

Broadstone Road, Keswick Road & Briarfield Road, Reddish
(Toucan Crossing Objection Report)

Report of the Director of Place Management

1. INTRODUCTION AND PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To report on objections which have been returned in response to the legal advertising of a Toucan Crossing and associated Traffic Regulation Orders (TROs) on Broadstone Road, Keswick Road and Briarfield Road.
- 1.2 To ensure that objections to the permanent Traffic Regulation Order are appropriately and efficiently considered.

2. INFORMATION AND ADVICE

- 2.1. In considering the objection the Area Committee should be mindful that unless otherwise authorised, the only right the general public has over the highway is a right of passage along it. The Authority has both a duty of care to ensure the safety of the travelling public and a duty under the Traffic Management Act 2004 to secure and facilitate the expeditious movement of traffic.

3. OBJECTIONS AND COMMENTS

- 3.1. The TROs were advertised by Legal Services in April to May 2024 with a notice in the local press and notices posted on-site (checked weekly). Letters were also posted to affected frontages in order to raise awareness of changes in the proposals further to the public consultation.
- 3.2. Four objections were received from residents who all live within the locality of the proposed TROs. Two of the objections were received from the same household. These comments aligned with three main themes which are set out and responded to below.

Objection Theme 1

- 3.3. All four respondents objected to the proposed TROs that would reduce on-street car parking availability. Three of these focused on the restrictions along Broadstone Road itself and one related to the proposed extension of the existing double yellow lines (No Waiting at Any Time restrictions) on Briarfield Road and Keswick Road.

Response

- 3.4. The zig-zag markings and double yellow lines on approach to the proposed Toucan Crossing are required in order to protect intervisibility between drivers and the crossing; this is to ensure the safety of users of the crossing. Rule 243 of the Highway Code prohibits parking opposite a junction and so the proposed restrictions would equate to the loss of one on-street car parking space on the eastern side of Broadstone Road. The restrictions would also lead to the loss of one on-street car

parking bay on the western side of Broadstone Road to the south of the two private driveways. The properties within this area all have off-street car parking facilities. Whilst it is acknowledged that the joint driveway for no. 165 and 167 is narrow, both properties have garages and could stagger the parking in order to allow for vehicles to be parked for both properties. Should the scheme secure release of funding for construction the dropped kerb adjacent to 122-124 Broadstone Road would be extended to allow flexibility for future works to widen the driveway should this be something the owner wished to pursue.

- 3.5. The extension to the existing parking restrictions on Keswick Road and Briarfield Road is proposed to align with the extent of the raised table and would facilitate ease and safety of access to / from the shared cycle facility on approach to the Toucan Crossing.

Objection Theme 2

- 3.6. The proposals will devalue the immediate properties adjacent to the crossing.

Response

- 3.7. The following link provides information about compensation when a road affects property values: <https://www.gov.uk/compensation-road-property-value>. Residents may wish to take professional advice in consideration of making a claim.

Objection Theme 3

- 3.8. Why is the crossing deemed necessary when there are already pedestrian facilities elsewhere on Broadstone Road.

Response

- 3.9. This scheme has been developed in line with the Government's City Region Sustainable Transport Settlement (CRSTS) and Transforming Cities Funding. These are national investment funds to improve local transport networks, access for local businesses and organisations, and to help residents get to amenities in their communities. This element of the fund is allocated to schemes that reduce bus travel time and / or improve safety for bus users including better access to stops.
- 3.10. Broadstone Road is a strategic distributor road and therefore the necessary facilities need to be provided for pedestrians to cross the road safely. The closest controlled crossing in a northerly direction is over 500 metres away and c. 235 metres away to the south. Whilst it is acknowledged that there is an existing pedestrian refuge island located c. 70m to the north of Keswick Road it is not always practical for elderly or disabled pedestrians to use these.

4. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1. There are no financial implications arising from the recommendations in this report.

5. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1. The Council has a statutory duty to ensure that its highways operate safely for the safe passage of all traffic including pedestrians and powers to regulate and restrict traffic to assist in that duty.

6. REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATION

- 6.1. To comply with the Local Authorities' Traffic Orders, Regulations 1996 the Authority must consider all objections submitted during the consultation period of at least 21 days before 'Making' a Traffic Regulation Order.
- 6.2. The Committee should make a decision in respect of the objections received so that the scheme can be progressed and the Toucan Crossing on Broadstone Road with associated 'No Waiting at Any Time' restrictions and raised tables be introduced or abandoned.

7. ALTERNATIVES CONSIDERED

- 7.1. The alternative to the proposals laid out in this report is to continue with the current lack of restriction on the highway by not introducing the proposed traffic regulation orders.

8. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 8.1. It is recommended that the Heatons & Reddish Area Committee consider the comments in the report and provide approval for the orders to be made as advertised.
- 8.2. That objectors are informed of the decision.

Background Papers

Bus Pinch Points – Toucan Crossing, Broadstone Road / Keswick Road submitted to the Heatons & Reddish Area Committee held on 8th March 2023.

This can be viewed via the following link (Item 11):

<https://democracy.stockport.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=134&MId=28400&Ver=4>

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