic pedestrian gateway to Salisbury City Centre from Salisbury Railway Station. More information about FHSF funded projects can be found here on the Council's website at <https://www.wiltshire.gov.uk/article/6053/Future-High-Streets-Fund-Salisbury>.
5. There are currently two designated pedestrian accesses to Salisbury Railway Station. The primary pedestrian access is via South Western Road. Improvements to this pedestrian access route are being delivered through the Fisherton Gateway project. The secondary pedestrian access is via Churchfields Road. Access to the station via Churchfields Road currently requires pedestrians to make use of an informal crossing point featuring a pedestrian refuge. The pedestrian refuge does not meet current design and accessibility standards. Therefore, the Council is seeking to address these issues by removing the existing pedestrian refuge and installing a Zebra crossing facility.
6. To enable the Zebra crossing to be introduced the need to undertake various TRO amendments was identified. TROs for the various amendments were formally advertised for comment on 6 June 2024. The Council's closing date for receipt of objections or other representations to the advertised TROs, together with the grounds on which they were made, was 1 July 2024.

Summary of Proposals

7. TROs were required for the following:
 - Amendments to waiting restrictions in Churchfields Road;
 - The introduction of the controlled zone at the proposed Zebra crossing.
8. Plans showing the Council's advertised proposals are attached as **Appendix 1**.

Summary of Responses

9. During the consultation period one item of correspondence was received in response to the Council's proposals. The item of correspondence did not object to the introduction of the Zebra crossing but requested additional amendments to the existing waiting restrictions in Churchfields Road. No comments on the Council's proposals were received from the local Wiltshire Council Member or Parish Council (Salisbury City Council) during the formal consultation period.
10. A summary of the correspondent who commented on, the Council's proposals is attached as **Appendix 2**. A full copy of the comments raised by the correspondent, together with officer responses, is attached as **Appendix 3**.

11. Substantive comments are comments that would result in the Council seeking to make changes to the proposals it advertised. It is considered that no substantive comments have been submitted by the correspondent who commented on the Council's proposals.

Main considerations for the Council

12. Consideration needs to be given to the comments received to the Council's advertised proposals and whether changes should be made to them. The Council must balance meeting its statutory obligations as the local highway authority and the delivery of its approved business plan, which commits the Council to improving the health, wellbeing, and environment in which its residents reside, against the wishes of those who commented on the Council's proposals.

Overview and Scrutiny Engagement

13. There is none required as part of this scheme.

Safeguarding Implications

14. There are no safeguarding implications.

Public Health Implications

15. The introduction of the proposed TROs would support the wider delivery of the Salisbury Railway Station forecourt enhancement project. This project aims to provide an improved pedestrian walking route to the rail station via Churchfields. Such measures would serve to encourage active travel, any increase in active travel because of the Council's proposals may help to improve public health.

Procurement Implications

16. There are no procurement implications.

Equalities Impact of the Proposal

17. The introduction of the proposed TROs would support the wider delivery of the Salisbury Railway Station forecourt enhancement project. This project aims to provide an improved pedestrian walking route to the rail station via Churchfields. The introduction of the proposed Zebra crossing facility would make accessing the rail station both easier and safer for all pedestrians, including those with mobility difficulties.

Environmental and Climate Change Considerations

18. The introduction of the proposed TROs would support the wider delivery of the Salisbury Railway Station forecourt enhancement project. This project aims to provide an improved pedestrian walking route to the rail station via Churchfields. Such measures would serve to encourage active travel and the use of public transport, any increase in either because of the Council's proposals may help to improve air quality in Salisbury City Centre.

Risk Assessment

19. Not proceeding with the Council's proposals would diminish the overall benefit of the Salisbury Railway Station forecourt enhancement project and contribute towards the Council failing to meet the objectives of its Business Plan 2022- 2032 as outlined in paragraph 2 above.

Financial Implications

20. There is an allocation within the overall FHSF scheme budget for the Salisbury Railway Station forecourt enhancement project which allows for the introduction of the proposed TROs. Should these TROs not progress the funding would be returned to the overall scheme budget and would be put towards the delivery of the wider project.

Legal Implications

21. Implementation of the Council's proposals requires the processing of TROs. The process of introducing TROs is governed by the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 and associated procedural regulations. Failure to adhere to the statutory processes could result in the TROs being successfully challenged in the High Court.

Options Considered

22. To:
- (i) Implement the proposals as advertised.
 - (ii) Amend the proposals in consideration of the comments received.
 - (iii) Abandon the proposals.

Reason for Proposal

23. Implementing the proposed TROs would support the delivery of the Salisbury Railway Station forecourt enhancement project and contribute to improving Salisbury City Centre to help drive economic growth, improve the user experience and in so doing help to support the future sustainability of businesses operating in the city centre.
24. The proposals are in accordance with Themes 1, 2 and 4 in Wiltshire Council's Business Plan 2022-2032. The proposals also help to deliver aspirations contained within the Council's Salisbury Central Area Framework, Local Cycling and Walking Implementation Plan and Salisbury Transport Strategy.

Proposal

25. That:
- (i) The Council's proposals be introduced as advertised.
 - (ii) The correspondent who commented on the Council's proposals be informed accordingly.

The following unpublished documents have been relied on in the preparation of this Report:

None