

STOCKPORT COUNCIL
EXECUTIVE REPORT – SUMMARY SHEET

Subject: Proposed Traffic Regulation Order - No Stopping Monday – Friday, 8am – 5pm on School Keep Clear Markings

Report to: (a) Central Stockport Area Committee Date: Thursday 18 April 2024

Report of: (b) Director of Place Management

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

Forward Plan General Exception Special Urgency (Tick box)

Summary:

To report the findings of a consultation exercise and to seek approval for the introduction of a 'School Keep Clear' Traffic Regulation Order (TRO) and associated pedestrian guardrail, 'pencil' bollards and footway remedial works as detailed in this report.

Recommendation(s):

The Director of Place Management requests that the Central Stockport Area Committee consider, comment and approve the legal advertising of the following Traffic Regulation Order (TRO) set out in Appendix A and subject to no objections being received within 21 days from the advertisement date, the order can be made.

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

Communities & Transport Scrutiny Committee

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

There are none.

Contact person for accessing background papers and discussing the report **Officer: Graham O'Connor**

'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.

Proposed Traffic Regulation Order - No Stopping Monday – Friday, 8am – 5pm on School Keep Clear Markings

Report of the Director of Place Management

1. INTRODUCTION AND PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To report the findings of a consultation exercise and to seek approval for the introduction of a 'School Keep Clear' Traffic Regulation Order (TRO) and associated pedestrian guardrail, 'pencil' bollards and footway remedial works as detailed in this report.

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1. Traffic Services were instructed by local Councillors to investigate safety concerns raised by Adswold Primary School and parents of children attending the school. It was reported that vehicles regularly mount and park on the footway outside the main entrance/exit to the school at pick up and drop off times despite measures in the form of temporary cones and barriers introduced by the school to combat the problem. This has led to 'near miss' instances of vehicles almost colliding with pedestrians using the footway and creating general safety issues.
- 2.2. The entrance/exit area on Neston Grove was introduced during the Covid Pandemic and is now considered by the school to be to be the preferred option to deal with the passage of pupils/parents.
- 2.3. Due to the nature of the concerns raised Traffic Services propose to introduce a Traffic Regulation Order - 'School Keep Clear Monday to Friday 8am to 5pm' together with associated safety improvements in the form of pedestrian guardrails and pencil bollards.

3. PROPOSALS

- 3.1. To introduce a Traffic Regulation Order - 'School Keep Clear Monday to Friday 8am to 5pm' together with a pedestrian guardrail and 'pencil' bollards outside the access/egress point to and from the school. A small section of 'dropped' kerbing will be raised to full height and the footway reinstated.
- 3.2. The above proposals are shown on Drawing No. NM8/5241/0000.

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. Consideration has been given to the school using alternative access/egress points however the school consider the current arrangement of pupil dropping off/picking up on Neston Grove is the best solution for the safety of pupils and staff.

6. CONSULTATION

6.1. The Local Ward Councillors and Adswood Primary School have been consulted and no adverse comments were received.

6.2. Greater Manchester Police have been consulted and have no objections.

6.3. Affected residents have been consulted and from a total of 21 no. letters delivered, 3 no. responses (14%) have been received. One responder supported the proposals and two did not support the proposals.

6.4. One responder who did not support the proposals sent 4 separate pieces of correspondence.

Comments made by those in support of the proposals:

<p>Yes of course we agree that the child safety must come first but why not do something for the residents as well for a change and as we requested a couple of years ago and make the residents side residents and guest parking only</p>	<p>A desk top study was carried out by Traffic Services in response to a parking permit request in this locality and the results presented to Area Committee in June 2023. Traffic Services concluded that this is a resident versus school issue and therefore no future action recommended.</p>
--	---

Comments made by those who oppose the proposals:

<p>Adswood Primary School already have safe entrance points to the school which parents and students have been using for over 60 years. The school, without consultation with Neston Grove residents, closed the 3 safe entrances and started using Neston Grove ! This was highlighted as a dangerous thing to do to the Head of school who said it was temporary due to Covid. 3 years on, the school haven't gone back to using the 3 safer entrances which already have road markings and barriers, and instead want to send all school traffic through one entrance, which isn't designed for such a use and impact the long suffering residents of Neston Grove in a negative way. When coming home late at night we park where</p>	<p>Changes to the operation of the school, in particular the access/egress of pupils are not within the remit of Traffic Services.</p>
---	--

you plan to put markings and barriers, this would mean we would get a fine for parking. We can't park on our road at the best of times due to teachers parking and school visitors etc. - with the markings and railings it will be impossible. We deal with the parking issues Monday to Friday with the school and we have issues with the youth club in the evening and Saturday and Sunday, now your proposal is going to amplify an already impossible issue. I've spoken with the residents of Neston Grove, no one wants it, and we demand a face to face meeting.

I deeply value the safety and tranquillity of our neighbourhood. I understand the importance of maintaining safety around the primary school, and I appreciate the existing safety measures in place, such as the entrances with safety rails and no parking signs.

However, I have reservations about the proposed road markings, pedestrian rails, and associated pencil bollards between 8 am and 5 pm, Monday to Friday. I believe that these changes may disrupt the daily life of residents, including myself, and could potentially create unintended consequences for the community.

Moreover, I am particularly concerned about the recent use of the proposed entrance without a comprehensive risk assessment. The safety of the children must always be a top priority, and I fear that implementing these changes without a thorough evaluation may inadvertently put them in harm's way.

I kindly request that the Stockport Council reconsider this proposal, taking into account the perspectives and concerns of the residents who have invested years in building a stable and harmonious community. It is my hope that we can work together to find alternative solutions that address safety concerns without negatively impacting the lives of long-standing residents.

I am more than willing to engage in a constructive dialogue to explore alternative measures that prioritize safety while respecting the needs and concerns of the

community. I look forward to your understanding and collaboration on this matter.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

If this goes ahead, it will have a negative effect on the residents lives, and this isn't acceptable. We all agree, students and parents deserve to be safe when coming to school, so why start using an unsafe entrance. This entrance has been used for 2 and a half years and I personally expressed my concerns regarding the dangers of using this entrance, I carry out risk assessments on a daily basis as part as my job, and the risk versus benefit for using the entrance on Neston Grove, instead of Rostherne and Garners lane, never made sense. I told the headteacher this, and they explained it was a temporary measure whist work on the school was being carried out and during covid. The headteacher said, she had personally carried out the risk assessment and deemed it safe, but it 100% wasn't, and this has put students, parents and residents at risk for 2 and a half years. So I would like these questions answered and a meeting arranged with all the residents of Neston Grove, to find a resolution, and also to hear the answers to these questions:.. Why was the headteacher allowed to change the entrance point to the school without consultation with residents? Why have 3 safe entrances to Adswood primary school, which have been used for over 60 years now been closed and stooped being used?

Why is new 1 entrance, safer than 3 risk assessed entrances?

Where is everyone supposed to park once railings, pencil posts and road markings are installed? The cost of living crisis means more adult sons & daughters are finding it financially impossible to leave home, so homes have more adults in them, who have personal and work vehicles and need somewhere to park.

I hope you can understand our concerns.

<p>How much more chaos does this headteacher want to do. All the cars used to come and go before she became head. We can't do our shopping because we have to be back before 1430. But you won't listen until a child is hurt and it will happen. You are slowly making the top part of this road into a car park and an accident road. Would the Headteacher or you have it in your street ? I don't think so. It's not only the school but weekends we also have it because (what was) the youth club have parties going on there so we have this going on for seven days not five. Block a road off - see Adswold Headteacher by gum she will get it done. I've lived here for 40years without this.</p>	<p>Changes to the operation of the school, in particular the access/egress of pupils are not within the remit of Traffic Services.</p>
---	--

7. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

7.1. Legal Costs	£650.00
Lining Costs (including potential traffic management)	£1450.00
Signage	£1300.00
Pedestrian Guardrail x 2	£1000.00
Pencil Bollards x 2	£800.00
Footway remedial works	£1200.00
TOTAL	£6400.00

The costs of the scheme will be funded from Adswold Primary School - **£4000** and Davenport and Cale Green Delegated Ward Budget - **£2600**.

8. TIMESCALES

8.1. 3-4 months, subject to objections.

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. The Director of Place Management requests that the Central Stockport Area Committee considers the proposals and approves the legal advertising of the Traffic Regulation Order set out in Appendix A and subject to no objections being received within 21 days from the advertisement date, the order can be made.

Background Papers

There are no background papers to this report.

Anyone wishing further information please contact Graham O'Connor on telephone number 0161 474 5057 or by email on graham.oconnor@stockport.gov.uk

Appendix A
Proposed Traffic Regulation Order (TRO) Schedule

School Keep Clears – No Stopping Monday-Friday 8am-5pm

Neston Grove (South Side)

From a point, 13 metres south west from the intersection of the south western kerb line of Rostherne Road for a distance of 63.12 metres in a south westerly direction.