

STOCKPORT COUNCIL
EXECUTIVE REPORT – SUMMARY SHEET

Subject: Road Safety around Schools - Vernon Park Primary School

Report to: (a) Central Stockport Area Committee **Date:** Thursday, 11 March 2021

Report of: (b) Corporate Director for Place Management & Regeneration

Key Decision: (c) **NO / ~~YES~~** *(Please circle)*

Forward Plan ☐ General Exception ☐ Special Urgency ☐ *(Tick box)*

Summary:

To report the findings of a consultation exercise for the Road Safety around Schools scheme around Vernon Park Primary School and to seek approval for the introduction of Traffic Regulation Orders (TROs) and associated signage; and implementation of dropped kerbs with associated tactile paving and pencil bollards.

Recommendation(s):

The Area Committee is asked to consider and approve the following proposals for Road Safety around Schools – Vernon Park Primary School scheme. To consider and comment upon the following proposals, and recommend that the Area Committee approves the legal advertising of the TRO as set out in **Appendix A** and subject to no objections being received within 21 days from the advertisement date, the following orders can be made.

Relevant Scrutiny Committee (if decision called in): **(d)**

Communities & Housing Scrutiny Committee

Background Papers (if report for publication): **(e)**

There are none.

Contact person for accessing
background papers and discussing the report

Officer: Caroline Aylmer-Shanks
Tel: 0161-474-4840

‘Urgent Business’: (f) **YES / NO** *(please circle)*

Certification (if applicable)

This report should be considered as ‘urgent business’ and the decision exempted from ‘call-in’ for the following reason(s):

The written consent of Councillor _____ and the Chief Executive/Monitoring Officer/Borough Treasurer for the decision to be treated as ‘urgent business’ was obtained on _____ /will be obtained before the decision is implemented.

Road Safety around Schools - Vernon Park Primary School

Report of the Corporate Director for Place Management & Regeneration

1. INTRODUCTION AND PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To report the findings of a consultation exercise for the Road Safety around Schools scheme around Vernon Park Primary School and to seek approval for the introduction of Traffic Regulation Orders (TROs) and associated signage; implementation of dropped kerbs with associated tactile paving and pencil bollards.

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1. The Council's overall strategic transport ambition is to increase the number of children walking or cycling to school. In order for this to be achieved, it is important that there are safe route options for children and their families.
- 2.2 To support this ambition, Traffic Services have been working to tackle key concerns which have been raised by schools, residents and local Members. Site investigations have been undertaken to review the operation outside each school and the surrounding roads.
- 2.3 The programme assesses the requirements of various measures which can be accommodated within the agreed budget, and includes:
- Upgrades to School Crossing Patrol points
 - Identification of walking routes and preferred uncontrolled crossing points
 - Traffic Regulation Orders
 - Pencil bollards
 - Widening of footways
 - Revised speed limits and waiting restrictions
 - Amended signage
 - Improved road markings

3. PROPOSALS

- 3.1. The proposals are shown on the Proposals **Drawing No. 0305/37/VP/001** .
- 3.2. The proposals include:
- Introduction of no waiting at any time restrictions at the junction of Peak Street and Bateson Street;
 - Introduction of no waiting at any time restrictions adjacent to the chicane on Peak Street;
 - Introduction of no waiting at times shown (8:00-9:30am and 2:30-4:00pm) on Alpine Road to connect with the existing no waiting at any time within the turning head at the southern end;
 - Extension of the existing School Keep Clear markings on Peak Street;
 - Installation of dropped kerbs and tactile paving on Peak Street to aid pedestrians / children to cross and gain access to the primary school; and

- Provision four 'Pencil Bollards' on Peak Street to highlight pedestrian routes to school and prevent vehicular encroachment on footways.

4. LEGAL POSITION/IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1. The Traffic Management Orders would be made under Section 1 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984. The Council is required by the Local Authorities Traffic Order (Procedure) (England and Wales) Regulations 1996 to give notice of its intention to make a Traffic Order (by publishing a draft traffic order). These regulations also require the Council to consider any representations received as a result of publishing the draft Order.

5. CONSIDERATION OF ALTERNATIVE SOLUTIONS

- 5.1. No alternative proposals or solutions were considered.

6. CONSULTATION

- 6.1. The Local Ward Councillors have been consulted and no adverse comments were made about the proposals. However, one local Councillor requested that the proposals should be implemented at the same time the 'Park & Stride' scheme commences. The 'Park & Stride' scheme is due to commence from 8th March 2021 when schools return. Furthermore, residents parking has been requested, however this would form part of a request to a different team and does not fall under the Road Safety around Schools programme or budget.
- 6.2. To reduce the impact of inconsiderate parking and provide safer walk route Traffic Services consulted with the residents who may be affected with the proposals shown on Drawing No. **0305/37/VP/001**.
- 6.3. Due to the locality of the proposals, 41 letters were delivered of which we received 16 replies (39%) of which 7 (44%) were in favour, 9 (56%) were against the proposals. It should be noted we received two responses from different residents at the same address who both disagreed with the proposals.
- 6.4. From the consultation, there were a few residents outlining inconsiderate parking at peak times during the pickup/drop off times at the school. Liaison with the Parking Enforcement Team ensured that the school is being monitored appropriately. It is not possible for the Parking Enforcement Team to be present at the school daily, as suggested by residents. However, like all schools, Vernon Park is subject to a Parking Enforcement Officer to be present twice every term which is still in place.
- 6.5. A total of 4 responses from residents who disagreed with the proposals related to the proposed prohibition of parking at the junction of Peak Street and Bateson Street. As part of the scheme proposal, No Waiting At Any Time (double yellow lines) restrictions are proposed at junctions where there are high numbers of pedestrian movements will be wishing to cross roads on their journey to school. The proposed double yellow lines are proposed to reinforce Rule 243 of the Highway Code which states that vehicles should not be parked within 10 metres of a junction to ensure visibility is maintained. The same applies to the No Waiting At Any Time road markings proposed on the northern side of Peak Street, to prevent the one way filter from becoming blocked due to inconsiderate parking. This protects clear visibility between pedestrians and vehicles approaching junctions creating a safer

environment in which to cross roads. It is therefore recommended that these proposals remain.

- 6.6. Whilst Rule 243 states that no vehicle should park within 10 metres of a junction, our proposals reduce this length to 5 metres to minimise the impact to local residents. However, 'It should be noted that any motorist(s) who chooses to park within 10 metres of the junction (contrary to the Highway Code) does so of their own volition – and not with the endorsement of Stockport MBC as the local Highway Authority'.
- 6.7. In addition, it has been identified that the path between Alpine Road and Peak Street is frequently used for pedestrian access to the school and therefore it is recommended that an extension of no waiting restrictions on Monday to Friday between 8am and 9:30am and 2:30pm and 4:00pm is introduced.
- 6.8. An additional request was made for access protection markings to be provided on Mountain Street and these have been accommodated within the proposals.
- 6.9. The updated proposals are shown on Drawing No. **0305/37/VP/002**.

7. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 7.1. The scheme will be funded from the Road Safety around Schools programme budget allocation.

8. TIMESCALES

- 8.1. Should the proposals be approved, the scheme should be ready for implementation in summer 2021.

9. EQUALITIES/COMMUNITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT

9.1. Equal Opportunities

- To provide a suitable and safer environment for pedestrians and other road users. The scheme contributes to the Council's vision statement "Promote equal life outcomes for all by tackling known inequalities across the borough of Stockport".

9.2. Sustainable Environment

- To develop and sustain a healthy, safe and attractive local environment which contributes to Stockport. Stockport Council understands the responsibility it has to lead by example and help the broader community make a positive contribution to the local environment.

10. CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

- 10.1. To consider and comment upon the proposals, and recommend that the Cabinet Member approves the legal advertising of the Traffic Regulation Order as set out in **Appendix A** and subject to no objections being received within 21 days from the advertisement date, the following orders can be made:

Background Papers

There are no background papers to this report.

Anyone wishing further information please contact Caroline Aylmer-Shanks on telephone number Tel: 0161-474-4840 or by email on caroline.aylmer-shanks@stockport.gov.uk.

APPENDIX A

VERNON PARK PRIMARY SCHOOL – TRO SCHEDULE

Revocation of No Stopping Monday – Friday, 8am – 5pm on School Keep Clear Markings on Peak Street, Stockport – South side, as referred to in the Consolidation order. 2010 (& Amendment Order 2019) (P12 & P13)

PROPOSED NO STOPPING MONDAY – FRIDAY, 8am – 5pm on School Keep Clear Markings

Item	Location	Extent
Vernon Park Primary School	Peak Street, Central Stockport - (Southern Side)	From a point 8 metres south-west of the projected westerly kerbline of Bateson Street for a distance of 63 metres in a north-easterly direction.

PROPOSED NO WAITING AT ANY TIME

Item	Location	Extent
Vernon Park Primary School	Bateson Street, Central Stockport – (Both Sides)	From the intersection of the northern kerbline of Peak Street for a distance of 5 metres in a north-westerly direction.
Vernon Park Primary School	Peak Street, Central Stockport – (Northern Side)	From a point 5 metres north east of the intersection of the eastern kerbline of Bateson Street, to a point 5 metres south west of the intersection of the western kerbline of Bateson Street.
Vernon Park Primary School	Peak Street, Central Stockport – (Northern Side)	From a point 20 metres south west of the western kerbline of Bateson Street for a distance of 6 metres in a south westerly direction.

PROPOSED NO WAITING MONDAY TO FRIDAY BETWEEN 8AM AND 9:30AM AND 2:30PM AND 4:00PM

Item	Location	Extent
Vernon Park Primary School	Alpine Road, Central Stockport - (Western Side)	From a point 25.5 metres south-east of the south-eastern kerbline of Mountain Street for a distance of 16.5 metres in a south-easterly direction