

## Bath & North East Somerset Council

DECISION MAKER:	Cllr Charles Gerrish, Cabinet Member for Customer Services	
DECISION DATE:	On or after 18 <sup>th</sup> December 2010	
TITLE:	<b>St Stephens Safety Scheme</b> <b>Objections received to proposed waiting restrictions and speed table</b>	EXECUTIVE FORWARD PLAN REFERENCE:  <b>E 2095</b>
WARD:	Lansdown ward	
<b>AN OPEN PUBLIC ITEM</b>		
<b>List of attachments to this report:</b> APPENDIX A - Proposed Scheme Drawing No CH1391 /081 /TRO /C APPENDIX B - Revised Scheme Drawing No.TC8421 /PROP /01		

### 1 THE ISSUE

1.1 To consider objections received to proposed waiting restrictions in Richmond Road, Richmond Place and Beacon Road, together with a speed table in Beacon Road. Bath.

### 2 RECOMMENDATION

The Cabinet member is asked to agree that:

2.1 The revised scheme that removes the need for the speed table in Beacon Road and footpath works at the junction of Richmond Place and Beacon Road should be progressed.

2.2 The reduced waiting restrictions as proposed on drawing No.TC8421/PROP/01 should be implemented.

2.3 The existing footway between the south eastern end of Beacon Road and Summerfield Road should be improved to create a suitable alternative for the "Walking Bus" route.

### **3 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

3.1 There is £12,000 finance to build this scheme included in the 2010/11 capital budget.

### **4 CORPORATE PRIORITIES**

- Building communities where people feel safe and secure.

### **5 THE REPORT**

5.1 The proposals shown on drawing No. CH1391/081/TRO/C were advertised on 18<sup>th</sup> February 2010 and the objection period terminated on 11<sup>th</sup> March 2010.

5.2 Written objections and a petition containing 39 signatures against the proposals were received from local residents, mainly objecting to the waiting restriction proposals. The Police support the introduction of the safety scheme.

#### **5.3 Objections:**

A petition containing 39 signatures was received, the petition states;

1. "We, the undersigned, wish to register our objection to plans for the Installation of a Speed Table and Waiting Restrictions in Beacon Road and request a meeting between the Council and residents before further action is taken".
2. "We urge the Council to reconsider these actions, which we believe will reduce the availability of parking spaces in an area which is already under extreme pressure because of the lack of parking".

5.4 The petition and all other objections received were considered and a proposal for an alternative safer route to school scheme has now been proposed which removes the need for the speed table in Beacon Road together with the associated kerbing and footway works at the junction of Beacon Road and Richmond Place.

5.5 The revised Proposals involve the refurbishment of an existing footpath that links the southern end of Beacon Road and the junction of Richmond Place with Summerfield Road, the footpath has been overgrown although street lights and the metalled surface remain. This route can be used by the existing "Walking bus" to use in safety with the need to cross only one road at a location with good visibility and away from the busy Richmond Road / Beacon Road junction.

5.6 A "Walking bus" is an initiative where adults collect school children on route to school and escort them along an approved safe route to school.

5.7 Some waiting restrictions are considered necessary at the junctions of Richmond Road /Richmond Place, Richmond Place /Beacon Road and Beacon Road /Richmond Lane, the restrictions are considered necessary to clear parked vehicles from locations where visibility and vehicle movements should not be obstructed, the extent of these revised restrictions have been reduced from those previously proposed.

5.8 The effect of this revised scheme is to provide a safer route to school as originally proposed but to reduce the lengths of waiting restrictions to those areas considered vital on road safety reasons, and to take into consideration the very limited space for parking residents and visitors vehicles.

## **6 RISK MANAGEMENT**

6.1 The report author and Cabinet member have fully reviewed the risk assessment related to the issue and recommendations, in compliance with the Council's decision making risk management guidance.

6.2 The risk assessment for this revised project has indicated that there is a significant risk that if the revised waiting restrictions were not implemented, the inappropriate parking of vehicles would continue with the potential for injury accidents occurring.

## **7 EQUALITIES**

7.1 It is considered that the equalities impact resulting from the traffic restrictions within this scheme are proportionate on the grounds that the reduction in parked vehicles on the junctions, and the safety risk associated with parked vehicles are beneficial to all road users and residents of the area.

## **8 RATIONALE**

8.1 A proposal to introduce a speed table and waiting restrictions was designed as part of a Safer Routes to School scheme and to improve safety for all who use the area around and routes to St Stephen's School.

8.2 This revised safety scheme with its alternative improved footpath route for the school's "Walking Bus" and revised waiting restrictions at the junctions of Richmond Road/Richmond Place, Richmond Place/Beacon Road and Beacon Road/Richmond Lane, improves safety for all and therefore meets the requirements of the Council's overall road safety, traffic calming and community safety priorities for urban areas.

## **9 OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED**

9.1 The previous option was advertised and received many objections from residents of the surrounding properties.

## **10 CONSULTATION**

10.1 *Ward Councillor; Cabinet members; Other B&NES Services; Service Users; Local Residents; Other Public Sector Bodies.*

10.2 Formal consultation was carried out by e-mail providing details of the proposals and a statement of reasons; later consultation was through an advertisement in the press and on street.

## **11 ISSUES TO CONSIDER IN REACHING THE DECISION**

11.1 Customer Focus.

## 12 ADVICE SOUGHT

12.1 The Council's Monitoring Officer (Council Solicitor) and Section 151 Officer (Divisional Director - Finance) have had the opportunity to input to this report and have cleared it for publication.

<b>Contact person</b>	Richard Akehurst, tel: 01225 395160
<b>Background papers</b>	<i>None</i>
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