

Report to:	Licensing and Regulatory Committee	Date of Meeting:	Monday 6 September 2021
Subject:	Crossing Improvements, Weld Road, Shore Road junctions with Coastal Road		
Report of:	Head of Highways and Public Protection	Wards Affected:	Ainsdale; Dukes;
Portfolio:	Cabinet Member Locality Services		
Is this a Key Decision:	N	Included in Forward Plan:	No
Exempt / Confidential Report:	N		

Summary:

To seek Members' approval for the implementation of crossing improvements to the junctions of Weld Road and Shore Road with the Coastal Road in Birkdale and Ainsdale.

Recommendation(s):

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

- (1) Amendment to the Geometry and Improved Crossing facilities at the junction of Weld Road and the Coastal Road in Birkdale
- (2) Amendments to the Geometry and improved crossing facilities at the junction of Shore Road and the Coastal Road in Ainsdale.

Reasons for the Recommendation(s):

The proposed crossing points form a key part of the Transpennine Trail. Provision of improved crossing points at these locations will improve safety for users of the Transpennine Trail and facilitate sustainable access to the Coast.

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

The crossings could be introduced at the Shore Road roundabout without the changes to carriageway alignment, but it was considered that a reduction in approaching traffic was essential to make the crossing points as safe and desirable to users as possible.

What will it cost and how will it be financed?

(A) Revenue Costs

(B) Capital Costs

The cost of the crossing improvements will be met from the £300k allocation for Coastal Road Improvements within the 2021/2 Transportation Capital Programme.

Implications of the Proposals:

Resource Implications (Financial, IT, Staffing and Assets): None	
Legal Implications: None	
Equality Implications: There are no equality implications.	
Climate Emergency Implications: The recommendations within this report will	
Have a positive impact	Y/N
Have a neutral impact	Y/N
Have a negative impact	Y/N
The Author has undertaken the Climate Emergency training for report authors	Y/N
The improved crossing points are aimed at providing a safer environment for pedestrians and cyclist with the hope that this will encourage greater use of the Transpennine Trail and visits to the coast using non-motorised forms of transport. This will help reduce carbon output and hence Climate Change.	

Contribution to the Council’s Core Purpose:

Protect the most vulnerable: Not applicable
Facilitate confident and resilient communities: Improve conditions for pedestrians and cyclists

Commission, broker and provide core services: Not applicable
Place – leadership and influencer: Enhances the local environment by promoting alternative modes of travel. Improves access to the Coast
Drivers of change and reform: Not applicable
Facilitate sustainable economic prosperity:
Greater income for social investment: Not applicable
Cleaner Greener: Supports sustainable travel, particularly walking and cycling.

What consultations have taken place on the proposals and when?

(A) Internal Consultations

The Executive Director of Corporate Resources and Customer Services (FD.6506/21) and the Chief Legal and Democratic Officer (LD.4707/21) have been consulted and any comments have been incorporated into the report.

(B) External Consultations

There are no directly affected residents, therefore no direct external consultations have been undertaken for the improved crossing points at these locations. As both locations are situated adjacent to Sites of Special Scientific Interest, Merseyside Environmental Advisory Service will be consulted over any site specific restrictions before construction takes place.

Implementation Date for the Decision

Immediately following the Committee meeting.

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Appendices:

There are no appendices to this report

Background Papers:

There are no background papers available for inspection.

1. Introduction/Background

- 1.1 Improvements to the cycle path alongside the Coastal Path, which forms part of the Transpennine Trail were undertaken during the Spring/ Summer of 2020. These involved widening the path between Weld Road and the Railway Bridge just north of Pinfold Lane, through replacing stone drainage medium between the cycle path and main carriageway and surfacing it with a porous material consisting of primarily recycled tyres. As the laying of this material is temperature dependent, it was not possible to complete the works before the winter of 2020 and due to completing road works and a desire to keep the Coastal Road open during the Summer tourist season these works will be completed in September 2021.
- 1.2 The project has been funded by the Combined Authority through the Sustainable Urban Development fund and due to revised working practises has been delivered within budget. It is proposed to use the residual budget to complete the scheduled works in September and to undertake additional works to improve crossing facilities at the Coastal Road junctions of Weld Road and Shore Road.
- 1.3 Resurfacing of the Shore Road and Weld Road roundabout junctions with the Coastal Road have been identified as part of the 2021/2 Highway Maintenance Programme and it would be appropriate to undertake both improvements at the same time in order to minimise disruption.

2 Weld Road/ Coastal Road Roundabout

- 2.1 As shown on Drawing No DES-JA1465-LRC-001 (Annex A), it is proposed to undertake the following
 - Tighten the Marine Drive entry and exit lanes
 - Narrow the southbound circulatory lane from Marine Drive through to the Coastal Road
 - Narrow the Weld Road entry and exit lanes

This will improve visibility for pedestrians/ cyclists crossing these arms of the junction and reduce vehicle entry/ exit speeds from the junction to facilitate easier crossing of the roads in accordance with the latest design standards.

3 Shore Road/ Coastal Road Roundabout

- 3.1 As shown on Drawing No DES-JA1465-LRC-002 (Annex B), it is proposed to undertake the following
 - Tighten the Shore Road westbound entry and exit lanes of the junction
 - Narrow the southbound circulatory lane
 - Narrow the northbound circulatory lane after the Ainsdale Beach turn-off
 - Tighten the Coastal Road northbound entry and exit lanes of the junction
 - Introduce a zebra crossing on the Shore Road west arm of the junction utilising the wide central island to improve crossing facilities

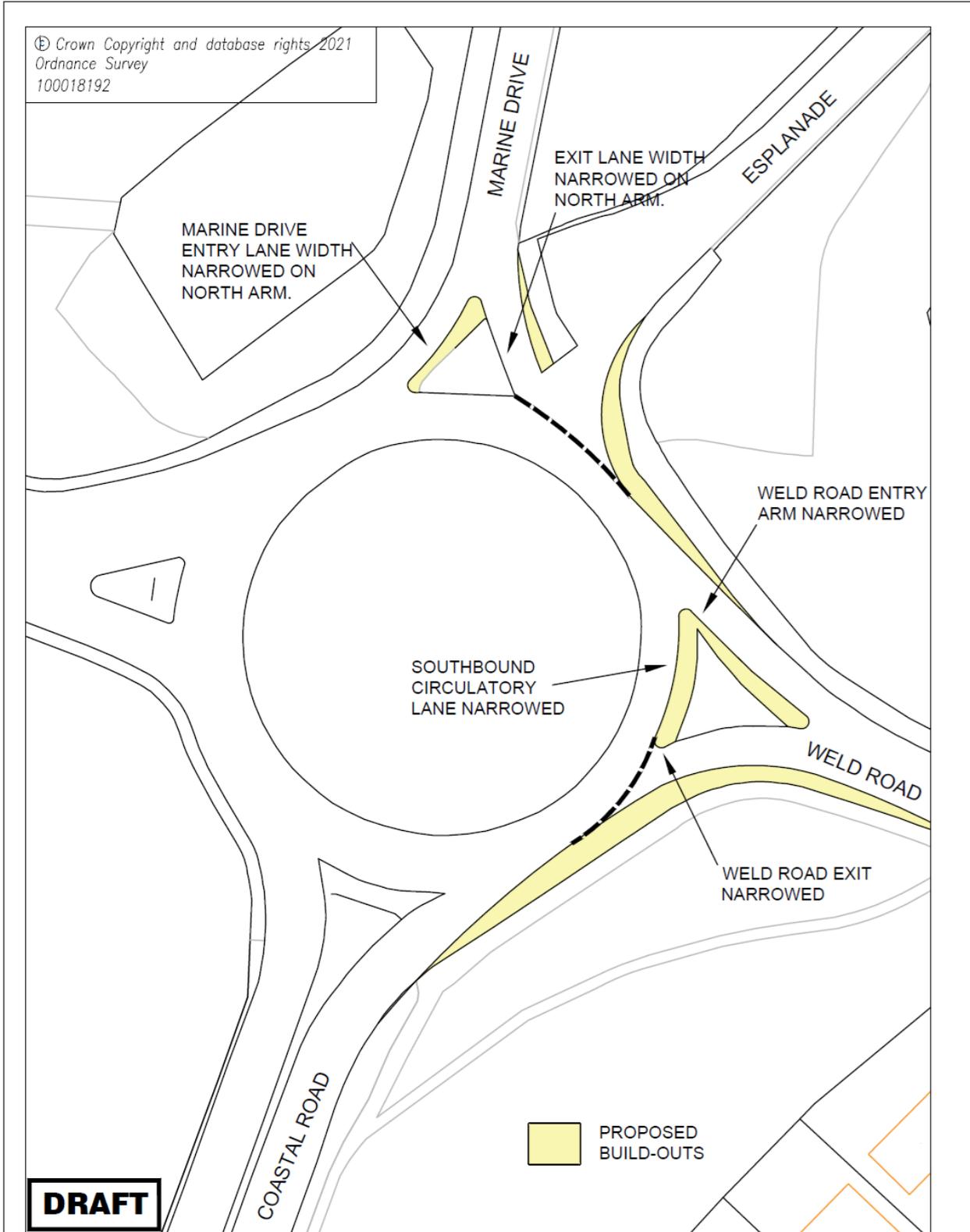
This will improve visibility for pedestrians/ cyclists crossing these arms of the junction and reduce vehicle entry/ exit speeds from the junction to facilitate easier crossing of the roads in accordance with the latest design standards.

4 Recommendations

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

- (a) Amendment to the geometry and Improved Crossing facilities at the junction of Weld Road and the Coastal Road in Birkdale
- (b) Amendments to the geometry and improved crossing facilities at the junction of Shore Road and the Coastal Road in Ainsdale.

Annex A



Scheme
**COASTAL ROAD
CROSSING IMPROVEMENTS**

Drawing Title
**WELD ROAD ROUNDABOUT
SCHEMATIC GENERAL LAYOUT**

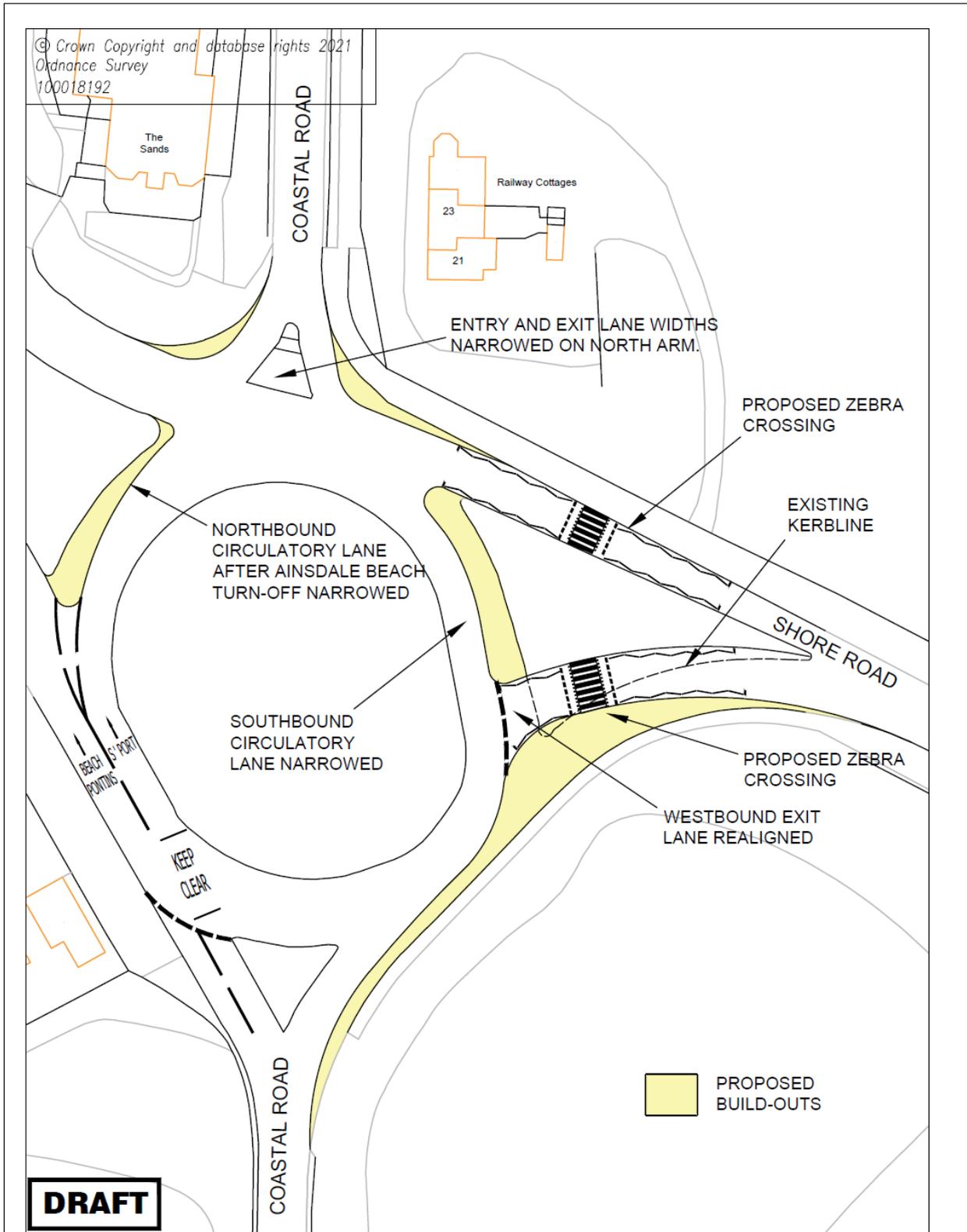
Sefton Council

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LOCALITY SERVICES - COMMISSIONED

Rev	Description	Date	Drawn	Approved
Designed AE	Drawn AE	Checked	Date AUG 21	
Drawing No. DES-JA1465-LRC-001			Rev	Scale NTS@A4

Annex B



Scheme
COASTAL ROAD CROSSING IMPROVEMENTS

Drawing Title
SHORE ROAD ROUNDABOUT SCHEMATIC GENERAL LAYOUT

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