

ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES

A record of decisions made by the Executive Member with responsibility for Environmental Services on:-

TUESDAY, 16TH DECEMBER, 2008

following consideration of the matters detailed below in the presence of:-

Councillor Peel	Executive Member for Environmental Services
Councillor Lever	Major Opposition Spokesperson
Councillor D. Wilkinson	Minor Opposition Spokesperson
Mr. P. Molyneux	Assistant Director of Environmental Services
Mr. J. Kelly	Head of Highways and Engineering Development Services
Mr. T. Higson	Principal Road Safety Officer
Mr. J. Davies	Senior, Engineering Manager
Mr. J. Fox	Engineer
Mrs. S. Bailey	Principal Democratic Services Officer

62. MONITORING OF EXECUTIVE MEMBER DECISIONS

The Director of Legal and Democratic Services submitted a report which provided an update on decisions taken at previous meetings of the Executive Member.

The Executive Member NOTED the progress on the decision previously taken.

63. BURY NEW ROAD, BOLTON – PROPOSED TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT SCHEME – RESPONSE TO CONSULTATION.

A report of the Director of Environmental Services was submitted which commented on the feedback received in

response to consultation on a proposed traffic management scheme on Bury New Road.

By way of background information, the report advised the Executive Member that following a review of accidents and the speed of vehicles on Bury New Road, traffic management proposals had been drawn up and local residents and business people were consulted on the scheme in August 2008.

Features of the scheme included:-

- parking bays to formalise the existing kerbside parking;
- kerbside build outs;
- central hatching and associated signage and lining;
- cycle lanes, and
- amendments to the waiting restrictions.

From the responses received, there was a majority in favour of the proposals and the report summarised the comments made by the objectors. Funding for the scheme was included in view of the approved Highways Capital (Local Safety Schemes) Programme 2008/2009.

Having considered the comments made in response to the consultation and the views of Ward Members, the report recommended that the traffic management scheme shown on Drawing No. 932089/02, be approved for implementation. A report on the suggested amendments to the waiting restrictions would be presented to the Director of Environmental Services for consideration under the Scheme of Delegation.

The Executive Member APPROVED –

(i) **The traffic management scheme on Bury New Road, shown on Drawing No. 932089/02 for implementation; and REQUESTED –**

(ii) **The Director of Environmental Services to consider a package of waiting restrictions under the scheme of Delegation.**

(iii) **A review of the operation of the scheme to be submitted to the Environmental Services Policy Development Group after 15 months from its commencement.**

64. HIGH STREET / STOPES ROAD, BOLTON – PROPOSED TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT SCHEME – RESPONSE TO CONSULTATION.

A report of the Director of Environmental Services was submitted which commented on the feedback received in response to consultation on a proposed traffic management scheme on High Street / Stopes Road.

By way of background information, the report advised the Executive Member that, following a review of the accidents on High Street, Little Lever, a scheme for the introduction of traffic management measures was drawn up and residents and business people were consulted on the proposals in August 2008. As a result of concerns about the speed of traffic on Stopes Road, three new options were drawn up to include traffic management measures on Stopes Road as well as High Street. Discussions on these took place with a Ward Councillor but, because of the overall funding available for the scheme, including a contribution from the Local Area Forum the additional works on Stopes Road was limited to white hatch markings. In view of concerns about Stopes Road, further consultation on a revised scheme was carried out in September 2008. This included the provision of white hatch markings on Stopes Road.

A number of objections were received but, from the responses, it was clear that the majority who replied were in favour of the

proposals. There was a general view that further work was required to assist pedestrians to cross Stopes Road. The report summarised the concerns expressed in the responses.

Having considered the comments made in response to the consultation and the views of Ward Members, the report recommended that the traffic management scheme shown on Drawing No. 932088/12, be approved for implementation.

Funding for the scheme on High Street was included in the Highways Capital (Local Safety Schemes) Programme. The additional work to include a Driver feedback sign on Stopes Road could be funded by the Area Forum (£5,000) and the white hatch markings on Stopes Road by the Local Safety Scheme Budget (£5,000). If approved, the scheme was programmed for completion during the current financial year.

The Executive Member APPROVED –

(i) The combined traffic management scheme on High Street / Stopes Road, as shown on Drawing No. 932088/12, for implementation.

(ii) The funding arrangements for the additional work on Stopes Road as detailed in the report now submitted; and REQUESTED –

(iii) The Director of Environmental Services to undertake research into consultation on traffic schemes and how responses could be increased.

**65. GREATER MANCHESTER LOCAL TRANSPORT PLAN
PROGRESS REPORT 2008 – BOLTON ANNEX**

The Director of Environmental Services submitted a report which informed the Executive Member of the Greater Manchester Local Transport Plan Progress Report 2008 and the Bolton Annex.

The Executive Member was advised that the Greater Manchester Progress Report 2008 provided a concise account

of the impact of the second Greater Manchester Local Transport Plan over its first two years and highlighted key achievements around the Government's four transport priorities of:-

- Congestion;
- Safety;
- Accessibility; and
- Air Quality.

The Bolton Annex to the Greater Manchester LTP2 Progress Report 2008 was appended to the report and it recognised Bolton's transport achievements in delivering the Greater Manchester LTP2 Transport Objectives. The Bolton Annex would be submitted, as part of the Greater Manchester LTP2 Progress Report 2008, to the Department for Transport on the 31st December, 2008.

The report had also been approved by the Executive Member for Development at the meeting held on 24th November, 2008.

The Executive Member ENDORSED –

The Bolton Annex for inclusion in the Greater Manchester Local Transport Plan 2 Progress Report 2008.

66. HIGHWAY PROPOSALS ASSOCIATED WITH THE DEVELOPMENT AT 877-879 MOSS BANK WAY, BOLTON

The Director of Environmental Services submitted a report which sought approval for alterations to the highway made necessary by a proposed delicatessen development at 877-879 Moss Bank Way, Bolton.

By way of background information, the report advised that planning permission for the change of use of Delph House to a delicatessen was granted on 4th September, 2008. The conditions attached to the planning consent required the following highway improvements:-

- alterations to the means of access and egress from the site onto Moss Bank Way and the creation of a splitter island; and
- a supplementary sign on the central reservation of Moss Bank Way to indicate that vehicles must turn left.

The proposed improvements were shown in principle on drawing number 317047/01.

The works would be implemented utilising an agreement under Section 278 of the Highways Act 1980 and would be funded by the Developer under the terms of the Section 278 Agreement.

The Executive Member APPROVED –

The proposed highway improvements to Moss Bank Way, as shown in principle on drawing number 317047/01, utilising an agreement under Section 278 of the Highways Act 1980, subject to a satisfactory Safety Audit.

67. NETWORK MANAGEMENT PLAN FOR BOLTON COUNCIL

The Director of Environmental Services submitted a report which updated the Executive Member on the Traffic Management Act 2004 in relation to how the Authority was performing with regard to its statutory Network Management Duty.

By way of background information, the report reminded the Executive Member that the Traffic Management Act 2004 (TMA) aimed to provide better conditions for all road users through the management of the road network. It sought to make best use of the existing highway network and to tackle congestion. The five key elements to the Act were:-

- Management of motorway incidents;
- Traffic management;
- Control of street works;

- Civil enforcement of driving and parking offences;
and
- Specific measures for London.

The report advised that Part 2 of the TMA, which came into effect on 4th January, 2005 had the greatest implications for the Council. Under sections 16 and 17, Network Management Duty (NMD), an authority had specific duty to manage their own network.

Bolton Council already fulfilled many of the requirements of the TMA. However, it was an opportunity for the Authority to consider and review current network management practices.

Other parts of the TMA that were applicable to Bolton included:

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- Part 3 – Permit Schemes
Part 4 – Streetworks
Part 6 - Civil Enforcement of Traffic Contraventions
Part 7 – Parking Surpluses and Blue Badge
Inspection

The report went on to advise that, although there was no requirement to do so, but in keeping with its excellence status and best practice, Bolton Council had commissioned Faber Maunsell to produce a Network Management Plan on its behalf, which provided details on how the Council was undertaking its NMD duties and which could be presented as evidence to the Department for Transport. This document was seen as a living document as strategies and policies continue to be developed, as well as reviewing and formalising existing practices. The report explained the various parts and requirements of the TMA that needed to be undertaken by a highway authority and explained in particular how Bolton was undertaking its role against the criteria as indicated within the Network Management Duty and suggested where improvements should be made. This report on the Network Management Plan for Bolton and associated Action Plan was provided as an appendix to this report.

The Executive Member APPROVED –

The Network Management Plan for Bolton, as now submitted.

**68. DRIVER FEEDBACK SIGN PROJECT – REVIEW
2008/2009**

A report of the Director of Environmental Services was submitted which:-

- a) summarised the difficulties being encountered in managing the Driver Feedback Sign Project; and
- b) put forward suggested improvements to reinvigorate the programme.

The report reminded the Executive Member that the protocols for undertaking the Neighbourhood Renewal Driver Feedback Sign had been approved in 2007. Since then, 18 signs had been erected across the Borough with a further two planned, which equated to one per ward.

With regard to delivery of the scheme, the report advised that the assessment of the locations for the signs should be undertaken by the accident investigation team with the programming of the re-positioning being carried out by each forum through Highways and Engineering Delivery Services. However, due to difficulties in co-ordinating the re-positioning of the signs, this process had not always been followed.

In order to overcome the communication difficulties, it was proposed that the arrangements for re-positioning the signs would be co-ordinated by Highways and Engineering officers in close consultation with members. It was also proposed that the lead officer would programme the works at the beginning of the financial year through the member only meetings.

With regard to the financial implications to date, the capital expenditure for purchasing the signs and installing the sockets to date had been funded from the Neighbourhood Renewal

Fund. However, this funding stream was no longer available and it was the intention that the re-positioning costs for 2008/2009 would be covered by the Area Forum.

With regard to the proposed financial arrangements, the report advised that for 2008/2009, £7,250 would be made available to repair three Driver Feedback signs (3 x £750) and replace one Driver Feedback sign (1 x £5,000) from the Greater Manchester Casualty Reduction Partnership Group.

With regard to the operational options, the following were proposed:-

- a) Option 1: Install 1 additional socket in 2009/2010 and reposition twice - £18,920
- b) Option 2: Install 2 additional socket in 2009/2010 and reposition twice - £31,240

The funding for each of these options would need to be found from the Area Forums.

A maintenance, repair and replacement programme was also proposed.

Based on this year's sign programme it was estimated that one sign could be stolen and three could be damaged and require repairs. In order for the Council to maintain total Borough coverage the following funding would be required:-

	£
Maintenance of 9 No. 3M signs at 250	2,250
Maintenance of 11 No. TWM sings at £205	2,255
Replacement of 1 sign	5,000
Repairs of 3 signs at £750 each	2,250
Total	<u>£11,755</u>

The report went on to advise that, originally, it had been proposed that the Area Forum would pay for this work to be done. However, this had not made explicit and was causing concern and confusion for members and officers, which is

affecting delivery. Therefore, it was proposed that the £15k that was identified in the revenue programme to purchase the two additional signs for 08/09 be set aside to meet these costs. This would remove the onus from the Area Forum and place the responsibility with Highways and Engineering staff to manage the programme. It was noted that replacement and maintenance costs would only cover one sign and three signs respectively. Anything over and above this would not be carried out unless the Area Forum met the costs.

The Executive Member APPROVED –

- (1) The repair and replacement funding of £7,250 with immediate effect to be funded from the Greater Manchester Casualty Reduction Partnership Grant allocation;**
- (2) The maintenance, repair and replacement programme for 2009/2010, including the allocation of funding;**
- (3) Option 1 for the operation of the Scheme in 2009/2010; and**
- (4) The proposal that the Driver Feedback Sign project is managed by Highways and Engineering by one lead officer through the member only meetings.**

69. OPERATION GIANT – PHASE 3

A report of the Director of Environmental Services was submitted which outlined proposals for a contribution of funding towards an additional phase of Operation Giant to be carried out by Greater Manchester Police.

By way of background information, the report reminded the Executive Member that, in 2007, following discussion with Greater Manchester Police, funding in the sum of £30,000 had been committed to additional road policing enforcement in support of Local Public Service Agreement 2. The enforcement activity was known as Operation Giant. This targeted strategic routes where people had been killed or seriously injured and casualty hotspots in Bolton between January and June, 2007

inclusive. The enforcement activity resulted in a significant number of vehicle seizures using automatic number plate recognition technology, the issue of many fixed penalty notices for a variety of motoring offences and in some cases the issue of a summons. In addition, Customs and Excise carried out fuel checks and the Vehicle Operator Services Agency conducted checks for vehicle defects.

During the first six months of 2007 an overall 16% reduction in injury collisions in Bolton was noted in comparison to the same six month period for the previous 3 years (2004-2006). The KS1 casualties for the same period reduced by 23%. A further phase of Operation Giant was also funded by a further allocation of £15,000 from Local Public Service Agreement 2 for the period December 2007 and February 2008 inclusive.

In view of the reduction in injury collisions, the report proposed that available funding from the Greater Manchester Casualty Reduction Partnership, should be used to contribute to a further six month phase of Operation Giant in 2009. The activity that would be carried out as part of Operation Giant 3 was detailed in the report.

The Executive Member APPROVED –

The expenditure of £30,000 from the Greater Manchester Casualty Reduction Partnership grant allocation as a contribution to the delivery of Operation Giant 3 by Greater Manchester Police for a six month period commencing January, 2009.