

READING BOROUGH COUNCIL

REPORT BY EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR FOR ECONOMIC GROWTH & NEIGHBOURHOOD SERVICES

TO:	TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT SUB-COMMITTEE		
DATE:	11 SEPTEMBER 2019	AGENDA ITEM:	8
TITLE:	REQUESTS FOR NEW TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT MEASURES		
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1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- 1.1 This report informs the Sub-Committee of requests for new traffic management measures that have been raised by members of the public, other organisations/representatives and Members of the Borough Council. These are measures that have either been previously reported, or those that would not typically be addressed in other programmes, where funding is yet to be identified.
- 1.2 The Sub-Committee is asked to consider the Officer recommended action for each item, which relate to whether a scheme should remain on the list for future investigation (subject to funding availability) or removed from the list.
- 1.3 This report also provides a development update for those requests that have become funded/part-funded.
- 1.4 Appendix 1 provides the list of schemes/proposals, with initial Officer comments and recommendations.

2. RECOMMENDED ACTION

- 2.1 That the Sub-Committee notes the report.

2.2 That the Sub-Committee agrees to a recommended action for each item on the list, as per Item 4.8.

3. POLICY CONTEXT

3.1 Any proposals would need to be considered alongside the Borough Council's Traffic Management Policies and Standards, Council Priorities and the Local Transport Plan.

4. BACKGROUND AND RECOMMENDATIONS

4.1 The Council receives many requests for new traffic management measures across the borough and has a number of programmes in which they may be addressed. Such programmes include the Waiting Restriction Review, Resident Permit Parking and Road Safety Review. However, with central government transport funding cuts, monies for addressing general traffic management issues is harder to secure.

4.2 This report does not affect major strategic transport and cycling schemes that are funded as a part of any major scheme project award from central Government and/or the Local Enterprise Partnership. It does, however, include requests that are received by a number of Council departments and includes requests made by the Cycle Forum.

4.3 Appendix 1 provides the current list of requested schemes and requests for measures, which is currently held by Officers.

4.4 It is likely that the primary sources of funding for these schemes will be local CIL contributions and other third-party contributions. If funding has been allocated to a scheme, this will be reflected on the list and this list may be used for seeking contributions for specific schemes (for example, during the planning process for a new development).

4.5 The list contains some categorised commentary around each scheme/request, providing some contextual background information such as casualty data and indicative costs.

4.6 Until a scheme is fully investigated, designed and quotes have been received from appropriate contractors, it is not possible to provide detailed cost estimates. Appendix 1 provides a high-level estimation of likely costs, ranging from 'Low', which will be hundreds-of-pounds, to 'Very High', which will be many tens-of-thousands-of-pounds.

4.7 There can be many legislative and physical aspects that can influence the feasibility of a scheme and the resources required to investigate requests and develop designs will incur costs. For this reason, it is not

intended that any request is investigated further until funding has been identified and no item on this list is guaranteed as being deliverable.

4.8 It is recommended that the Sub-Committee considers the recommended action for each scheme and may wish to identify a number of schemes/requests that it considers to be priorities for future delivery. Officers have summarised their recommendations as follows:

4.8.1 Retain - These items will remain on the list, awaiting funding for further investigation and development.

4.8.2 Forward to [Scheme/Programme] - These items will be noted, for information, in a separate section of the list. They will, however, be moved for consideration as part of a different scheme or programme, such as an Area Study.

4.8.3 Remove - These items will be removed from the list and will not be retained for further investigation and development.

The Sub-Committee is asked to note that lines 60, 63 and 72 are recommended for removal.

Funded / Part-funded Schemes

4.9 As noted in Appendix 1, a number of requests have received funding from local CIL contributions. These requests are as follow:

- a. Zebra Crossing on Gosbrook Road (£50k)
- b. Zebra crossing for access to the Ridgeway school (£50k)
- c. Extension of 20mph zone Reading Girls School (£40k)
- d. Signs for HGVs Elgar Road (£50k)
- e. 20mph zone and width restriction, Brunswick St and Western Rd (£50k)
- f. To reduce speeding on Southcote Road and Westcote Road (£30k)
- g. Improvements to double roundabout signing, Grovelands Rd (£15k)
- h. Pedestrian Crossings, Oxford Road and Overdown Road (£50k)
- i. Enforcement of 20mph areas (£100k)

Officers are developing concept schemes and obtaining indicative quotes. Officers will share the proposals and seek input from ward Councillors, before progressing the concepts to a detailed investigation, feasibility and design stage. This stage will require funding from the CIL contributions for most of the above schemes, as independent Road Safety Audits will be required and some ground investigation works.

It is hoped that officers will be able to report these potentially deliverable schemes to November's meeting of the Sub-Committee, seeking any necessary approvals for taking the schemes toward delivery (e.g. approval to conduct statutory consultation).

4.10 The Council has received private funding contributions toward the delivery of a zebra crossing on Pepper Lane. Officers intend to develop this request using the same methodology as described in Item 4.9.

4.11 A modest private contribution has been raised toward the development of the requested zebra crossing on Upper Redlands Road.

Officers have arranged to meet with the lead fundraisers to discuss expectations and can conduct some high-level design work as a result.

5. CONTRIBUTION TO STRATEGIC AIMS

5.1 This programme supports the aims and objectives of the Local Transport Plan and helps to deliver the following Council Priorities:

- Keeping Reading's environment clean, green and safe
- Ensuring the Council is fit for the future

6. COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT AND INFORMATION

6.1 Requests received from members of the public, or their representatives, can be added to the list of issues.

6.2 Requests that are progressed into active schemes may require statutory consultation and/or public notification.

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 will be conducted as part of the detailed scheme design, prior to implementation.

9. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

9.1 None arising from this report.

9.2 Funding will need to be identified prior to the investigation, progression and development of requests/schemes.

9.3 Funding implications for maintenance/running costs of schemes and features within will need to be considered.

9.4 The majority of the schemes in Item 4.9 will require use of the CIL contributions to cover the costs of necessary investigative/feasibility works, such as Road Safety Audits and ground investigation works. These works will take place following initial discussions with ward Councillors, as described in Item 4.9.

10. BACKGROUND PAPERS

10.1 Requests for New Traffic Management Measures (Traffic Management Sub-Committee - March 2019).