

STOCKPORT COUNCIL
EXECUTIVE REPORT – SUMMARY SHEET

Subject: Road Safety Around Schools - Hazel Grove Primary School

Report to: (a) Stepping Hill Area Committee
2021

Date: Tuesday, 22 June

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 Hazel Grove Primary School and to seek approval for the implementation of dropped kerbs; bollards; and new school warning signs.

Recommendation(s):

The Area Committee is asked to consider and approve the following proposals for the Road Safety around Schools – Hazel Grove Primary School scheme.

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

'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 - Hazel Grove 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 Hazel Grove Primary School and to seek approval for the implementation of dropped kerbs with tactile paving; access protection markings; and new school warning signs.

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.

3. PROPOSALS

- 3.1. To reduce the impact of inconsiderate parking and to highlight to passing vehicles that there are likely to be children crossing in the area, Traffic Services consulted with the residents likely to be affected with the proposals shown on Drawing No. 0305_42_HG_001.
- 3.2. The proposals include:
 - Review and upgrade of the school warning signs along Commercial Road to ensure their relevance and requirement;
 - Installation of dropped kerbs and tactile paving on Commercial Road, between Talbot Street and Co-operative Street to aid pedestrians / children to cross the road and support the existing School Crossing Patrol; and
 - Provision of two 'Middleton Bollards' at the uncontrolled crossing adjacent to Co-operative Street, three 'Middleton Bollards' on Chapel Street at the uncontrolled crossing point adjacent to Grove Street and four 'Middleton Bollards' on Chapel Street at the uncontrolled crossing point located to the north of Hazel Street, to highlight pedestrian routes to school and prevent vehicular encroachment on footways.

4. LEGAL POSITION/IMPLICATIONS

There are no Traffic Management Orders proposed to support the Road Safety around Schools – Hazel Grove Primary School scheme.

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 received.

6.2. Due to the locality of the proposals, 26 letters were delivered of which we received 4 replies (15%) of which 2 (50%) were in favour, 1 (25%) was against and 1 (25%) neither agreed nor disagreed with the proposals.

6.3. Whilst the proposals were supported by half the residents who responded, 1 resident has disagreed with the proposals. A number of the residents who supported the proposals also raised concern over the existing one-way system along Chapel Street; the speed of vehicles; and enforcement of the restrictions as discussed below.

6.4. The one respondent who disagreed with the proposals raised concern about the contravention of the existing one-way system along Chapel Street. The respondent advised that they could not take the proposals seriously until this matter was addressed. Contravention of the one-way system was also witnessed on site by a SMBC Transportation Officer when conducting a site visit but can only be enforced by the police. This has since been referred to the Greater Manchester Police to request that this is enforced.

6.5. The respondent who neither agreed nor disagreed with the proposals raised concern regarding the provision of tactile paving at the uncontrolled crossing point on Commercial Road. The dropped kerbs are proposed to support the existing school crossing patrol and it is accepted that the provision of tactile paving at this location may encourage pedestrians to cross Commercial Road at other times of the day when the crossing patrol is not present. The proposals have therefore been revised to remove the tactile paving but retain dropped kerbs. The respondent also advised that the wall has recently been removed outside the property adjacent to the proposed crossing location on the northern side of the carriageway (59 Commercial Road). Whilst dropped kerbs had not been installed by the time of a site visit by the SMBC Transportation Officer it is considered likely that the wall has been removed in order to facilitate vehicular access to the property. It is therefore proposed that the uncontrolled crossing be relocated closer to the junction of Commercial Road and Co-operative Street, as shown on Drawing No. 0305_42_HG_002.

6.6. One respondent who agreed with the proposals made reference to the speed of vehicles along Chapel Street and also requested that consideration be given to the introduction of speed humps and resident only permit parking. The roads within the consultation area are subject to a 20mph speed limit. A speed survey was undertaken on Chapel Street during a school weekday. The results of this survey did not indicate any particular issue with the speed of vehicles (the average speeds were 18mph in the AM and 19mph in the PM, with an 85th percentile speed of 22mph in both peak periods. The Road Safety Around Schools budget cannot accommodate a larger study in relation to speeds along the road or a proposal for a Resident Parking Scheme. Should there be sufficient support for this it would need to be progressed via the Network Management team and so no changes have been made to the proposals in response to this feedback.

6.7. The respondent who strongly agreed with the proposals provided no further feedback.

6.8. The amended proposals are shown on Drawing No. 0305_42_HG_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 Winter 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 following proposals:

- Review and upgrade of the school warning signs along Commercial Road to ensure their relevance and requirement;
- Installation of dropped kerbs and tactile paving on Commercial Road, between Talbot Street and Co-operative Street to aid pedestrians / children to cross the road and support the existing School Crossing Patrol; and
- Provision of two 'Middleton Bollards' at the uncontrolled crossing adjacent to Co-operative Street, three 'Middleton Bollards' on Chapel Street at the uncontrolled crossing point adjacent to Grove Street and four 'Middleton Bollards' on Chapel Street at the uncontrolled crossing point located to the north of Hazel Street, to highlight pedestrian routes to school and prevent vehicular encroachment on footways.

Background Papers

There are no background papers to this report.

Anyone wishing further information please contact Caroline Aylmer-Shanks by email on c.aylmer-shanks@stockport.gov.uk