

READING BOROUGH COUNCIL

REPORT BY DIRECTOR OF ENVIRONMENT AND NEIGHBOURGOOD SERVICES

TO:	TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT SUB COMMITTEE		
DATE:	4 NOVEMBER 2014	AGENDA ITEM:	18
TITLE:	NEW ZEBRA CROSSING ON NORTHUMBERLAND AVENUE OUTSIDE GEOFFREY FIELDS INFANT AND JUNIOR SCHOOL		
LEAD COUNCILLOR:	Cllr PAGE	PORTFOLIO:	STRATEGIC ENVIRONMENT PLANNING & TRANSPORT
SERVICE:	TRANSPORTATION AND STREETCARE	WARDS:	WHITLEY
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1. PURPOSE AND SUMMARY OF REPORT

- 1.1 To seek approval to carry out statutory notice procedures on a proposal to install a new zebra crossing on Northumberland Avenue in the vicinity of the pedestrian entrance to Geoffrey Field Infant and Junior Schools.
- 1.2 The proposed zebra crossing will be funded by S106 Planning Contributions from the planning applications to expand the Schools which were approved by Planning Applications Committee on the 10th September 2014.

2. RECOMMENDED ACTION

- 2.1 The Panel note the Report.
- 2.2 That the Head of Legal Service be authorised to carry out the statutory notice procedures of the intention to establish a pedestrian crossing on Northumberland Avenue outside Geoffrey Field Infant and Primary Schools in accordance with Section 23 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984.

3. POLICY CONTEXT

- 3.1 The proposals are in line with current Transport and Planning Policy.

4. THE PROPOSAL

- 4.1 As part of the Highways improvement package associated with the expansion of the Geoffrey Field Infant and Junior Schools, it is proposed that a new zebra crossing is installed on Northumberland Avenue in the vicinity of the main pedestrian access to the schools. The aim of this proposal is to provide a safe crossing facility in the proximity of the schools to enable parents and pupils to walk and cycle to the school safely.
- 4.2 The crossing will be located 20 metres north of the junction of Gratton Road and Northumberland Avenue, where the existing pedestrian island in the centre of Northumberland Avenue is located, as shown on the drawing in Appendix 1.
- 4.3 The principle of the crossing was included within the obligations associated with Planning Application 141041 for the expansion of Geoffrey Fields Infant school, which is part of the schools expansion programme and approved by members at Planning Applications Committee. The proposed crossing while improving the crossing facilities for these two schools will also assist parents taking their children to Christ the King Catholic School which is also in close proximity.
- 4.4 As well as the new crossing, anti skid surfacing will be laid on the approaches to the crossing in the interest of safety.
- 4.5 However before works can commence a statutory notice has to be issued and this report seeks permission to commence this process.

5. CONTRIBUTION TO STRATEGIC AIMS

- 5.1 To promote equality, social inclusion and a safe and healthy environment for all.

6. COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT AND INFORMATION

- 6.1 Community engagement with local residents has been undertaken as part of the planning application for the development.
- 6.2 The Statutory consultation will be carried out in accordance with the Local Authorities Traffic Orders (Procedure) (England and Wales) Regulations.

7. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

- 7.1 The crossing will be advertised under Section 23 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984.

8. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

8.1 The cost of the works will be funded from the Section 106 transport contribution obtained as a result of planning consent

9. BACKGROUND PAPERS

9.1 Planning Applications Committee, September 14th 2014, Agenda Item 27.