

**WARDS: Castle and Priory, Netherton and Woodside, St. Andrews, St. James's, St. Thomas's**

**AGENDA ITEM NO. 11**

**DUDLEY METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL**

**CENTRAL DUDLEY AREA COMMITTEE – 31 MARCH 2005**

**REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR OF THE URBAN ENVIRONMENT**

**HIGHWAYS MINOR WORKS CAPITAL PROGRAMME FOR 2005/2006**

**1.0 PURPOSE**

1.1 To seek Committee's support for the proposed programmes of work for Local Safety Schemes, Pedestrian Crossings and Safer Routes to School within the Central Dudley Area for the 2005/2006 financial year.

**2.0 BACKGROUND**

2.1 At its meeting on the 9th February 2005, the Cabinet approved the Transport Capital Settlement and Proposed Minor Works Capital Programme for 2005/2006. The meeting of the Full Council on the 28<sup>th</sup>. February 2005 subsequently ratified the proposed Capital Programme for 2005/2006.

2.2 Appendices A, B and C attached to this report reflect proposals within the Highways Minor Works Capital Programme for this Committee's area in relation to Local Safety Schemes, Pedestrian Crossings and Safer Routes to School respectively.

2.3 In terms of public consultation, schemes included within the Council's Minor Works Capital Programme are generally divided into two categories, namely:

i) **SCHEMES SUBJECT TO PUBLIC CONSULTATION**

Those schemes incorporating physical measures which will have a greater impact on local residents and/or property owners, such as traffic calming measures and Traffic Regulation Orders which may supplement schemes, are subject to Statutory advertisement and objection periods. Pedestrian Crossings are also subject to the publication of Statutory Notices of intention to install such facilities.

However, in addition to any necessary Statutory Notices being advertised, the consultation process for schemes falling into this category will also provide for feedback from the local residents/frontagers who would be most

directly affected by the proposals, the emergency services, bus operators and Local Ward Members.

ii) **SCHEMES NOT SUBJECT TO PUBLIC CONSULTATION**

Those schemes which do not include physical measures or Traffic Regulation Orders but may consist of, for example, a combination of road signs and markings, anti-skid/coloured surfacing or stand-alone speed camera initiatives.

Whereas schemes falling into this category would not involve a consultation exercise, it would still be normal practice to advise Local Ward Members prior to the commencement of any works on site.

2.4 The principle of only carrying out public consultation on schemes incorporating physical measures and/or Traffic Regulation Orders was initially agreed by the Lead and 'Shadow' Lead Members for Transportation at a meeting held on the 20 March 2001, and it has subsequently been found to have provided an acceptable template for taking schemes forward.

Meetings of the Lead and 'Shadow' Lead Members for Transportation and, most recently, the meeting of the Cabinet and 'Shadow' Cabinet Members for Transportation at their meeting on the 19 January 2005 have endorsed a continuation of this approach.

2.5 The proposals outlined in the Appendices attached to this report may be subject to minor variations, amendments or modifications arising as a result of the consultation/design process, for example, the location of speed humps.

Any variations or modifications resulting in a material or significant departure from the original scheme concept would be subject to the agreement of the Cabinet Member for Transportation in consultation with the Director of the Urban Environment.

2.6 **Sustainable Transport**

The contents of this report support the Council's Transport Policy by considering measures which could contribute to improved highway and pedestrian safety to the benefit of the local community.

**3.0 PROPOSAL**

3.1 That the Area Committee support the proposed Local Safety Schemes, Pedestrian Crossings and Safer Routes to Schools initiatives outlined in Appendices A, B and C respectively and shown on the appropriate plans.

## **4.0 FINANCE**

The implementation of proposals outlined within this report can be funded under the respective budget heads of the approved 2005/2006 Highways Minor Works Capital Programme.

## **5.0 LAW**

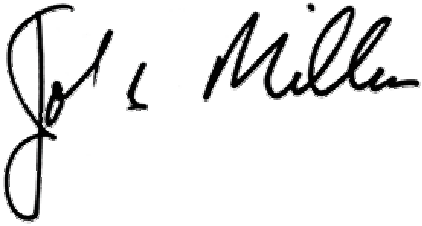
- 5.1 Traffic Regulation Orders are made under powers contained in Section 1 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984.
- 5.2 Traffic signs are provided under powers contained in Section 64 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, subject to regulations made by the Secretary of State for Transport.
- 5.3 The Council is empowered to improve highways under Section 62 of the Highways Act 1980.
- 5.4 Guardrails may be provided under Section 66 of the Highways Act 1990.
- 5.5 Pedestrian crossing facilities are provided under powers contained in Section 23 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, subject to Regulations made by the Secretary of State.
- 5.6 Section 111 of the Local Government Act 1972 empowers the Council to do anything calculated to facilitate or is conducive or incidental to the discharge of any of its functions.
- 5.7 The Traffic Calming Act 1992 amends the Highways Act 1980 to allow works to be carried out to promote safety and to preserve or improve the environment.
- 5.8 The Highways Act 1980, as amended by the Road Traffic Act 1991 requires the installation of road humps to be advertised on-street and in the local newspaper for objections.

## **6.0 EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES**

The proposals contained within this report comply with the Council's Equal Opportunities Policy.

**7.0      RECOMMENDATION**

That the proposals set out in Section 3.0 of this report be approved.



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**J B MILLAR – DIRECTOR OF THE URBAN ENVIRONMENT**

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**Background documents used in the preparation of this report:-**

1. The Cabinet Meeting on 9 February 2005 relating to the joint report of the Director of the Urban Environment and the Chief Finance Officer on the Transport Capital Settlement and Proposed Capital Programme.
2. The Council Meeting on 28<sup>th</sup>. February 2 005.

**LOCAL SAFETY SCHEMES**

1. Hollyhock Road,  
Kates Hill, Dudley - Vertical Traffic Calming
  2. Stourbridge Road,  
Brierley Hill - Centre line hatching, right turn provision,  
highlighting and possible refuges
- Note: this scheme will also be reported to the Brierley Hill Area Committee
3. St. Peter's Road  
Netherton - Improved signs and markings.  
Anti-skid surfacing at roundabout and signals
  4. Priory Road  
Dudley - Junction build outs/parking bays, cycle lanes  
and modifications to pelican crossing
  5. Maple Green  
Dudley - Raised zebra crossing in the vicinity of the  
Health Centre

Note: This scheme will also be reported to the North Dudley Area Committee

**The following sites have also been included on a reserve list of schemes to be implemented subject to the necessary funding being available**

1. Queens Cross/Wellington Road  
Dudley - Pedestrian phases and improved crossing  
points at traffic signals
  2. Bower Lane/Saltbrook Road,  
Quarry Bank - Junction highlighting and investigation into  
possible signalisation
- Note: This scheme will also be reported to the Halesowen Area Committee
3. Buffery Road, Netherton - Junction highlighting, signs and markings
  4. Oakham Road, Dudley - Improved warning signs and road markings and  
anti-skid surfacing
  5. Bowling Green Road,  
Netherton - Mobile speed cameras and associated signs
  6. Himley Road, Dudley - Gateway treatment at speed limit change.  
Highlighting at bend and school crossing patrol

**PEDESTRIAN CROSSINGS**

1. Coppice Lane, Quarry Bank - Upgrade Zebra Crossing to Pelican Crossing  
In the vicinity of White City Road
2. Northfield Road, Netherton - Pelican Crossing  
Near Arts Centre & Library

The following site has been included on a reserve list of schemes to be implemented subject to the necessary funding being available. This scheme has not yet been progressed to the detailed design stage but brief details are as follows

1. Priory Road, Dudley South of - Pelican Crossing  
Limes Road and Woodland  
Avenue

**NOTE: All pedestrian crossing schemes are subject to a statutory consultation process.**

**SAFER ROUTES TO SCHOOL**

The Council has currently identified a list of 14 schools across the Borough from which its Safer Routes to School Schemes will subsequently emerge.

Clearly, not all of the proposals can be implemented within the timescale and funding available but within the area covered by this Area Committee, the following locations will at least form a basis for further consultation and consideration.

- |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|
| 1. Blowers Green Primary<br>Dudley          | - | Improvements to rear access   |
| 2. Hillcrest Community College<br>Netherton | - | Review school entrance<br>arrangements/traffic management   |
| 3. Hillcrest Community College<br>Netherton | - | Investigate options for reinforced<br>effectiveness of existing traffic calming<br>measure outside school entrance in<br>Hillcrest Road |
| 4. Netherbrook School<br>Netherton          | - | Zebra crossing in Bowling Green Road  |
| 5. Castle High School<br>Dudley             |   | Investigate 'Stop and Go' Zone in Priory<br>Road  |
| 6. Dudley College<br>Dudley                 |   | Advanced Stop line  |