

**STOCKPORT COUNCIL**  
**EXECUTIVE REPORT – SUMMARY SHEET**

**Subject: Mayor's Cycling and Walking Challenge Fund, Heatons Active Neighbourhood Update**

**Report to: (a)** Heatons & Reddish Area Committee  
2021

**Date:** Monday, 2 August

Cabinet Member, Economy and Regeneration

**Date:**

**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:** This report is to update the Committee on the development of a Heatons Active Neighbourhood scheme which, subject to approvals and funding, the Council would seek to deliver as part of the Greater Manchester Mayor's Cycling and Walking Challenge Fund (MCF).

**Recommendation(s):** The Committee is requested to recommend that the Cabinet Member (Economy and Regeneration) approve the commencement of a trail of an Active Neighbourhood in the Heaton Chapel area as described in this report.

**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:** Nick Whelan  
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**'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.

**Mayor's Cycling and Walking Challenge Fund, Heatons Active Neighbourhood Update**

**Report of the Corporate Director for Place Management & Regeneration**

**1. INTRODUCTION AND PURPOSE OF REPORT**

- 1.1 This report is to update the Committee on the development of a Heatons Active Neighbourhood scheme which, subject to approvals and funding, the Council would seek to deliver as part of the Greater Manchester Mayor's Cycling and Walking Challenge Fund (MCF).
- 1.2 An Active Neighbourhood aims to enable short trips on foot, by cycle and by public transport in preference to car travel by making physical changes to an area.
- 1.3 The Committee is requested to recommend that the Cabinet Member (Economy and Regeneration) approve the commencement of a trial of an Active Neighbourhood in the Heaton Chapel area as described in this report.

**2. ENGAGEMENT EXERCISE**

- 2.1. A 7-week engagement exercise was carried out in September-October 2020 over the whole of the Heatons area. This gave the local community an opportunity to comment on whether they may support the introduction of Active Neighbourhood features, and, in particular, where the key issues are that are concerning them and where they think new measures would be of benefit.
- 2.2. An extensive leaflet drop was undertaken to approximately 16,000 properties, supplemented by on-street signage, posters, a press release and social media schedule. Several stakeholders were written to within the community, and schools were engaged to raise awareness and maximise involvement in the engagement exercise.
- 2.3. The engagement was hosted on Commonplace, an online community consultation platform that allows users to pin comments on a map.
- 2.4. This was the first phase of engagement to gather information and enable focus on key issues identified by the community. More detailed consultation is planned as proposals are developed.
- 2.5. More information about the scheme and the responses to the engagement exercise can be viewed at <https://heatons.commonplace.is/>.
- 2.6. The wider area being considered for Active Neighbourhood proposals has been broken into sub-zones and corridors, allowing smaller areas to be considered in more detail alongside neighbouring zones and corridors. More details of this can be found on the March Agenda of the Heatons and Reddish Area Committee at:

<http://democracy.stockport.gov.uk/documents/b84470/Item%209%20-%20Mayors%20Cycling%20and%20Walking%20Challenge%20Fund%20Heaton%20Active%20Neighbourhood%20Update%2008th-Mar-2.pdf?T=9>

- 2.7. A Comment summary report has been completed for the zones and corridors which present the engagement responses in a more readable format, enabling key issues, opportunities and potential measures to be grouped and realised. More details of this can be found on the March Agenda of the Heatons and Reddish Area Committee.
- 2.8. The Council has extensively reviewed the response to the Commonplace engagement and developed an Active Neighbourhood Trial proposal for Heaton Chapel, planned to take place from August. This area was chosen primarily based on the number, nature and diversity of the comments received, also so as not to conflict with other works in the area.
- 2.9. The consultation comments were utilised to create the trial design map, which details the location of the intended measures to be used for the trial. This is included at **Appendix A**.
- 2.10. As part of a further community engagement exercise, in late June – early July we distributed approximately 2,000 leaflets to local properties regarding the proposed Trial, supplemented by posters and leaflets distributed in the local area. The workshop/trial was also circulated on several social media platforms and a statement was featured in two local newspaper The Stockport Express and The Heatons Post. This invited residents and businesses to join the online workshop held on 13<sup>th</sup> July to discuss the proposals
- 2.11. The community was provided with contact details to provide comments via email, telephone or post if they were unable to join the workshops.
- 2.12. Contact was again made with several local community groups, disability groups and Broadstone Hall Primary School as part of this engagement.
- 2.13. Over 135 people took part in the consultation on-line workshop held on 13<sup>th</sup> July. Over 200 people signed up to attend the event.
- 2.14. There was also the opportunity for the community to comment on the trial designs over email or by telephone. The proposal and trial map were published online, and paper copies have been sent out after requests from non-internet users.
- 2.15. Following the comments received, the proposals have been reviewed and amended based on the residents' comments.

### **3. Proposals**

- 3.1. To trial the measures as shown in **Appendix A**. This will include temporary road closures for motorised traffic on the roads listed herein; Bollington Road, Halesden Road, Carnforth Road, Downham Road, Briarfield Road and Broadstone Hall Road North.
- 3.2. The extension of the 20pmh speed limit to cover the whole trial area (excluding Manchester Road and Broadstone Road)
- 3.3. A temporary pocket park on Broadstone Hall Road North at the junction of Carnforth Road to include benches, a mini community library, table tennis table (TBC based on

availability) and temporary playground markings, for example for hopscotch, to encourage outdoor play and to create a community space.

- 3.4. Review of the access barriers/ chicanes that preclude disability access and their making wheelchair accessible where possible.
- 3.5. A temporary signalised pedestrian crossing on Manchester Road.
- 3.6. Continuing to work with the Broadstone Hall Primary School on improving safety around the school, and the potential to look at a school street trial and improved enforcement of parking at drop off and pickup times.
- 3.7. Following comments from the online workshop the following changes are being reviewed:
  - Potential traffic management measures including a possible mini roundabout at the junction of Carnforth Road and Marbury Road in order to slow vehicle speeds on Carnforth Road;
  - extension of the 20mph zone to include Brook Avenue and Grange Avenue;
  - potential position alteration of the proposed modal filter on Briarfield Road; and
  - Consideration will be given to temporary waiting restrictions at junctions where these are needed to protect turning and junction safety. These may be needed to allow delivery or bin lorries to turn where they can't pass through closure points and / or to protect visibility at key junctions if obstructed by parked vehicles. Any such restrictions will be likely to use No Parking cones rather than painted yellow lines. If implemented they will be subject to liaison with frontage holders and monitored and amended as necessary during the trial period.
  - the making wheelchair accessible of an access barrier on Castlerigg Close.

#### **4. NEXT STEPS**

- 4.1. The trial will be delivered, commencing in late August / early September for a period of approximately 3 months. During this time residents will be able to feedback on the progress. Installation of equipment such as signs may commence before installation of filter points to ensure that they are all in place before any filter points are installed.
- 4.2. Air quality monitoring and traffic count surveys to commence in the trial area and on boundary roads. Traffic count cameras will also record pedestrian and cyclist count.
- 4.3. The proposed design will be published online two weeks before installation, with further written communication to all properties within the boundary area explaining the length of the trial the measures which will be implemented and the contact details for continued communication throughout the trial.
- 4.4. One month after the measures are installed, in-person and online workshops are planned to invite feedback on the trial. The measures may be subject to slight mid-Trial amendments should any significant issues be highlighted.

- 4.5. The trial will finish at the end of November. At this time all filter points and associated measures such as the Pocket Park will be removed from site. The temporary crossing will also need to be removed as equipment for this will be on hire and budget constraints are unlikely to allow it to be retained for a longer period. Some measures, including 20mph signage, may be left in place on a temporary basis whilst further consultation and approval processes are undertaken. This may also include the one way operation of Ash Grove if it is considered that there are safety implications from reverting to two way operation due to possible driver confusion.
- 4.6. Following the completion of trials and based on the outcomes, development of permanent scheme proposals and associated consultation is planned to be undertaken in late 2021 / early 2022. Subject to approvals and funding, the Council would then seek to deliver the permanent scheme from 2022.

## **5. MORE INFORMATION**

- 5.1. As above, more information about the developing scheme and the responses to the engagement exercise can be viewed at <https://heatons.commonplace.is/>.
- 5.2. More information specially about the Heaton Chapel Active Neighbourhood Trial can be found viewed at <https://www.stockport.gov.uk/current-proposals/active-neighbourhoods>
- 5.3. More information about cycling and walking in Stockport, including improvements as part of MCF is available at [www.stockport.gov.uk/topic/cycling-and-walking-in-stockport](http://www.stockport.gov.uk/topic/cycling-and-walking-in-stockport).
- 5.4. Anyone requiring further information about Active Neighbourhoods should contact Elysia Marriott at [elysia.marriott@stockport.gov.uk](mailto:elysia.marriott@stockport.gov.uk) or David Kearney [david.kearney@stockport.gov.uk](mailto:david.kearney@stockport.gov.uk)

## **6. CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 6.1. The Committee is recommended to note and comment on potential amendments to the scheme following the public engagement exercise.
- 6.2. The Committee is requested to recommend that the Cabinet Member (Economy and Regeneration) approve the commencement of a trial of an Active Neighbourhood in the Heaton Chapel area as described in this report.

## **Background Papers**

There are no background papers to this report.

Anyone wishing further information please contact Nick Whelan on telephone number Tel: 0161-474-4907 or by email on [nick.whelan@stockport.gov.uk](mailto:nick.whelan@stockport.gov.uk)