

READING BOROUGH COUNCIL

REPORT BY DIRECTOR OF ENVIRONMENT AND NEIGHBOURHOOD SERVICES

TO:	TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT SUB-COMMITTEE		
DATE:	16 SEPTEMBER 2015	AGENDA ITEM:	7
TITLE:	PETITION FOR A ZEBRA CROSSING ON ADDINGTON ROAD - UPDATE		
LEAD COUNCILLOR:	COUNCILLOR TONY PAGE	PORTFOLIO:	STRATEGIC ENVIRONMENT, PLANNING AND TRANSPORT
SERVICE:	TRANSPORTATION & STREETCARE	WARDS:	REDLANDS
LEAD OFFICER:	GRACE WARREN	TEL:	0118 937 2906
JOB TITLE:	ASSISTANT ENGINEER	E-MAIL:	grace.warren@reading.gov.uk

1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- 1.1 To update the Sub-Committee on the review of the petition received from residents of Redlands Ward requesting a zebra crossing on Addington Road.

2. RECOMMENDED ACTION

- 2.1 That the Sub-Committee notes the report.
- 2.2 That the request for a pedestrian crossing on Addington Road be progressed no further by officers as the existing pedestrian and vehicle flows do not meet the necessary threshold set by Department for Transport.
- 2.3 That Addington Road continues to be monitored as part of the Council's ongoing road safety strategy.
- 2.4 That the lead petitioner be informed accordingly.

3. POLICY CONTEXT

- 3.1 The provision of pedestrian crossing facilities and associated criteria is specified within existing Traffic Management Policies and Standards.

4. THE PROPOSAL

- 4.1 A petition containing 6 signatures has been received from residents of Redlands Ward requesting a zebra crossing on Addington Road adjacent to the Royal Berkshire Hospital car park access.

The petition reads - "We residents of Addington Road have difficulties crossing Addington Road to take our children to nursery/school/doctor due to lack of crosswalks and the excessive traffic on Addington Road. Every time we attempt to cross Addington Road with or without the buggy/pushchair, our children's life is put at risk of collision with vehicles driving at excessive speed.

Due to the excessive traffic and the dangers for all pedestrians attempting to cross Addington Road, we request a 'zebra' crosswalk to be erected next to the RBH south car park exit on to Addington Road.

We hope that our neighbourhood petition will be taken into account by the Reading Borough Council".

It was agreed by members of the Sub-Committee that officers would investigate the request.

- 4.2 Addington Road (between Redlands Road and Craven Road) is an 8m wide two-way road that is subject to a 30mph speed limit with street lighting and on-street parking along its length.
- 4.3 Many requests are received for measures to address specific issues such as crossing roads. Unfortunately, there are insufficient funds to deal with every such request and, therefore, priority is given to those sites with an existing history of injury accidents where there is a causation factor that is treatable. The latest 3 year accident statistics show no injury accidents have occurred along this section of Addington Road.
- 4.4 The requirements for pedestrian facilities are set out by central government where we are obliged to measure the demand by a pedestrian/vehicle count (PV²) during the four busiest hours of the day. The PV count is used to determine the appropriateness of pedestrian facilities as required by local highway authorities.
- 4.5 A PV² count was undertaken on Thursday 16th July between the hours of 0700 - 1900. The four busiest observed hours for both vehicles and pedestrians were 0700-0800, 0800-0900, 1600-1700, 1700-1800.

4.6 The PV count survey demonstrated that this section of Addington Road does not meet the criteria for installation of a formal 'controlled' crossing (zebra or pelican). Officers are therefore unable to progress this request any further.

4.7 However, the approach to general road safety in the area will continue to be reviewed as part of the Council's ongoing annual road safety strategy.

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 The lead petitioner will be informed of the findings of the Sub-Committee.

7. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

7.1 None arising from this report.

8. EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT

8.1 In addition to the Human Rights Act 1998 the Council is required to comply with the Equalities Act 2010. Section 149 of the Equalities Act 2010 requires the Council to have due regard to the need to:-

- eliminate discrimination, harassment, victimisation and any other conduct that is prohibited by or under this Act;
- advance equality of opportunity between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it;
- foster good relations between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it.

8.2 The Council will carry out an equality impact assessment scoping exercise prior to submitting the update report to a future meeting of the Sub-Committee.

9. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

9.1 None arising from this report.

10. BACKGROUND PAPERS

10.1 TM Sub Committee 12th March 2015 petition submission.