

<b>Report to:</b>	Licensing and Regulatory Committee	<b>Date of Meeting:</b>	Monday 7 September 2020
<b>Subject:</b>	A59 Northway - receipt of petition		
<b>Report of:</b>	Head of Highways and Public Protection	<b>Wards Affected:</b>	Park;
<b>Portfolio:</b>			
<b>Is this a Key Decision:</b>	No	<b>Included in Forward Plan:</b>	No
<b>Exempt / Confidential Report:</b>	No		

**Summary:**

To report the receipt of an on-line petition, requesting the provision of pedestrian crossing facilities at the junction of A59 Northway and Kenyons Lane.

**Recommendation(s):**

- (1) That Members note the contents of the petition;
- (2) That Members note the proposal to include the upgrade of the junction in future programmes;
- (3) That the lead petitioner be informed of these recommendations.

**Reasons for the Recommendation(s):**

To improve road safety at the junction of A59 Northway and Kenyons lane.

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

None

**What will it cost and how will it be financed?**

**(A) Revenue Costs**

Nil

**(B) Capital Costs**

None at this stage.

**Implications of the Proposals:**

<b>Resource Implications (Financial, IT, Staffing and Assets):</b>
None
<b>Legal Implications:</b>
None
<b>Equality Implications:</b>
There are no equality implications.

**Contribution to the Council’s Core Purpose:**

Protect the most vulnerable: Any future alterations to the traffic signal controlled junction will include a Pedestrian phase to assist pedestrians crossing each leg of the junction.
Facilitate confident and resilient communities: N/A
Commission, broker and provide core services: N/A
Place – leadership and influencer: N/A
Drivers of change and reform: N/A
Facilitate sustainable economic prosperity: N/A
Greater income for social investment: N/A
Cleaner Greener N/A

**What consultations have taken place on the proposals and when?**

**(A) Internal Consultations**

The Executive Director of Corporate Resources and Customer Services (FD6101/20) and the Chief Legal and Democratic Officer (LD4293/20) have been consulted and any comments have been incorporated into the report.

**(B) External Consultations**

None

## **Implementation Date for the Decision**

Immediately following the Committee / Council meeting.

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## **Appendices:**

There are no appendices to this report

## **Background Papers:**

There are no background papers available for inspection.

## **1.0 Introduction**

- 1.1 An online petition has been received by officers, relating to a request for a signalised Pedestrian Crossing on Northway, at its junction with Kenyons Lane.
- 1.2 The petition generated 300 electronic signatures from all over the UK, including Isle of Man, Jersey and Cork. 47 stated that they were residents of Maghull or Lydiate, although other 'Liverpool' signatories commented that they used the crossing whilst visiting friends and relatives.
- 1.3 Various comments have been made by some of the signatories on the petition, and these are shown as Annex A. Names have been removed under data protection regulations.

## **2.0 Discussion**

- 2.1 Currently, the junction is controlled by traffic signals, with uncontrolled pedestrian crossings across Northway, on the northerly side of the junction. This enables pedestrians to cross to the central reservation when Northway traffic (southbound) have stopped. Crossing the opposite carriageway would be more problematic as pedestrians would have to cross in the intergreen period between Kenyons Lane traffic being stopped on a red light and before northbound traffic on Northway started off.
- 2.2 Members should be aware that correspondence has previously been received, from residents and via a Ward Member, requesting the installation of a Pedestrian phase within the existing traffic signals at this location.
- 2.3 Requests for new pedestrian crossing facilities are normally dealt with via the Council's Annual Pedestrian Crossing Review. This is a process for prioritising all requests, to ensure that the site(s) which have the highest number of pedestrians and traffic are treated first. On average, we have sufficient funding to provide one new Crossing per year.
- 2.4 In order for a pedestrian crossing to be justified at any requested location, vehicle and pedestrian surveys are undertaken. These surveys are carried out between 8am and 6pm on a weekday during the school term, which is when both traffic and pedestrian flows can be expected to be at their highest level. The results are then calculated for each hour using the Department for Transport (DfT) formula  $PV^2$ , where P represents the number of pedestrians crossing the road and V represents the number of vehicles travelling along the road. An average of the 4 highest hourly figures are taken, which must exceed  $0.2 \times 10^8$  for the provision of a refuge,  $0.5 \times 10^8$  for a Zebra, or  $1.0 \times 10^8$  for a Puffin or Pedestrian phase within Traffic signals.
- 2.5 The junction at Kenyon's lane was assessed in 2016 and the four highest hours (predictably) were 8-9, 9-10, 3-4 and 4-5. During these four hours, an average of 28 pedestrians crossed Northway, with 1132 vehicles passing on Northway. This gave a  $PV^2$  value of 0.36 which is insufficient to justify a new Crossing out of the Pedestrian Crossing allocation contained within the Capital Programme.
- 2.5 Whilst the new Crossing cannot be accommodated from the Capital Programme, it is fully accepted that difficulties crossing the northbound leg of the junction can be exacerbated if drivers turning right from Kenyons Lane, waiting in the middle of the junction, are being held up by drivers exiting Kenyons Lane after their signal has turned to red. This then reduces the intergreen period available for pedestrians to cross this side of Northway.

### **3.0 Accident Record**

- 3.1 In the latest 3 year period, there have been 3 recorded collisions, involving rear end shunts on the approach to the traffic signals. All resulted in slight injuries. There have been no recorded injuries to pedestrians in the last 30 years.

### **4.0 Proposal**

- 4.1 It has been recognised for a number of years that whilst the A59 Northway provides a massively important strategic link into Sefton and Merseyside, it also creates a huge barrier for all categories of road users travelling between Lydiate and Maghull. Both Sefton and the Liverpool City Region Combined Authority (LCRCA) are therefore striving to improve linkages between the two communities, whilst improving capacity on the A59.
- 4.2 Several schemes within Maghull have already been completed, having been funded from sources other than Sefton's Capital Programme, the largest of these being the creation of two new slip roads onto the M58 at junction 1, allowing access to and from Maghull and Switch Island.
- 4.3 This has linked in with a number of grant applications being made to the Liverpool City Region Combined Authority (LCRCA) on the basis of improving access along the A59 and into Maghull, especially given the anticipated increase in traffic arising from the proposed housing development on land east of Maghull and other Local Plan allocations in the area. The first successful grant application related to the Northway/Dover Road junction, which was aimed at greatly improving capacity and reducing congestion at this key junction to the north of Switch Island. This junction was completed early in 2020 and work on the Damfield Lane junction is currently being planned.
- 4.4 In relation to the housing developments, the Planning process requires officers to ensure that all traffic and pedestrian movements generated from the development will be able to be made to Northway in a safe manner and any reasonable changes to the highway would be funded by the developers via commuted sums. There is a Local Plan allocation housing site on Kenyons Lane and any potential developer of that site will be required to fund the creation of a second approach lane on Kenyons Lane (west of the A59) and incorporate a pedestrian phase into the lights. The new lane is a Local Plan stipulation and the pedestrian phase has always been a transport requirement to make the site acceptable in sustainable transport terms. However, at present, there is no certainty about when that site would be developed.
- 4.5 Further grant applications will be made this year to the LCRCA to supplement contributions from the developer to ease traffic movements at all of the remaining junctions on Northway. Kenyons Lane will be included in this process as it potentially gives pedestrian and cycling access to the new developments, linking in with schools to the west of Northway.
- 4.6 As with all grant applications, officers will attempt to extract as much benefit as possible for residents, by including solutions to as many existing 'problems' as we can justify, even though it may not currently meet the criteria for funding from Sefton's own resources.

## **5.0 Summary**

- 5.1 It is fully accepted that crossing this junction without the aid of dedicated push button facilities can be difficult and intimidating for pedestrians and officers are currently attempting to fund an upgrade of the junction using developer and LCRCA funding.
- 5.2 This will be vital to cater for additional traffic generated by the new housing developments and to reduce congestion and collisions along the A59, which forms part of the City Region's newly designated Key Route Network.
- 5.3 Members will be appraised of outcomes as matters progress throughout the year.

### Comments from Petitioners

Maghull, England, UK 2020-07-07 "Nightmare of a crossing"

Liverpool, England, UK 2020-07-07 "As a disabled resident I risk my life crossing this area to get buses to and from vital appointments. While pregnant and as a mum with a young family it is impossible to cross without fear."

Lydiate, England, UK 2020-07-07 "St Thomas School is on Kenyons Lane and many pupils have to cross there in order to get to and from school and it is dangerous - an accident waiting to happen."

Liverpool, England, UK 2020-07-07 "Totally agree, we need this crossing to be safe"

Maghull, England, UK 2020-07-07 "This is such a dangerous junction. It's not clear where you should position your car."

Liverpool, England, UK 2020-07-07 "I feel a crossing is definitely required here not only for when children are crossing for school but also other people when they are out. The cars speed down here and it's an awful road."

Lydiate, England, UK 2020-07-07 "I agree either everything listed. To wait for a death is terrible, the implications of the family who will lose someone should far outweigh adding assisted crossing or something similar."

Liverpool, UK 2020-07-07 "My grandchildren have to cross here. It's so dangerous."

Liverpool, England, UK 2020-07-07 "My children cannot walk to school as I am too worried about them crossing this road alone."

Liverpool, England, UK 2020-07-07 "I live in the area, have children, and it makes no sense why there would not be a safe way to cross such a busy road"

Lydiate, England, UK 2020-07-07 "I cross this road everyday with my daughter to get to school. It's a very dangerous crossing."

Formby, England, UK 2020-07-07 "Clearly a very dangerous and confusing situation"

Liverpool, UK 2020-07-07 "I have crossed this road for nearly 10 years and had so many near misses from speeding cars, confusing traffic lights and just so much bad driving at this crossing something needs to be done. Lets not wait until someone gets hurt or worse."

Liverpool, UK 2020-07-07 "Very dangerous, needs crossing"

Lydiate, England, UK 2020-07-07 "My children cross this road"

Mobberley, England, UK 2020-07-07 "I have very elderly parents that live in maghull any extra help crossing roads is most welcome"

Maghull, England, UK 2020-07-07 "This is a very dangerous crossing near my daughters primary school."

UK 2020-07-08 "It's a dangerous junction."

Liverpool, England, UK 2020-07-08 "Always been a hazardous crossing . Thanks for arranging this petition"

Ormskirk, England, UK 2020-07-08 "Dual carriageway. Populated area. Safety for all. Surprised no lollipop person but there are schools on both sides of A59."

Lydiate, England, UK 2020-07-08 "Because I walk there and it's dangerous"

Liverpool, England, UK 2020-07-08 "It will make it safer for everyone"

Liverpool, England, UK 2020-07-08 "Only a matter of time before someone is killed."

Runcorn, England, UK 2020-07-08 "I have witnessed a lot of dangerous driving along this road on several occasions whilst visiting my sister"

Liverpool, England, UK 2020-07-09 "Can get really busy around school time"

Liverpool, UK 2020-07-10 "There is a clear need for a safe pedestrian crossing."

Maghull, Merseyside, England, UK 2020-07-10 "To make this a safer crossing"

Liverpool, England, UK 2020-07-10 "I regularly use this route & feel it is dangerous for pedestrians at both sides."

Maghull, England, UK 2020-07-10 "Lives matter ! It is a dangerous junction/main roads to attempt to cross"

Lydiate, England, UK 2020-07-10 "It needs to be made safer for children and their families to cross such a busy road?"

Southport, England, UK 2020-07-10 "To protect those crossing"

Liverpool, England, UK 2020-07-11 "My daughter crosses over here from the bus and my heart is my mouth until I know she's safely over. I see how people speed there, anyone crossing there wouldn't stand a chance at those speeds"

Liverpool, England, UK 2020-07-12 "Living in L31 ,I use this junction all the time ,albeit as a motorist, but realise how dangerous it is for pedestrians, when the new M58 junction eventually opens it will be even busier"

Lydiate England, UK 2020-07-13 "I believe that crossing here is not safe"

Liverpool, England, UK 2020-07-14 "Anybody crossing this road is at serious risk to being run over, cars are always speeding through this area and you have to cross the road safely. Please put in a crossing, please reduce the speed limit from 60 to 40. I live on the corner of Dodds and Northway which is 40 and the majority of cars passing through from maghull to ormskirk slapped through as if they were already in a 60 zone."

Lydiate, England, UK 2020-07-17 "I live in Lydiate, my daughter has had a serious accident at this junction and there will be plenty more, it's an absolute death trap!"