

DEPUTY LEADER AND CABINET MEMBER FOR HIGHWAYS, STREETSCENE AND BROADBAND – COUNCILLOR JOHN THOMSON

HIGHWAYS AND TRANSPORT SERVICE

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REFERENCE: HSB-01-14

ZEBRA CROSSING - HIGH STREET, PURTON

Purpose of Report

1. To consider the points of objection received following the advertisement of the Traffic Regulation Order (TRO) associated with the proposed Zebra Crossing in High Street, Purton.

Relevance to the Council's Business Plan

2. Outcome 3 - Everyone in Wiltshire lives in a high quality environment.
Outcome 5 – People in Wiltshire have healthy, active and high quality lives.

Background

3. The High Street near Willis Way has been highlighted as a location for improvement, based on a request from Purton Parish Council through the Community Area Transport Group. Wiltshire Council carried out a Pedestrian Crossing assessment with the result that a formal crossing could be considered. The report also stated that due to the layout constraints it was not possible to identify a satisfactory layout for a formal crossing.
4. The main area of concern was the removal of an informal loading bay used by The Scouts for the access to their hut. A meeting was held on site with Purton Parish Council and The Scouts and although The Scouts were not against the principle of the crossing, they were against the loss of use of the loading area. Other locations for the crossing were considered but were unsatisfactory due to the intrusion on the surrounding properties and inadequate footway widths.
5. Although Purton Parish Council could understand the view of The Scouts, it was more concerned with the priority for pedestrians crossing the High Street and requested through the CATG that the project should continue as a substantive scheme. Approval was given by the Area Board for £5,000 to be allocated as a contribution for a substantive scheme.
6. The TRO for the Zebra Crossing has recently been advertised. As a result, seven letters of objection have been received, although none of the objections are directly related to the principle of the crossing.

Main Considerations for the Council

7. To consider the comments received during the consultation period. A summary of the points of objection is included in **Appendix 1** and officer comments are included in **Appendix 2**.

Safeguarding Considerations

8. Not applicable.

Public Health Implications

9. Not applicable.

Environmental Impact of the Proposal

10. The introduction of the Zebra Crossing will involve the installation of Belisha beacons and additional road markings. This will have an impact on the visual aspect but has to be balanced against safety.

Equalities Impact of the Proposal

11. Not applicable.

Risk Assessment

12. If schemes, programmed for design or delivery within the current financial year, are not progressed, the Council risks the potential of delayed delivery in subsequent years due to other funding demands and uncertainty of future budget.

Financial Implications

13. There is an allocation in the 2013-14 Local Transport Plan (LTP) integrated transport scheme budget for design, construction, supervision and monitoring works.
14. If a decision is taken to delay the current proposal, this may result in the loss of the budget.

Legal Implications

15. There are no legal implications.

Options Considered

16. To:
 - (i) Implement the proposal as advertised.
 - (ii) Not implement the proposal.

Reason for Proposal

17. The introduction of the Zebra Crossing will help to provide safety for pedestrians crossing the High Street in the vicinity of Willis Way.

Proposal

18. That:

- (i) The Zebra Crossing be implemented as advertised, subject to the amendments detailed in **Appendix 2**.
- (ii) The objectors be informed accordingly.

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

None