

Central Dudley Area Committee – 9th June 2009

Report of the Director of the Urban Environment

Highways Minor Works Capital Programme for 2009/2010

Purpose

1. To seek Committee's support for the proposed programmes of work for Local Safety Schemes, Safer Routes to School and Pedestrian Crossings within the Central Dudley Area for the 2009/2010 financial year.

Background

2. Following discussions between the Cabinet Member and Shadow Members of Transportation, Programmes of work for Local Safety Schemes, Safer Routes to School and Pedestrian Crossings for 2009/2010 were approved by the Cabinet Member for Transportation on the 18th. March 2009.
3. Appendices A, B and C attached to this report reflect those proposals that fall within this Committee's area
4. In terms of public consultation, schemes included within the Council's Minor Works Capital Programme are generally divided into two categories, namely:

i) **SCHEMES SUBJECT TO PUBLIC CONSULTATION**

Those schemes incorporating physical measures which will have a greater impact on local residents and/or property owners, such as traffic calming measures and Traffic Regulation Orders which may supplement schemes, are subject to Statutory advertisement and objection periods. Pedestrian Crossings are also subject to the publication of Statutory Notices of Intention to install such facilities.

However, in addition to any necessary Statutory Notices being advertised, the consultation process for schemes falling into this category will also provide for feedback from the local residents/frontagers who would be most directly affected by the proposals, the emergency services, bus operators and Local Ward Members.

ii) SCHEMES NOT SUBJECT TO PUBLIC CONSULTATION

Those schemes which do not include physical measures or Traffic Regulation Orders but may consist of, for example, a combination of road signs and markings, anti-skid/coloured surfacing or stand-alone speed camera initiatives.

Whereas schemes falling into this category would not involve a consultation exercise, it would still be normal practice to advise Local Ward Members prior to the commencement of any works on site.

5. A continuation of the principle to only carry out public consultation on schemes incorporating physical measures and/or Traffic Regulation Orders was endorsed by the Cabinet and 'Shadow' Cabinet Members for Transportation at their meeting on the 18th February 2009.
6. The proposals outlined in the Appendices attached to this report may be subject to minor variations, amendments or modifications arising as a result of the consultation/design process, for example, the location of speed humps.

Any variations or modifications resulting in a material or significant departure from the original scheme concept would be subject to the agreement of the Cabinet Member for Transportation in consultation with the Director of the Urban Environment.

7. Sustainable Transport

The contents of this report support the Council's Transport Policy by considering measures which could contribute to improved highway and pedestrian safety to the benefit of the local community.

Finance

8. The implementation of proposals outlined within this report can be funded under the respective budget heads of the approved 2009/2010 Highways Minor Works Capital Programme.

Law

9. Traffic Regulation Orders are made under powers contained in Section 1 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984.
10. Traffic signs are provided under powers contained in Section 64 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, subject to regulations made by the Secretary of State for Transport.


11. The Council is empowered to improve highways under Section 62 of the Highways Act 1980.
12. Guardrails may be provided under Section 66 of the Highways Act 1990.
13. Pedestrian crossing facilities are provided under powers contained in Section 23 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, subject to Regulations made by the Secretary of State.
14. Section 111 of the Local Government Act 1972 empowers the Council to do anything calculated to facilitate or is conducive or incidental to the discharge of any of its functions.
15. The Traffic Calming Act 1992 amends the Highways Act 1980 to allow works to be carried out to promote safety and to preserve or improve the environment.
16. The Highways Act 1980, as amended by the Road Traffic Act 1991 requires the installation of road humps to be advertised on-street and in the local newspaper for objections.

Equality Impact

17. The proposals contained within this report comply with the Council's Equality and Diversity Policy whilst also seeking to introduce measures that will be of direct benefit to children and some of the most vulnerable road users in the community including young children, the elderly, pedestrians, and those with impaired mobility.
18. The Council's Road Safety and Travel Awareness Officers liaise directly with School's Council's, which includes representatives from the schoolchildren themselves, in the preparation of School Travel Plans and the identification of measures that could be introduced as part of a Safer Routes to School initiative.

Recommendation

19. That the Area Committee support the proposed Local Safety Schemes, Safer Routes to School and Pedestrian Crossings initiatives outlined in Appendices A, B and C respectively.



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List of Background Papers

1. Capital Programme Decision Ref. No. 09/03 relating to the Local Transport Plan Integrated Transport Block Allocations for 2009/10 and 2010/2011.
2. Capital Programme Decision Ref. No. 09/04 relating to the proposed 2009/2010 programmes of work for Local Safety Schemes, Safer Routes to School and Pedestrian Crossings

APPENDIX A

LOCAL SAFETY SCHEMES

- | | | | |
|----|--|---|---|
| 1. | St Peter's Road, Netherton | - | Parking restriction TRO & investigate speed activated signage |
| 2. | Dudley Wood Road, Dudley Wood | - | Vertical Traffic Calming & mini-roundabouts |
| 3. | Wrens Nest Road, Dudley
(Maple Green to the Broadway) | - | Junction/bend highlighting |
| 4. | Salop Street/Highland Road, Dudley
(near Tesco) | - | Pedestrian refuge/anti-skid/
yellow box |
| 5. | Burton Road/The Broadway, Dudley | - | Reduce to single lane as per
northbound carriageway |
| 6. | Bower Lane/Saltbrook Road,
Quarry Bank | - | linked signalisation to existing
signals. |
| 7. | Watsons Green Road, Kates Hill,
Dudley | - | Anti-skid surfacing, lining &
signing |

SAFER ROUTES TO SCHOOL

- | | | |
|---|----------|---|
| 1. Highgate Primary School, Woodside | - | Investigate visual road width reduction and consider variable message signs |
| 2. Castle High School, Dudley | - | 5 minute limited waiting TRO for pick up and drop off only & footway widening by school gate in Priory Road. |
| 3. Kates Hill Primary School, Dudley | - | Investigate variable message signs |

PEDESTRIAN CROSSINGS

- | | | | |
|----|--|---|--|
| 1. | Stourbridge Road, Dudley
(near Wolverley Street) | - | Replace existing facility with full staggered Toucan crossing |
| 2. | Wellington Road, Dudley
(near to Swancote Road) | - | Replace 2 existing zebra crossings at Swancote Road, and Dock Lane with single puffin crossing |
| 3. | Stourbridge Road, Brierley Hill
(near to Avenue Road) | - | Replace existing traffic splitter with full pedestrian refuge |

Reserve Scheme

- | | | | |
|----|---|---|-----------------|
| 1. | Himley Road, Dudley
near to Hilly House PH | - | Puffin crossing |
|----|---|---|-----------------|

As some schemes may be delayed or modified as a result of the consultation process, approval has also been given to use any residual funding to progress/implement schemes shown on the reserve list.