

READING BOROUGH COUNCIL

REPORT BY DIRECTOR OF ENVIRONMENT AND NEIGHBOURHOOD SERVICES

TO:	TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT SUB-COMMITTEE		
DATE:	14 JUNE 2017	AGENDA ITEM:	12
TITLE:	VASTERN ROAD ROUNDABOUT - PEDESTRIAN CROSSING FACILITIES		
LEAD COUNCILLOR:	TONY PAGE	PORTFOLIO:	STRATEGIC ENVIRONMENT, PLANNING AND TRANSPORT
SERVICE:	TRANSPORTATION & STREETCARE	WARDS:	ABBEY
LEAD OFFICER:	JAMES PENMAN	TEL:	0118 937 2202
JOB TITLE:	ASSISTANT NETWORK MANAGER	E-MAIL:	JAMES.PENMAN@READING.GOV.UK

1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- 1.1 This report brings to the attention of the Sub-committee a request from the business community for improved pedestrian crossing facilities at the Vastern Road roundabout with George Street (Reading Bridge) and Napier Road.
- 1.2 Whilst we support the concept of improved pedestrian crossing facilities at this location continued reduction in government funding limits our ability to achieve such improvements.
- 1.3 Where the business community are willing to provide funding for such improvements the Sub-committee is asked to welcome this opportunity and support officers in exploring this potential further.

2. RECOMMENDED ACTION

- 2.1 That the Sub-Committee notes the report.
- 2.2 That the Sub-committee welcome the opportunity for external funding for improved pedestrian facilities at this location and support officers in exploring this potential.

3. POLICY CONTEXT

- 3.1 The provision of pedestrian crossing facilities is considered in line with the Borough Council's Traffic Management Policies and Standards.

4. BACKGROUND AND RECOMMENDATIONS

- 4.1 We have received a request from the business community for improved pedestrian crossing facilities at the Vastern Road roundabout with George Street (Reading Bridge) and Napier Road. This is particularly for a formal crossing facility across the George Street (Reading Bridge) approach to the roundabout.

- 4.2 Since the changes around the north-side of the station and wider improvements within Vastern Road, crossing the road by pedestrians at the Reading Bridge side of the Vastern Road roundabout has certainly become busier. Whilst we support the concept of improved pedestrian crossing facilities at this location continued reduction in government funding limits our ability to achieve such improvements.

- 4.3 It is not yet known if a formal facility can be installed at this point of the roundabout but this provides a good opportunity to develop a proposal. Where the business community are willing to provide funding for such improvements the Sub-committee is asked to welcome this opportunity and support officers in exploring this potential further.

5. CONTRIBUTION TO STRATEGIC AIMS

- 5.1 None arising from this report.

6. COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT AND INFORMATION

- 6.1 None arising from this report.

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 An Equality Impact scoping exercise may be required as a proposal is developed.

9. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

9.1 None arising from this report.

9.2 Funding will need to be identified prior to the progression and development of improved crossing facilities.

10. BACKGROUND PAPERS

10.1 None.