

Report to:	Licensing and Regulatory Committee	Date of Meeting:	Monday 7 September 2020
Subject:	Park Lane West – Proposed Zebra Crossing		
Report of:	Head of Highways and Public Protection	Wards Affected:	Netherton and Orrell;
Portfolio:			
Is this a Key Decision:	No	Included in Forward Plan:	No.
Exempt / Confidential Report:	No		

Summary:

To inform Members of the results of the public consultation on the proposal to introduce a zebra crossing on Park Lane West.

Recommendation(s):

It is recommended that the zebra crossing as detailed in this report be approved.

Reasons for the Recommendation(s):

To upgrade the existing uncontrolled crossing to a controlled crossing.

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

No alternative options considered

What will it cost and how will it be financed?

- (A) Revenue Costs**
None

(B) Capital Costs

All costs associated with the introduction of the zebra crossing, will be funded from the Netherton & Orrell S106 allocation. The costs for the works are estimated at £17,000.

Implications of the Proposals:

Resource Implications (Financial, IT, Staffing and Assets): All costs associated with the introduction of the zebra crossing, will be funded from the Netherton & Orrell S106 allocation. The costs for the works are estimated at £17,000.
Legal Implications:
Equality Implications: There are no equality implications

Contribution to the Council's Core Purpose:

Protect the most vulnerable: yes
Facilitate confident and resilient communities: yes
Commission, broker and provide core services: no
Place – leadership and influencer: no
Drivers of change and reform: no
Facilitate sustainable economic prosperity: no
Greater income for social investment: no
Cleaner Greener yes

What consultations have taken place on the proposals and when?

(A) Internal Consultations

Sefton's Highway Safety Team have been consulted and have no comments on the report.

The Executive Director Corporate Resources and Customer Services has been consulted and notes the report indicates all costs associated with the introduction of the traffic calming features, amounting to £17,000, will be funded from the Netherton & Orrell S106 allocation (FD 6099/20)

The Chief Legal and Democratic Officer (LD4281/20.) has been consulted and has no comments on the report.

(B) External Consultations

Residents directly affected

Contact Officer:	Andrew Evans
Telephone Number:	0151 934 3159
Email Address:	Andrew.evans@sefton.gov.uk

Appendices:

The following appendices are attached to this report:

- Annex A: Consultation Letter
- Annex B: Extents of letter drop

Background Papers:

There are no background papers available for inspection.

1. Introduction/Background

Background

- 1.1 Ward Councillors requested an upgrade of the existing uncontrolled crossing into a zebra crossing.
- 1.2 The works will involve the removal of the existing island together with the bollards and beacon and replace this with a zebra crossing, belisha beacons with associated zig-zag markings. The location of the new zebra will be in the same location as the existing crossing. The two speed cushions will remain however the locations will be adjusted slightly to either side of the zebra crossing. The two mature trees located on either side of the road will also remain
- 1.3 The measures are being introduced to provide a safer crossing point for pedestrians

2.0 CONSULTATION RESULTS

- 2.1 A consultation letter containing an A4 plan was hand delivered to selected properties on Park Lane West, Leonard Cheshire Drive and Pinetree Close. The letter was delivered to those properties directly affected and those which might receive some displaced parking. The deadline for the questionnaire returns was Monday 13th July 2020.
- 2.2 A total of 22 consultation letters were delivered to residents with on the 22nd June 2020 with only one response received.

3.0 OBJECTIONS/COMMENTS/CONCERNS

- 3.1 The resident who responded had safety concerns regarding a zebra crossing being installed in this location. The response was as follows.

*"Can I raise a significant concern for both my family at *** park lane west and the local community? The positioning of this proposed zebra crossing is questionable. We do understand the benefits locating it here due to financial savings' an existing pedestrian refuge is here (more aligned with a splitter island than a safe refuge due to minimal size) plus electric connections and some existing desire lines.*

However, this proposed zebra is right in between two main side roads (Leonard Cheshire drive and ASHBOURN AVE) This positioning /visibility goes against guidance in TSRGD and it also goes against basic items such as the highway code and the manual of roads and bridges act. The benefits certainly do not outweigh the negatives such as limited visibility, close proximity to side roads, close proximity to a well used bus lay by and the fact that if the feature is moved towards Dunning bridge road then it would support supermarkets, local businesses, industrial estates and more active desire lines to local attractors such as schools and shops.

The residential area needs better lines of safe crossing and if I am honest even using just a 'ZEBRA' rather than a 'TOUCAN' is a cheap solution and bit of a 'fob off' that is quite inadequate for a vibrant local community.

The proposed location is completely unacceptable and while it may remain as its existing state as an existing additional option 'any official controlled crossing or zebra' crossing should be located towards Dunningbridge road or towards the main shopping square on Glover's lane.

I would be grateful for your comments and the reassurance on how the proposed location doesn't conflict with the guidance in TSRGD and others stated by me above. This is so close to active side roads it is not a safety benefit, more of a safety liability. the lights (beacons) themselves will encourage people to cross here yet the pedestrian refuge cannot facilitate either pram or a disability scooter or wheelchair".

- 3.2 The residents' safety concerns regarding the location of the zebra crossing was responded to via e-mail as follows:

“Thank-you for your response regarding the proposed zebra crossing on Park Lane West. Your complaint will be presented to the Licensing & Regulatory Committee in September and a final decision will be made at this meeting as to whether the works will proceed.

I would like to take this opportunity to respond to some of the concerns you have raised regarding the location.

As you correctly point there is an already well used and established crossing point here and it was for this reason that the Ward Councillors requested to make this crossing in particular safer for the likes of pram and wheelchair use. According to the Regulations the absolute minimum distance that a zebra crossing can be located from a side road is 5m. The current location of the pedestrian refuge is approximately 13m from Leonard Cheshire Drive and approx. 9m from Ashbourne Avenue, therefore there is sufficient room for a zebra crossing to be accommodated. If we were looking to upgrade this crossing to a signalised crossing, such as a toucan, then we wouldn't be able to fit this in as the minimum distance from a side road is greater for a signal crossing. Hence the upgrade to a zebra crossing was the only 'controlled' option we could take forward here.

The minimum distance for visibility of a crossing for approaching traffic along Park Lane West is 40m and this is easily achieved, especially as both bus stops are upstream of the existing crossing and located within lay-bys and therefore would not conflict with the proposed zebra crossing or the visibility of the crossing. In terms of the visibility from the side roads the Regulations cover this by requiring a 'zone' in which drivers and pedestrians should be able to see each other. This 'zone' is measured 2.5m from behind the stop line of the side road to the crossing point. For both side roads this is achievable.

As we detailed in the letter I can confirm that the existing pedestrian refuge will be removed as part of these works. It was left on the drawing solely to highlight the location and I do apologise if this has caused any misunderstanding that it was to remain.

I hope this answers your concerns. I will include your comments in the committee report including the request for improved crossings towards Dunningbridge Road or Glover's Lane, although I would also encourage you to raise this particular issue with your local Ward Councillors as well”.

4.0 CONCLUSION

- 4.1 The returned public consultation questionnaires resulted in one objection to the zebra crossing. The resident's objection and the Councils response is detailed in paragraph 3.0 of this Report.

- 4.2 The resident's safety concerns regarding the location of a zebra crossing in between Leonard Cheshire Drive and Ashbourne Avenue were addressed and the Council response confirmed that the location is in accordance with the design regulations.
- 4.3 Should Members approve the installation of the proposed zebra crossing, the scheme will be progressed this financial year following the decision.

Annex A



To the homeowner

Highway Development and Design
Magdalen House
Trinity Road
Bootle
L20 3NJ

Date: June 2020

Dear Sir / Madam

I am writing to you regarding a proposed upgrade of the existing pedestrian crossing on Park Lane West located in-between Leonard Cheshire Drive and Ashbourne Avenue.

We have received a request from your Ward Councilors to upgrade this crossing into a zebra crossing in order to provide a safer crossing point for pedestrians.

The works will involve the removal of the existing island together with the bollards and beacon to be replaced with a zebra crossing, belisha beacons with associated zig-zag markings. The location of the new zebra will be in the same location as the existing crossing. The two speed cushions will remain however the locations will be adjusted slightly to either side of the zebra crossing. The two mature trees located on either side of the road will also remain.

You should note that on-street parking will be prohibited within the extents of the zig-zag markings.

For your information I have included a plan on the reverse of this letter showing how the proposed zebra crossing will look.

If you have any objections to this proposal may I ask you to submit this to the Council by **Monday 13th July**.

This can be done either in writing to the address below

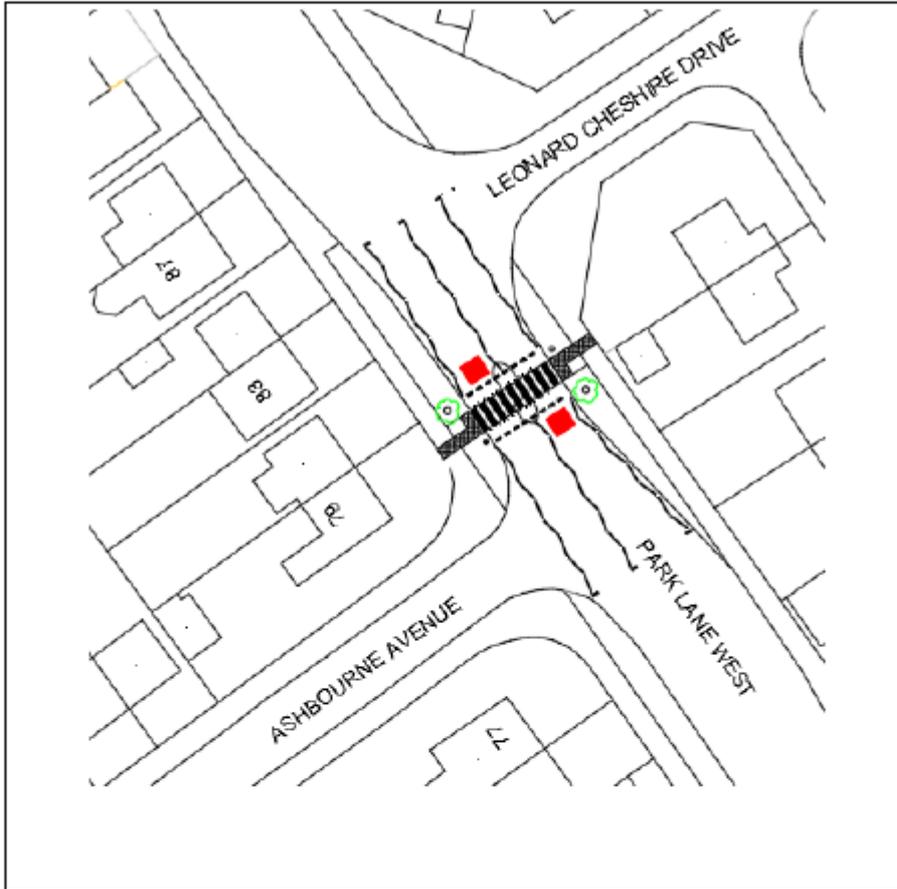
Highway Development and Design
3rd Floor Magdalen House
Trinity Road
Bootle,
L20 3NJ

Or via e-mail to HDD.Enquiries@sefton.gov.uk

Kind Regards,

Andy Evans

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Please note: the existing refuge has been left on the drawing to demonstrate the location of the existing and proposed crossings.

Annex B

