

READING BOROUGH COUNCIL

REPORT BY DIRECTOR OF ENVIRONMENT AND NEIGHBOURHOOD SERVICES

TO:	TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT SUB-COMMITTEE		
DATE:	10 MARCH 2016	AGENDA ITEM:	5(A)
TITLE:	PETITION FOR THE COUNCIL TO REVIEW THE SAFETY & SIGNAGE OF THE ZEBRA CROSSING IN PROSPECT STREET, CAVERSHAM		
LEAD COUNCILLOR:	TONY PAGE	PORTFOLIO:	STRATEGIC ENVIRONMENT, PLANNING AND TRANSPORT
SERVICE:	TRANSPORTATION & STREETCARE	WARDS:	CAVERSHAM
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1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- 1.1 To report to the Sub-Committee the receipt of a petition submitted to Policy Committee asking the Council to review the safety and signage of the zebra crossing in Prospect Street, Caversham as a matter of urgency, including investigating an upgrade to a pelican crossing.

2. RECOMMENDED ACTION

- 2.1 That the Sub-Committee notes the report.
- 2.2 That the petition (received at Policy Committee) to review the safety and signage of the zebra crossing in Prospect Street, Caversham is considered as a part of our statutory duty to improve road safety and reduce casualties and reported back to a future meeting of the Sub-committee.
- 2.3 That the lead petitioner be informed accordingly.

3. POLICY CONTEXT

- 3.1 Improving road safety through the reduction of casualties is a statutory duty of the council as highway authority.

4. THE PROPOSAL

- 4.1 A petition received at Policy Committee asks for the Council to review the safety and signage of the zebra crossing in Prospect Street, Caversham as a matter of urgency, including investigating an upgrade to a pelican crossing. The petition highlights a serious incident on 11 January 2016 in which a woman on the crossing was knocked down by a lorry, sustaining life threatening injuries and rushed to hospital, showing that residents' fears about safety are justified.
- 4.2 We have a statutory duty placed upon us, as highway authority, to improve road safety through the reduction of casualties. We do this by using casualty data supplied to us by Thames Valley Police. Despite the accident on 11th January 2016 the records provided to us on casualties suggests that this crossing has a very good safety record. However, a serious accident has occurred and once the details are known to us following the conclusion of the police investigation we will consider an appropriate response.
- 4.3 After receipt of the police investigation officers will bring back their findings to a future meeting of the Sub-committee for further consideration. The lead petitioner will be informed of this decision accordingly.

5. CONTRIBUTION TO STRATEGIC AIMS

- 5.1 This proposal supports the aims and objectives of the Local Transport Plan and contributes to the Council's strategic aims, as set out below:
- Keeping the town clean, green and active.
 - Providing infrastructure to support the economy.
 - Remaining financially sustainable to deliver these service priorities.

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 None.