ROTHERHAM BOROUGH COUNCIL - REPORT TO MEMBERS

| 1. | Meeting: | Economic and Development Services Matters |
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| 2. | Date: | 2 nd April 2007 |
| 3. | Title: | Report Receipt of Petition Requesting Improved Road Safety Measures and Results of Investigation A618 Main Street Aughton – Ward 6 - Holderness |
| 4. | Directorate: | Environment and Development Services |

5. Summary

To report receipt of and the results of an investigation into a petition with 482 signatures requesting improved road safety measures on A618 Aughton Road and Main Street, Aughton

6. Recommendations

Cabinet Member resolve that:

- i) The request for improved road safety measures be noted and that the current proposed road safety measures be monitored to ascertain their effectiveness.
- ii) The lead petitioner is informed of the proposed measures and the monitoring process thereafter.

7. Proposals and Details

A letter and petition has been received regarding Main Street Aughton. The petition, attached, contains 482 signatures. Both letter and front sheet of the petition are attached as Appendix A.

The letter / petition was presented by Mr Bird 12 Catherine Avenue, Aughton, to the Cabinet Member for Economic, Regeneration and Development Services at a recent Aston Cum Aughton Parish Council meeting. The petition requests improved road safety measures on the A618 Main Street / Aughton Road, Aughton.

The A618 runs in a North / South direction from the A57 to Rotherham Town Centre, a distance of approximately six miles. The section of road running through Aughton is subject to a 30mph speed limit. Mr Bird and the petitioners are requesting improved road safety measures along this length of road following a fatal accident involving an elderly pedestrian near to the junction of Hall Road in January 2007. Since this petition was generated a further fatality involving an elderly pedestrian has also occurred near to the junction of Beech Way in February 2007.

A review of the injury accident record along A618 Main Street / Aughton Road between Aston Lane B6067 and Rotherham Road B6053 (but not including the junctions), shows that there have been eight injury accidents within the last three years resulting in 10 slight casualties. Further analysis of these 10 casualties shows 1 pedestrian, 1 motorcyclist, 1 car passenger and 7 vehicle drivers were injured. The data provided is only available up to 31st December 2006.

As a result of previous investigations into road safety issues in Aston, Aughton and Swallownest a number of schemes have been derived to address some of the concerns in the area. One of these is Aughton Road / Main Street. Specifically the scheme involves construction of a zebra crossing near to the Aughton Early Years Centre and a further three central refuges located near to the junction of Westfield Avenue, Aughton Avenue and adjacent to the Wetherby Public House. This scheme is currently being implemented and therefore it is recommended that its effect on the injury accident record is monitored. This monitoring will take place 3, 6 and 12 months after completion of the scheme.

8. Finance

The scheme currently being implemented is being funded from the 2006/2007 LTP Integrated Transport Capital Programme.

9. Risks and Uncertainties

None.

10. Policy and Performance Agenda Implications

The recommendation is in line with objectives set out in the South Yorkshire Local Transport Plan, for improving road safety and facilities for vulnerable road users.

11. Background Papers and Consultation

In order to assist in the delivery of the first Local Transport Plan a programme was drawn up which set out a timetable for looking at and building road improvements, in each area of Rotherham, over a five year period. As part of this programme we have looked at traffic and road safety problems in the Aston, Aughton and Swallownest areas. As a result of this investigation we identified a need for improved pedestrian crossing facilities on the A618 Aughton Road.

The results of the survey into road safety and traffic problems were reported to the Cabinet Member and Advisors meeting for Economic and Development Services on 2 February 2004 (Minute No 263 refers)

South Yorkshire Police, South Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Service, South Yorkshire Passenger Transport Executive, The South Yorkshire Metropolitan Ambulance and Paramedic Service and Local Ward Members had no objections to the proposals.

A consultation letter was delivered to 226 households directly affected by the proposed scheme in October 2005. Of these 226 households 11 (4.9%) responded. From the 11 who responded 8 were broadly in favour of the scheme and 3 were against.

The results of this consultation exercise were reported to the Cabinet Member and Advisors meeting for Economic Regeneration and Development Services on 4th September 2006 (Minute No 83 refers)

Consultation with the Local Ward Members regarding the petition for improved road safety measures on the A618 through Aughton has taken place. No responses have been received at the time of writing

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