

## ROTHERHAM BOROUGH COUNCIL – REPORT TO MEMBERS

1.	<b>Meeting:</b>	<b>Town Centres, Economic Growth and Prosperity</b>
2.	<b>Date:</b>	<b>19 March 2012</b>
3.	<b>Title:</b>	<b>Proposal to remove Pelican Crossing – Worksop Road, Swallownest</b>
4.	<b>Directorate:</b>	<b>Environment and Development Services</b>

### 5. Summary

To inform Cabinet Member of objections received to a proposal to remove a Pelican Crossing at Worksop Road, Swallownest

### 6. Recommendations

**Cabinet Member is asked to resolve that**

- i. **That the objections to the removal of the pedestrian crossing are not acceded to**
- ii. **That the crossing be removed and replaced with a pedestrian refuge**
- ii. **That the objectors be informed accordingly**

### 7. Proposals and Details

Cabinet Member will recall that a resolution was made to the effect that when a controlled pedestrian crossing (Zebra, Pelican) reached end of life, an assessment should be undertaken to establish if it still meets the criteria for a controlled crossing. If the crossing no longer meets these criteria then it should be removed. (Minute 140 of 26/03/2010 refers)

The Pelican Crossing located on Worksop Road near its junction with Wesley Avenue has been in service for a number of years and is now in need of urgent refurbishment. Following an assessment it was found that it no longer met the criteria for a controlled crossing.

It was therefore proposed that the crossing be removed and replaced with a pedestrian refuge as shown on drawing No 126/17/TT177 attached as Appendix A.

As a result of public consultations 9 objections to the removal of the pelican crossing were received and these are summarised as follows:-.

- The crossing is regularly used by residents from the Wesley Avenue area (north side of Worksop Road) to access the Aston Joint Service Centre (health centre, Council contact centre and library) and Lodge Lane School
- There are well used bus stops on both sides of Worksop Road near to the crossing.
- It's alleged that residents of Egerton Road use the lights to get on to Worksop Road.
- There would be a reduction in the amount of parking available in the vicinity of the crossing. Some residents have no off street parking available
- A number of residents use an alley way between 118/120 Worksop Road to access the large housing estate to the south of Worksop Road and cross Worksop Road here.
- The crossing is regularly used by the elderly, disabled (some with mobility scooters) and the blind who would be disadvantaged by the removal of the crossing.

Copies of the objections will be available at the meeting.

It is accepted that, even though an assessment of the crossing indicated low pedestrian usage, a proposal to remove a Pelican crossing facility is likely to raise fears and concerns within the community. In view of the concerns raised during the consultation, a further pedestrian crossing assessment was carried out.

The survey showed the crossing did not meet the criteria with a modified PV2 value of 0.12. Whilst this was higher than the previous assessment (0.04), a value of 0.85 would be required to justify a controlled crossing.

Over a 12 hour period approximately 226 pedestrians used the crossing with 96 walking northbound and 130 southbound. Of these there were 173 adults, 1 child under 11 who was unaccompanied, 16 children under 11 accompanied by adults and 25 children over 11. Also there were 4 infirm pedestrians and 7 elderly pedestrians.

There is an alternative Controlled crossing near Lodge Lane School so pedestrians walking here from the north side of Worksop Road could do so close to Lodge Lane.

Pedestrian accessibility to the Joint Service Centre is of major importance. To this end a pedestrian refuge has recently been constructed near Manvers Road for the benefit of pedestrians approaching from the east. It is also planned to construct another refuge on Mansfield Road at its junction with Worksop Road. Proposals are also being developed to construct a further refuge at the end of Worksop Road near the Mansfield Road/High Street junction.

The proposed pedestrian refuge island including the wide central hatch area will provide right turning Lane into and out of both Wesley Avenue and Egerton Road which should assist turning manoeuvres at these junctions.

Concerns about the loss of parking are unfounded. If it was felt that waiting restrictions were necessary here, they would extend no further than the existing zig zags to the Pelican crossing which already prohibits parking.

Historically Worksop Road was part of the A57 Trunk Road and traffic levels will have reduced following the opening of the Aston Relief Road in 1986. There may have been a high number of pedestrians from the housing estate to the south of Worksop Road using the alley way between 118/120 Worksop Road. However an alternative high quality pedestrian route has been provided through the Service Centre grounds which is more likely be used by those heading towards the shopping facilities on High Street and the Comprehensive School at Aughton Road.

The proposed pedestrian refuge will be compliant with the needs of mobility impaired pedestrians. The crossing assessment criteria does take into account the number of such pedestrians using the crossing.

In view of this it the crossing should be removed and replaced with a pedestrian refuge.

#### **8. Finance**

The proposal will be funded from the traffic signal maintenance budget using savings from not refurbishing the Pelican Crossing apparatus

#### **9. Risks and Uncertainties**

None.

#### **10. Policy and Performance Agenda Implications**

The proposals are in line with objectives set out in the Third South Yorkshire Local Transport Plan.

#### **11. Background Papers and Consultation**

Appendix A – Drawing No 126/17/TT177

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