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Sefton Council

MEETING: LICENSING AND REGULATORY (URGENT REFERRALS) COMMITTEE

DATE: Tuesday 28th July, 2020

TIME: 1.00 pm

VENUE: REMOTE MEETING

Member	Substitute
Councillor John Kelly (Chair)	Councillor Carragher
Councillor Keith	Councillor Dodd
Councillor Brenda O'Brien	Councillor Friel

COMMITTEE OFFICER: Ruth Appleby
Democratic Services Officer
Telephone: 0151 934 2181
E-mail: ruth.appleby@sefton.gov.uk

If you have any special needs that may require arrangements to facilitate your attendance at this meeting, please contact the Committee Officer named above, who will endeavour to assist.

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A G E N D A

1. Apologies for Absence FIELD_PAGE_RANGE

2. Declarations of Interest FIELD_PAGE_RANGE

Members are requested at a meeting where a disclosable pecuniary interest or personal interest arises, which is not already included in their Register of Members' Interests, to declare any interests that relate to an item on the agenda.

Where a Member discloses a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest, he/she must withdraw from the meeting room, including from the public gallery, during the whole consideration of any item of business in which he/she has an interest, except where he/she is permitted to remain as a result of a grant of a dispensation.

Where a Member discloses a personal interest he/she must seek advice from the Monitoring Officer or staff member representing the Monitoring Officer to determine whether the Member should withdraw from the meeting room, including from the public gallery, during the whole consideration of any item of business in which he/she has an interest or whether the Member can remain in the meeting or remain in the meeting and vote on the relevant decision.

3. Minutes FIELD_PAGE_RANGE

Minutes of the meeting held on 18 December 2020

4. Great Georges Road Walking and Cycling Improvements FIELD_PAGE_RANGE

Report of the Head of Highways and Public Protection

5. Bootle Town Hall - Approval of Premises for the Conduct of Marriages and Civil Partnerships FIELD_PAGE_RANGE

Report of the Chief Legal and Democratic Officer

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THIS SET OF MINUTES IS NOT SUBJECT TO "CALL-IN"

LICENSING AND REGULATORY (URGENT REFERRALS) COMMITTEE

MEETING HELD AT THE MEMBERS' ROOM 1 - TOWN HALL, BOOTLE ON 18 DECEMBER 2019

PRESENT: Councillor John Kelly (in the Chair)
Councillors Keith and Brenda O'Brien

10. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

No apologies for absence were received.

11. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No declarations of any disclosable pecuniary interests or personal interests were received.

12. MINUTES

RESOLVED:

That the Minutes of the meeting held on 14 August 2019 be confirmed as a correct record.

13. TAXI LICENSING FEES

Further to Minute No. 19 of the meeting of the Licensing and Regulatory Committee held on 9 September 2019, the Committee considered the report of the Head of Highways and Public Protection seeking approval for an adjustment to the fees and charges for Taxi Licensing Services in 2020.

The need for an adjustment to the fees agreed on 9 September 2019 had arisen because of objections to the proposed fee increases received from 2 representatives from the Hackney Carriage Trade as detailed in Appendix 2 to the report.

Mr Terry Wood, Environmental Health and Licensing Manger, presented the report and advised Members that the objections were about two main issues – namely,

- A recent judicial review judgment in the case of Rehman v Wakefield City Council; and
- Release of insufficient financial detail to justify the proposed increase.

Mr Wood indicated that following receipt of the objections, the fee charges had been adjusted in consultation with the objectors and other

representatives from the Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Trade, with significant additional financial information provided to justify the proposed increase, as detailed in Appendices 4-10 of the report.

Mr Wood advised that an appeal against the judgment by Wakefield City Council as outlined in paragraphs 6 to 8 of the report had now been heard and the judgment released on 10 December 2019. Wakefield had lost their appeal and this judgment had brought some further clarity to the wider fees issue, as detailed in Late Representations.

RESOLVED:

That the proposed uplift in fees to address the estimated shortfall in income and to fund increased enforcement activity as set out in the report, effective from 2 January 2020, be approved.

Report to:	Licensing and Regulatory (Urgent Referrals) Committee	**Date of Meeting:**	28 July 2020
Subject:	Great Georges Road Walking and Cycling Improvements		
Report of:	Head of Highways and Public Protection	**Wards Affected:**	Church;
Portfolio:			
Is this a Key Decision:	No	**Included in Forward Plan:**	No
Exempt / Confidential Report:	No		

Summary:

To seek Members' approval for the implementation of the Great Georges Road Walking and Cycling Scheme.

Recommendation(s):

It is recommended that the Head of Highways and Public Protection be authorised to implement the following modifications to the highway:

(1) Segregated cycle infrastructure along the length of Great Georges Road, Waterloo.

(2) Improvements to the pedestrian and cycle crossing point at 5 Lamps Junction Waterloo.

(3) Installation of raised tables at the junctions along Great Georges Road.

(4) Installation of crossing point to Crosby Coastal Park for people walking and cycling.

Reasons for the Recommendation(s):

Licensing and Regulatory Committee have powers to consider the outcome of consultation and the resultant proposals in respect of the making of traffic regulation orders, details of improvements to highways and cycle routes and can approve the scheme as proposed or with minor amendments but otherwise must refer the scheme to the Cabinet Member

Alternative Options Considered and Rejected: (including any Risk Implications)

None. The measures proposed form a key element of the walking and cycling networks in the local area and for longer journeys connecting north and south of the borough.

What will it cost and how will it be financed?

(A) Revenue Costs
None

(B) Capital Costs
The scheme will be delivered as part of the LCR Local Growth Fund STEP (Sustainable Transport Enhancement Package) Initiative (scheme 8) for which a budget of £1,786k was established. This budget however, has also funded other works within the corridor. An allocation of £683k will therefore be utilised from STEP with a further allocation of £267k from the Integrated Transport Block Grant to fully fund this scheme, bridge maintenance and repair works for the structure which carries the A565 over the railway.

Implications of the Proposals:

Resource Implications (Financial, IT, Staffing and Assets): None
Legal Implications: None
Equality Implications: The scheme has positive equality implications as the provision of segregated cycling facilities provides a low cost means of transport to a wider section of the community, younger people, older people and those who are new to cycling.

Contribution to the Council's Core Purpose:

Protect the most vulnerable: By creating a viable and connected cycling network this will facilitate safe and efficient travel for those caring for the most vulnerable in our community.
Facilitate confident and resilient communities: To improve walking and cycling network in the local area and offer the opportunity to a wider section of the community an alternative method of travel to public transport and private car for shorter journeys.
Commission, broker and provide core services: n/a
Place – leadership and influencer: To improve the liveability of the area by promoting walking and cycling in the local area and beyond.

Drivers of change and reform: n/a
Facilitate sustainable economic prosperity: By encouraging local journeys on foot and by bike.
Greater income for social investment: n/a
Cleaner Greener: Supports sustainable travel; leisure and utility walking and cycling connecting waterloo to the wider Active Travel network.

What consultations have taken place on the proposals and when?

(A) Internal Consultations

The Executive Director of Corporate Resources and Customer Services (FD6048/20) and the Chief Legal and Democratic Officer (LD4231/20) have been consulted and any comments have been incorporated into the report.

(B) External Consultations

Immediately following the Committee / Council meeting.

Contact Officer:	Lee Victoria Davies
Telephone Number:	
Email Address:	lee.davies@sefton.gov.uk

Appendices:

The following appendices are attached to this report:

Appendix A The Scheme Design
Appendix B The Consultation Leaflet
Appendix C The Final Scheme Design

Background Papers:

There are no background papers available for inspection.

1. Introduction/Background

1.1 The Council completed a study, some years ago, entitled the A565 Route Management Strategy, which aimed at identifying the issues along the corridor which contributed to congestion for motorists at peak periods and difficulties for pedestrians and cyclists. The report identified a series of potential improvement measures at many of the key junctions along the route and this in turn led to a number of projects being included within the Council's Transport Capital Programme. The most recently completed scheme was the modification to the junction of Crosby Road South with South Road and Haigh Road. This involved the acquisition of land in order to provide some localised widening to ease traffic flow and improve crossing points. The scheme was completed in 2017.

1.2 The Route Management Strategy identified the Five Lamps junction as a source of congestion during the morning and afternoon peak hours. It also identified the junction as having a record of accidents, poor air quality and poor facilities for pedestrians and cyclists. Further studies of the junction identified the frequent and sometimes sudden change of lanes as drivers traveling straight on move lanes to avoid vehicles turning right into Bramhall Lane. It was also noted that cyclists experienced some difficulty accessing the existing controlled crossing point over the A565

1.3 There is the intention to create an inland cycling and walking link through Crosby Coastal Park, which would avoid the problems with blown sand on the seafront path. Works at the 5 lamps junction provide an opportunity for enhancing the pedestrian and cycle crossing over the A565 and to provide measures on Great Georges Road to create an segregated cycle link along the length of road. This scheme will improve walking and cycling links from Crosby Coastal Park to Bootle and Litherland via the enhanced walking and cycling crossing over the A565.

2. The Scheme Design

2.1 The scheme was designed to provide a safe, segregated cycle facility along the length of Great Georges Road and provide an enhanced pedestrian environment by removing clutter and the provision of raised tables at the junctions. The scheme was also designed to address the problems identified with crossing the A565 Crosby Road North. The scheme design (**Appendix A**) which was subject to consultation has the following key features:

- Improved pedestrian and cyclists crossing at 5 lamps junction
- Linked with the above is the removal of the left turn out of Great Georges Road onto A565
- The introduction of one way traffic flow for vehicles at the side roads
- A two-way segregated cycle route along the length of Great Georges Road
- The provision of a safe pedestrian and cycle crossing at the junction with Marine Terrace to access Crosby Coastal Park
- Raised tables at the side road junctions to offer an at grade walking experience
- The reduction of street clutter, including redundant signs, bollards, and guard railings

3.0 The Consultation

3.1 The consultation took the form of an information booklet **(Appendix B)** and an online consultation questionnaire on the corporate Your Sefton Your Say website. Both the information booklet and the online questionnaire were subject to scrutiny by our Information Advocates to ensure they met our information standards.

3.2 The consultation went live on Monday 3rd February and closed on Monday 2nd March. There were 3 drop in events as follows:

- Crosby Lakeside Adventure Centre – Tuesday 4th February 5pm until 8pm
- Waterloo Community Centre – Thursday 6th February 11 am until 2pm
- Crosby Library – Friday 6th February 12 noon until 4pm

3.3 In addition to the drop in events people could look at detailed plans and fill in a paper copy of questionnaire at Crosby Library.

4.0 Consultation Results

4.1 There were 60 responses to the consultation and two personal letters (both of which were received after the closing date but the content will be taken into account) There was a further 1 paper response which was submitted after the closing date.

4.2 68% of the respondents lived in the area and were mostly aged between 50 and 69. Younger people were not represented in the responses, there were no respondents who were under 18 and only 3% were between 18 and 29. There was an equal split of males and females in the responses. 6% of the respondents considered themselves as having a disability.

4.3 68% of the respondents identified as living in the area and 46% of the respondents travel by car as a driver or passenger. 20% of respondents travel by bicycle or bike/rail and 18% on foot. In relation to the drop in sessions, attendees mainly identified as living on Great Georges Road.

4.4 The responses to the questions are as follows:

How you usually travel

- 32 (53%) people described their usual travel mode as by car driver and car passenger
- 11 (18%) people travelled by foot
- 12 (20%) people cycled or travelled by bike & rail.
- 5 (8%) people travelled by bus

What do you think about our ideas to make Great Georges Road easier to walk along and cross the side roads?

- 33 people (55%) said they were very or fairly happy
- 10 people (17%) said they didn't know or were undecided
- 17 people (28%) said they were not very happy or not happy at all.

What do you think about our ideas for a separate cycle lane along Great Georges Road?

- 28 people (47%) said they were very or fairly happy.
- 12 people (20%) said they didn't know or were undecided.
- 20 people (33%) of people said they were not very happy or not happy at all.

What do you think about our ideas to make it easier to get to Crosby Coastal Park by including a shared crossing point for people walk and cycling at the junction with Marine Terrace?

- 33 people (55%) said they were very or happy
- 8 people (13%) said they didn't know or were undecided
- 19 people (32%) said they were not very happy or not happy at all.

What do you think about our ideas to change the way the traffic will move around the side roads?

Raised tables at the side roads (similar to the picture below)

- 31 people (52%) said they were very or fairly happy
- 12 people (20%) said they didn't know or were undecided
- 15 people (25%) said they were not very happy or not happy at all
- 2 people (3%) did not provide an answer.

Making the side roads one way only for traffic (similar to the picture below)

- 27 people (45%) said they were very or fairly happy
- 11 people (18%) said they didn't know or were undecided
- 21 people (35%) said they were not very happy or not happy at all
- 1 person (2%) did not provide an answer.

Narrowing the entrances of the side roads

- 28 people (47%) said they were very or fairly happy
- 9 people (15%) said they didn't know or were undecided
- 21 people (35%) were not very happy or not happy at all
- 2 people (3%) did not provide an answer

Do nothing and leave them as they are

- 23 people (38%) said they were very happy or fairly happy
- 13 people (22%) said they were undecided
- 20 people (33%) said they were not very happy or not happy at all
- 4 people (7%) did not provide an answer.

What do you think about our ideas to have parking on one side of Great Georges Road?

- 27 people (45%) said they were very or fairly happy
- 12 people (20%) said they were undecided or didn't know
- 21 people (35%) said they were not very happy or not happy at all.

What do you think about our ideas to improve the shared crossing for people walking and cycling at Five Lamps / A565 Crosby Road North

- 27 people (45%) said they were very or fairly happy
- 16 people (27%) said they were undecided or didn't know
- 17 (28%) people said they were not very happy or not happy at all.

What do you think about our ideas to only allow traffic to turn right out of Great Georges Road junction onto the A565 Crosby Road North?

- 22 people (37%) said they were very or fairly happy
- 13 people (22%) said they didn't know or were undecided
- 23 people (38%) were not very happy or not happy at all
- 2 people (3%) did not answer*Overall What do you think of our ideas?*
    - 31 people (52%) said they were very or fairly happy
    - 6 people (10%) were undecided or didn't know
    - 23 people (38%) said they were not very happy or not happy at all.

4.5 Generally, the scheme was well received as demonstrated by the answer to the overall approval question:

Overall What do you think of our ideas?

- 31 people (52%) said they were very or fairly happy
- 6 people (10%) were undecided or didn't know
- 23 people (38%) said they were not very happy or not happy at all

4.6 Merseyside Police, Emergency Fire & Rescue and North West Ambulance Service were consulted. The response from Merseyside Police is as follows:

On behalf of Merseyside Police I am unable to support the proposals due to the proposed removal of the left hand turn out of Great Georges Road onto A565 Crosby Road North. Whilst Merseyside Police are in support of highways upgrades or changes that improve the safety of all road users I am unable to support this change.

- *North Response & Resolution are based at Crosby Police Station and are responsible for attending 999 emergency calls in the Sefton area. As a result there are up to 40 officers on duty at any time. Whether officers are heading out on patrol or responding to an emergency call they need to be able to turn left and right when exiting Great Georges Road onto A565 Crosby Road North.*
- *Access/egress to the police station is via the entrance situated on Great Georges Road opposite Walmer Road. This entrance has had security enhancements in recent years and the gates open and close automatically to allow police vehicles to pass through them. This entrance is controlled by a key code and has an intercom and CCTV capability.*
- *Crosby Police Station is located on Alexandra Road and has a vehicle access gate this has not be in use for many years. It is only used as a contingency and requires manual operation and does not have the facility to be operated remotely. Therefore using this entrance is not an alternative.*

I do not have any objections to the proposed changes to Walmer Road becoming a One Way; proposed footways & cycleways. Raised tables at the junctions do not hinder our patrols.

4.7 Merseyside Fire and Rescue and North West Ambulance Service responded with no objections.

5.0 Response to Issues Raised

There are several issues which emerged from the comments sections on the questionnaire, the consultation drop in sessions and internal consultation with Council Officers. The issues were centred around residential parking, the left hand turn out of Great Georges Road, the location of the crossing to improve access to Crosby Costal Park and the location of the cycle route.

1. *The reduction of on street parking along Great Georges Road was a concern of many residents we spoke to during the events and it features as a key theme in the consultation returns.*

   Our initial findings indicated there would be enough kerbside space to accommodate parking demand for residents and their visitors along one side of Great Georges Road. Most residencies along Great Georges Road have access to off street parking. However, there are a very small number of properties that we know of who do not have off street parking. Residents were very concerned that the scheme would reduce parking and not leave enough for residents to park.

   Given the current situation with COVID-19 and the likelihood traffic patterns will take a considerable time to return back to pre COVID-19 levels, it is suggested that the scheme continues as planned. However, parking surveys will be completed when traffic patterns return to normal and allow consideration to be given to whether non residential traffic is impacting on available parking. This data will be used to review whether mitigation measures are appropriate to mitigate the loss of on street parking resulting from the creation of the cycle lane. Any measures, which could include consideration of a residents parking scheme, will developed later in 2020 and may be delivered as part of, or after the scheme.

2. *The removal of the left hand turn when travelling from Great Georges Road to A565 was a great concern for a small number of residents who advised they regularly make this traffic manoeuvre.*

   Banning the left turn manoeuvre unlocks many benefits for pedestrians, cyclists and vehicle drivers travelling towards Crosby and to Liverpool. There are a small number of residents who advised they regularly make this manoeuvre. Merseyside Police have advised they cannot support the removal of the left hand turn as outlined in Section 3.0. Therefore, the final design will allow for left hand turning traffic out of Great Georges Road onto the A565.

3. *The positioning of the pedestrian and cycle crossing to access Crosby Coastal Park.*

   The Conservation Officer raised issues relating to the positioning of the crossing. This has been amended from the initial design. The scheme will also be subject to a Road Safety Audit.

4. There was also a feeling amongst residents that the cycle route should run along Cambridge Road.

Cambridge Road is an advisory cycle route and it links route 810 to the shared use path long the A565 which continues past the Port of Liverpool to the City. Cambridge Road is far narrower and would not offer the opportunity to provide a high level of provision for cyclists or offer an easy link to Rimrose Valley and the canal.

6.0 The Final Scheme Design

6.1 The final scheme design **(Appendix C)** has been adjusted to take account of the results of the public consultation stakeholder engagement. There have been two changes to the design as shown in table A.

Table A

Scheme design	Final scheme design	Reasoning
Left hand turn manoeuvre for vehicles removed onto A565 Crosby Road North	Left hand turn and right hand turn manoeuvres for vehicles onto A565 Crosby Road North retained.	Design modified due to results of the consultation.
Crossing point to Crosby Coastal Park situated on the corner of Marine Terrace	Crossing point repositioned on Great Georges Road.	Due to conservation and resident concerns.

Recommendation(s):

It is recommended that the Head of Highways and Public Protection be authorised to implement the following modifications to the highway:

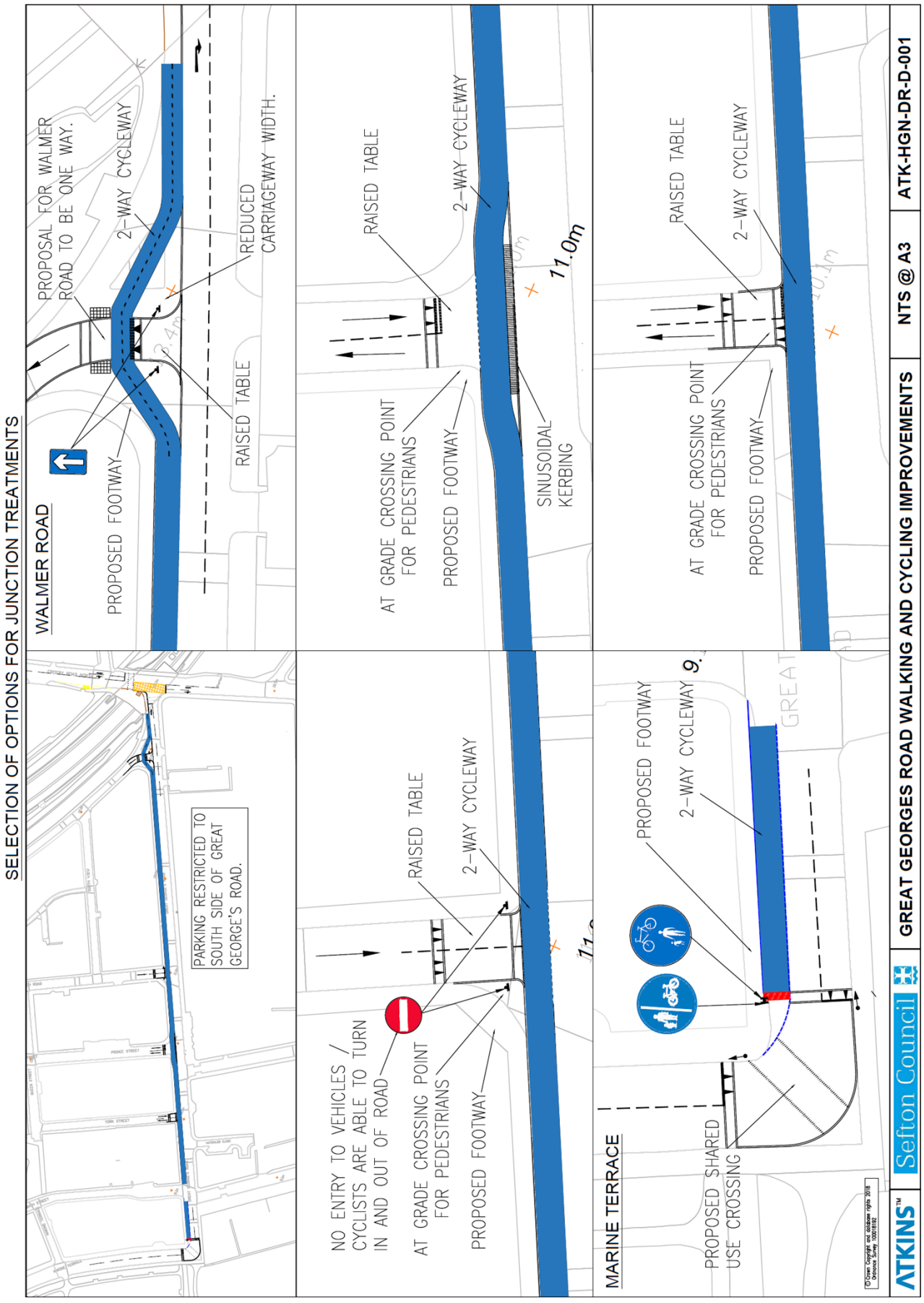
(1) Segregated cycle infrastructure along the length of Great Georges Road, Waterloo

(2) Improvements to the pedestrian and cycle crossing point at 5 Lamps Junction Waterloo

(3) Installation of raised tables at the junction along Great Georges Road, subject to TRO process being completed

(4) Installation of crossing point to Crosby Coastal Park for people walking and cycling

Appendix A The Scheme Design



Appendix B The Consultation Leaflet

We are seeking your views on our ideas to improve your local streets. We are looking at the length of Great Georges Road and the junction with the A565 known as 'Five Lamps' in Waterloo. We want to make the area an enjoyable place for everyone.

Background

In July 2019, Sefton Council declared a Climate Change Emergency. This declaration commits the Council to reduce carbon emissions to net zero by 2030. The Council recognises that business as usual is no longer an option and that we all need to make changes to reduce our carbon emissions. Road transport is a large contributor to carbon emissions and also air pollution. The 2019 Public Health Annual Report on Air Quality identifies road transport as a major contributor to poor air quality in Sefton.

One way of helping us meet our carbon reduction target and to improve air quality is to encourage people to walk and cycle rather than use their cars. We want to make an environment where walking and cycling is more enjoyable, fun and the best way to travel.

Great Georges Road

Our ideas include improving footways so that you can walk along the length of Great Georges Road at the same level. A separate cycleway from cars using the road would make it a safe route for family cycling. For these ideas to happen we would need to change the way the side roads work by making some of the side roads entry or exit for cars only. People walking or cycling would still be able to enter and exit all the side roads. This will make the junctions safer for everyone.

Five Lamps Crossing

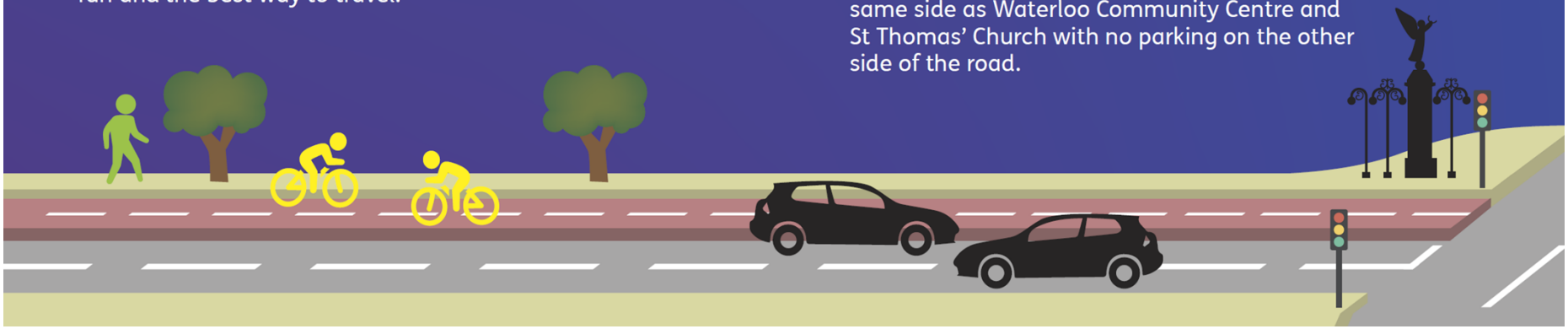
Our ideas include making the crossing point safer for people walking and cycling by providing them with more space and time to cross.

Trees

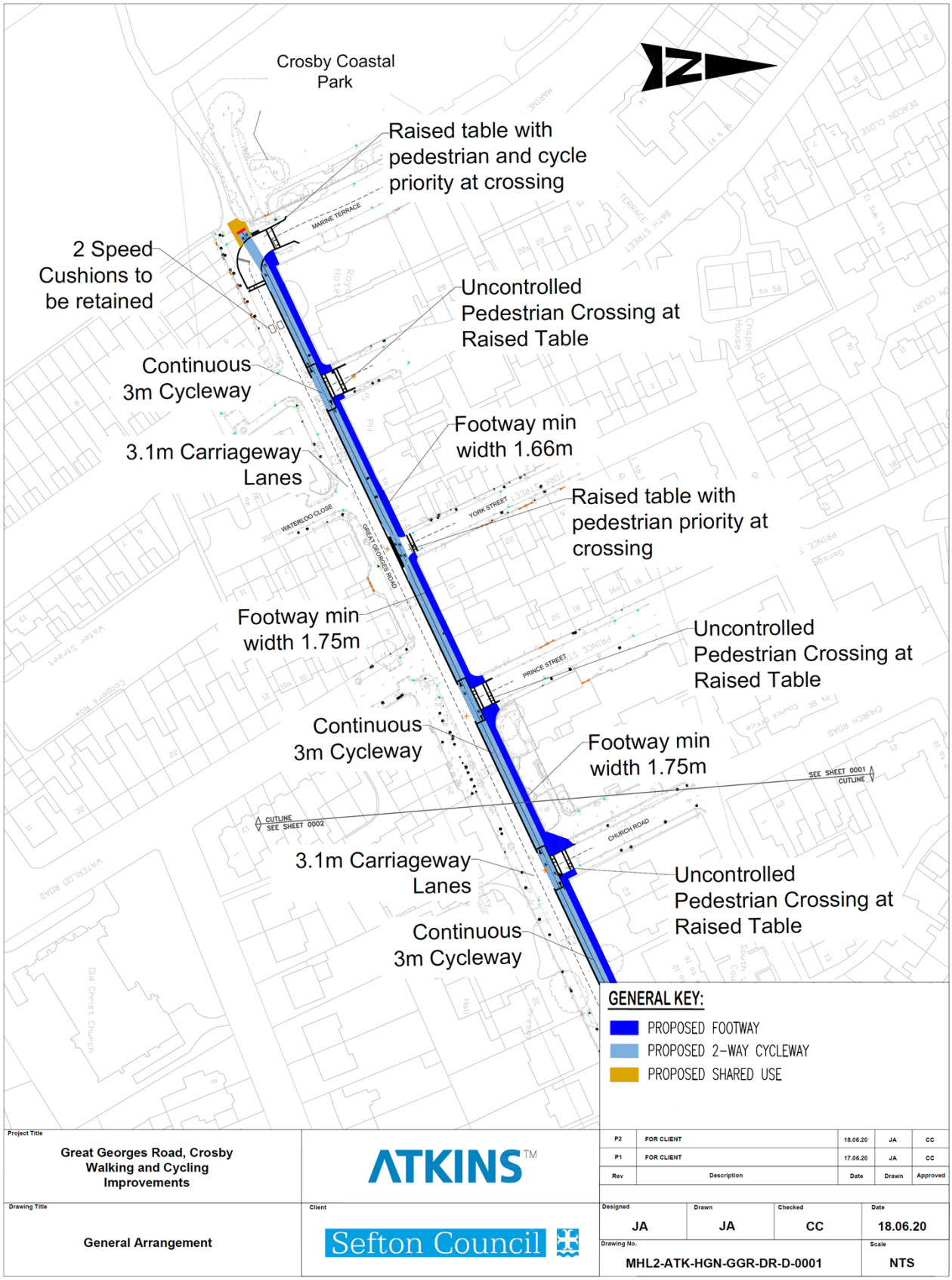
Our ideas include planting more trees along the street. The number of new trees will depend on the amount of space under the footway that is free from gas, electricity and telecommunications cables. The number and location of the trees will be worked out as we develop our ideas.

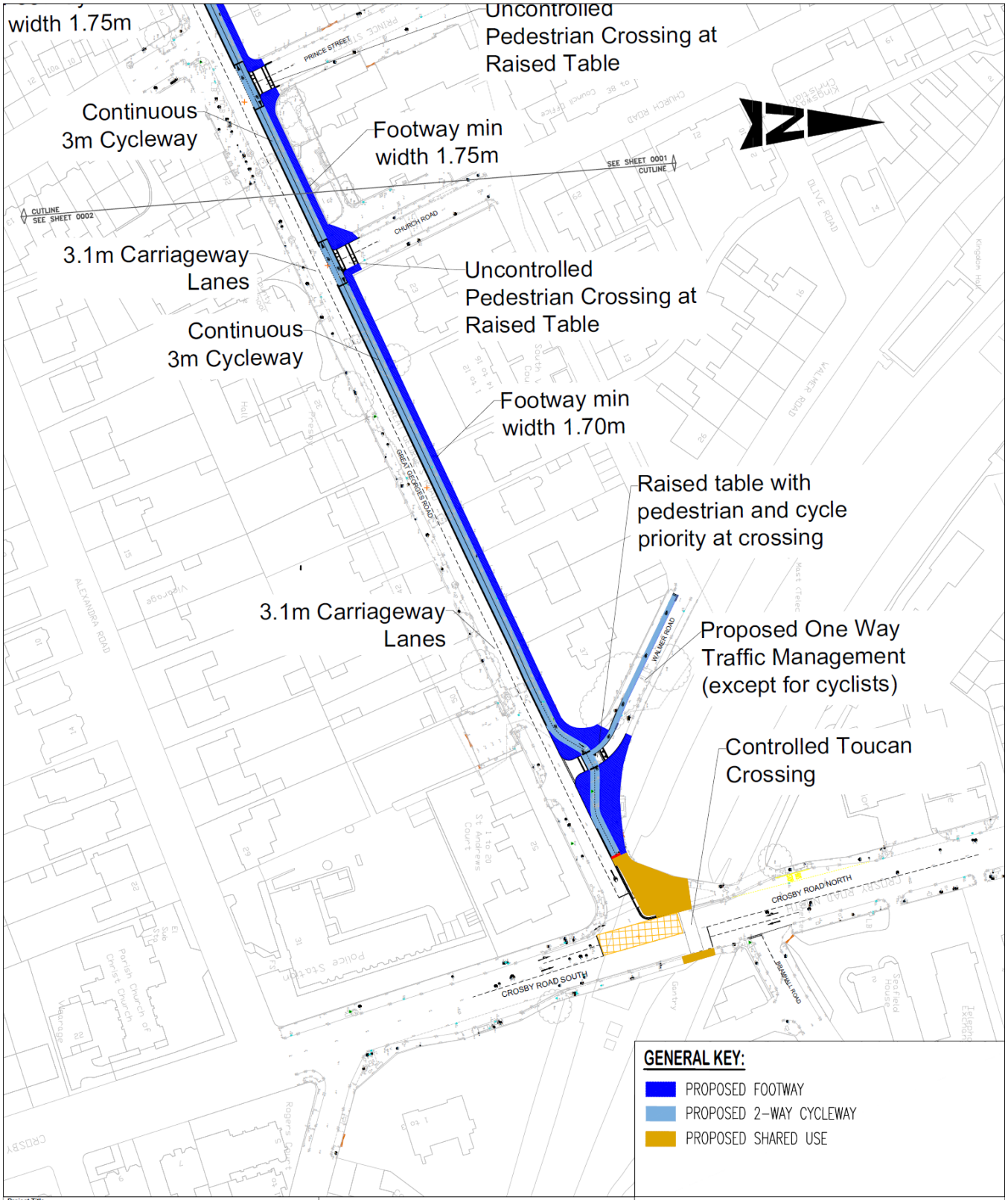
Car parking

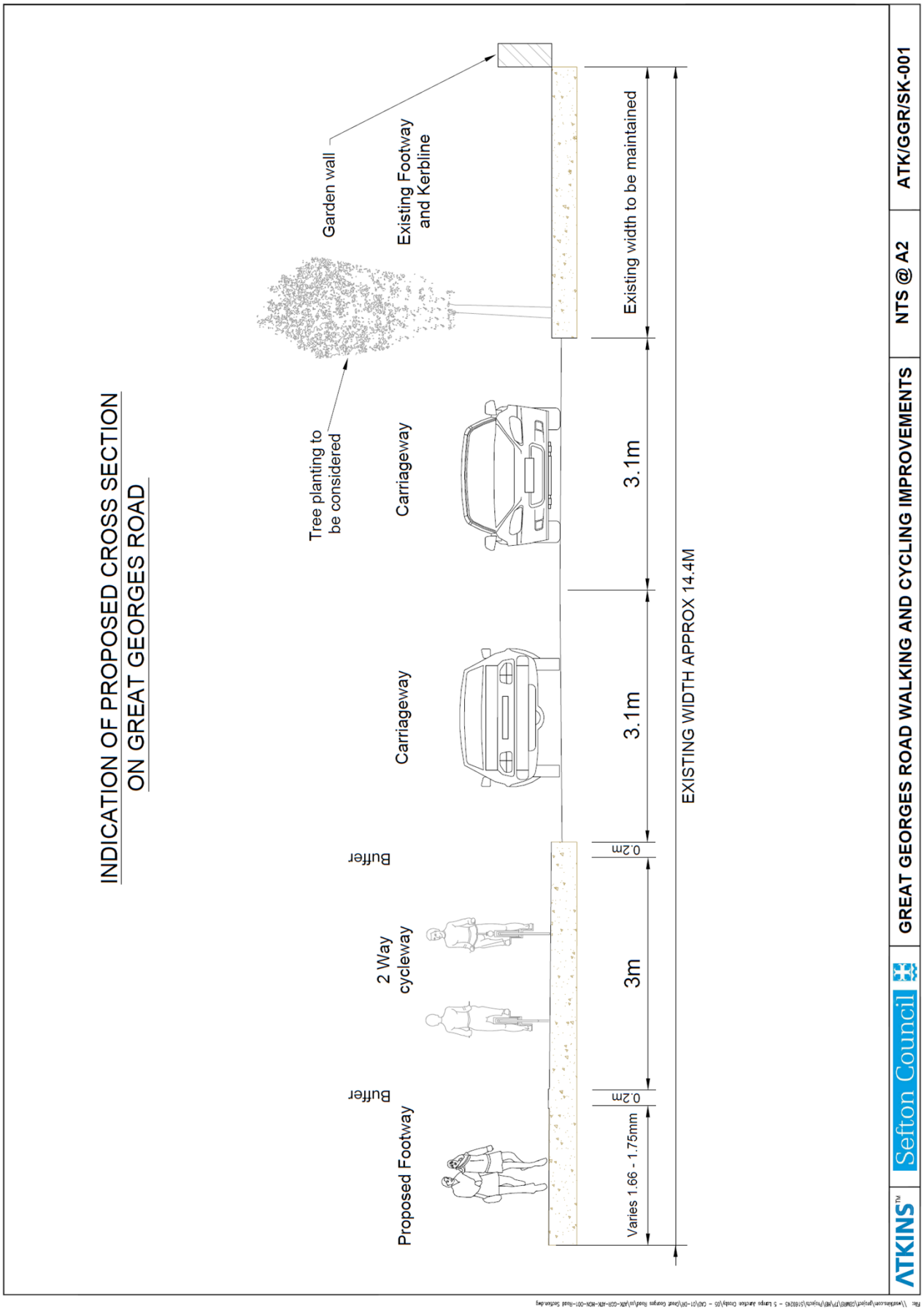
To make room for our ideas we need to change the way cars park on Great Georges Road. Our ideas are to make parking available only on the same side as Waterloo Community Centre and St Thomas' Church with no parking on the other side of the road.



Appendix C - The Final Scheme Design




width 1.75m
Uncontrolled Pedestrian Crossing at Raised Table
Continuous 3m Cycleway
Footway min width 1.75m
SEE SHEET 0001 CUTLINE
CUTLINE SEE SHEET 0002
3.1m Carriageway Lanes
Uncontrolled Pedestrian Crossing at Raised Table
Continuous 3m Cycleway
Footway min width 1.70m
Raised table with pedestrian and cycle priority at crossing
3.1m Carriageway Lanes
Proposed One Way Traffic Management (except for cyclists)
Controlled Toucan Crossing
PRINCE STREET
CHURCH ROAD
GREAT GEORGES ROAD
WALMER ROAD
CROSBY ROAD NORTH
CROSBY ROAD SOUTH
GENERAL KEY:
PROPOSED FOOTWAY
PROPOSED 2-WAY CYCLEWAY
PROPOSED SHARED USE
Project Title
Great Georges Road, Crosby Walking and Cycling Improvements
ATKINS
P1 FOR CLIENT 18.06.20 JA CC
Rev Description Date Drawn Approved
Drawing Title
General Arrangement
Client
Sefton Council
Designed JA
Drawn JA
Checked CC
Date 18.06.20
Drawing No. MHL2-ATK-HGN-GGR-DR-D-0002
Scale NTS


INDICATION OF PROPOSED CROSS SECTION
ON GREAT GEORGES ROAD
Garden wall
Existing Footway and Kerbline
Tree planting to be considered
Carriageway
Carriageway
Buffer
2 Way cycleway
Buffer
Proposed Footway
Existing width to be maintained
3.1m
3.1m
0.2m
3m
0.2m
Varies 1.66 - 1.75mm
EXISTING WIDTH APPROX 14.4M
ATKINS
Sefton Council
GREAT GEORGES ROAD WALKING AND CYCLING IMPROVEMENTS
NTS @ A2
ATK/GGR/SK-001

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Report to:	Licensing and Regulatory (Urgent Referrals) Committee	**Date of Meeting:**	Tuesday 28 July 2020
Subject:	Approval of Premises for the Conduct of Marriages and Civil Partnerships		
Report of:	Chief Legal and Democratic Officer	**Wards Affected:**	(All Wards);
Portfolio:			
Is this a Key Decision:	No	**Included in Forward Plan:**	No
Exempt / Confidential Report:	No		

Summary:

- To add the Assembly Room, Ballroom and Committee Room to the existing licence for Bootle Town Hall.

Recommendation(s):

That the Assembly Room, Ballroom and Committee Room be added to the current licence for Bootle Town Hall. The current licence will expire on 30th September 2022 at which time it will need to be renewed.

Reasons for the Recommendation(s):

To increase the number of larger rooms on the licence for Bootle Town Hall to enable ceremonies to safely take place under social distancing measures due to the Covid-19 pandemic.

Alternative Options Considered and Rejected: (including any Risk Implications)

N/A

What will it cost and how will it be financed?

(A) Revenue Costs-no cost to authority

(B) Capital Costs -N/A

Implications of the Proposals:

Resource Implications (Financial, IT, Staffing and Assets): **N/A**
Legal Implications: Application for the approval of premises for marriages and civil partnerships may be made to the local authority under the Marriages and Civil Partnerships Approved Premises Regulations 2005/3168 [as amended]
Equality Implications: There are no equality implications.

Contribution to the Council's Core Purpose:

N/A

Protect the most vulnerable:
Facilitate confident and resilient communities:
Commission, broker and provide core services:
Place – leadership and influencer:
Drivers of change and reform:
Facilitate sustainable economic prosperity:
Greater income for social investment:
Cleaner Greener

What consultations have taken place on the proposals and when?

(A) Internal Consultations

The Executive Director of Corporate Resources and Customer Services (FD6069/20) and the Chief Legal and Democratic Officer (LD4252/20) have been consulted and any comments have been incorporated into the report.

(B) External Consultations

N/A

Implementation Date for the Decision

Immediately following the Committee meeting.

(Please delete as appropriate and remove this text)

Contact Officer:	Paula Unsworth
Telephone Number:	
Email Address:	paula.unsworth@sefton.gov.uk

Appendices:

There are no appendices to this report.

Background Papers:

There are no background papers available for inspection.

1. Introduction/Background

The law requires that civil marriages and civil partnerships may only be conducted at licensed venues and the licensing of such venues is the responsibility of the Local Authority. The regulations require specific rooms/spaces to be designated for such purposes and only those rooms /spaces can be used for conducting civil marriages/partnerships.

1.2 An application has recently been received from Bootle Town Hall to add the Assembly Hall, Ballroom and Committee Room to their current licence

1.3 This application has been assessed by Sefton's Registration Officers. The premises have been inspected and conform to all the guidelines issued to Local Authorities by the General Register Office, (the statutory government department).

1.4 Approval of the application is recommended.

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