

**ST OSWALD & NETHERTON & ORRELL AREA COMMITTEE**  
**SEFTON EAST PARISHES AREA COMMITTEE**

**Date of Meeting:** 13 MAY 2004  
20 MAY 2004

**Title of Report:** SWITCH ISLAND JUNCTION IMPROVEMENTS,  
IMPROVED PEDESTRIAN FACILITIES

**Report of:** P.A. Williams – Technical  
Services Director

**Contact Officer:**  
Dave Marrin 0151 934 4295

This report contains	Yes	No
<b>CONFIDENTIAL</b> Information/		√
<b>EXEMPT</b> information by virtue of paragraph(s)..... of Part 1 of Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act, 1972		√
Is the decision on this report <b>DELEGATED?</b>	√	

**Purpose of Report**

To advise Members of a proposal to amend footways around Switch Island and to seek approval for the introduction of two toucan crossings.

**Recommendation(s)**

It is recommended that:-

- i) The contents of this report be noted.
- ii) Sefton East Parishes Area Committee approve the introduction of two toucan crossings, the change to an unsegregated shared-use footway-cycleway on A59 Northway and support the proposal to close the footway to the east of Switch Island as outlined in the report.

## **Corporate Objective Monitoring**

<u>Corporate Objective</u>		<u>Positive Impact</u>	<u>Neutral Impact</u>	<u>Negative Impact</u>
1.	Creating a Learning Community		√	
2.	Creating Safe Communities	√		
3.	Jobs and Prosperity		√	
4.	Improving Health and Well-Being		√	
5.	Environmental Sustainability	√		
6.	Creating Inclusive Communities		√	
7.	Improving the Quality of Council Services and Strengthening local Democracy		√	
8.	Children and Young People		√	

## **Financial Implications**

The majority of the costs involved will be met by the Highways Agency. A contribution towards the pedestrian improvements will be made from the Sefton LTP Capital programme.

## **Departments consulted in the preparation of this Report:**

None

## **List of background papers relied upon in the preparation of this report**

None

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**SWITCH ISLAND JUNCTION IMPROVEMENTS,  
IMPROVED PEDESTRIAN FACILITIES**

**1.0 INTRODUCTION**

- 1.1 Switch Island is a vital hub in the local transport network of Sefton. The four routes (M57, M58, A5036 and A59) transfer up to 80,000 vehicles per day through the junction with heavy goods vehicles accounting for some 10% of the total flow. These traffic flows currently produce extensive queuing on the approaches to the signals which in turn leads to a higher risk of low severity traffic accidents.

Due to this capacity problem, the Highways Agency is examining junction improvements. Phase 1 was opened in November 1998 and was predicted to cater for traffic growth in the following 5 year period, and therefore queuing is once again being experienced at the junction.

**2.0 PROPOSALS**

- 2.1 Phase 2 of the junction improvements to Switch Island will be commenced in late 2004. The existing layout will be amended to improve the operation of the existing signal controlled junction, thus allowing the capacity of the junction to be increased, and hence reducing congestion and improving journey time reliability. The scheme is shown on drawing numbered CP1049/571/079.
- 2.2 The works will comprise junction improvements entirely within the existing highway boundary. This will include a new link road from the M57 to meet the A5036 Dunning's Bridge Road to A59 Northway section at a new signal-controlled junction, installation of new road lighting and traffic signal upgrades including associated changes to road markings, traffic signs and drainage where necessary.
- 2.3 The existing footway/cycleway round the western side of the island will be improved, including realignment adjacent to the carriageway and the provision of two new Toucan crossings (one on Northway and one on Ormskirk Road). The existing footway to the eastern side of the island will be closed as it is felt that this route which crosses both the M58 and M57 does not provide a safe route for pedestrians and cyclists.
- 2.4 The details of the scheme include
- ◆ New Toucan crossing on A59 Ormskirk Road
  - ◆ Improvements to/realignment of existing footway/cycleway on western side of carriageway;

- ◆ Existing footway on north-eastern carriageway to be stopped up from Asda walkway round eastern side of Switch Island to Northway
- ◆ New Toucan crossing on A59 Northway
- ◆ Existing kerbs on approach from A59 Ormskirk Road to circulatory carriageway to be realigned
- ◆ Existing footway to west of A59 Northway to be amended to unsegregated shared-use footway/cycleway for length from Moor Hey Brook to proposed toucan crossing on A59 Northway.

2.5 This will provide benefits to the public and local residents as follows:

- ◆ Improved pedestrian/cycle facilities to/from Asda superstore and in general;
- ◆ Fully signal-controlled pedestrian/cycle facility from Netherton to Maghull, and vice versa.

2.6 Whilst the proposals lie mainly within the area of the Sefton East Parishes Area Committee they are adjacent to the boundary of the St Oswalds, Netherton and Orrell Area Committee, hence the report is also presented to this Area Committee for information.

### **3.0 Recommendations**

3.1 It is suggested that members support the proposals of the Highways Agency to close the footway to the east of Switch island and that: members approve the introduction of two new Toucan crossings and the change to an unsegregated shared-use footway-cycleway on A59 Northway.

**P A Williams**  
**Technical Services Director**



# ATKINS



- key
- New edge of carriageway
  - New toucan crossing
  - Existing footway surfacing to be removed
  - ▼ Prohibition of pedestrians entering footway which will no longer be in use.

**Notes**  
 This drawing accompanies permanent Traffic Regulation Orders regarding proposed toucan crossings on the A59 Northway, between Switch Island and Dover Road, and on the A59 Ormskirk Road, adjacent to Asda superstore, and the proposed stopping up of the footway round the east of the junction.

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**Project**  
 M57 SWITCH ISLAND JUNCTION IMPROVEMENTS  
**Title**  
 TRAFFIC REGULATION ORDER  
 -PEDESTRIAN/CYCLE FACILITIES

Scale	Drawn	ATG	Checked	RMM	Authorised	AJP
1:20000	Date	04/04	Date	04/04	Date	04/04
Drawing Number						CP1049/571/079
Rev						-

Client	Information	AJP	Date	Rev	Description	By	Date	Chk'd	Auth
ATKINS	Information	AJP	04/04	—					

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