

Cabinet Member for City Services

21<sup>st</sup> January 2019

**Name of Cabinet Member:**

Cabinet Member for City Services – Councillor P Hetherton

**Director Approving Submission of the report:**

Deputy Chief Executive (Place)

**Ward(s) affected:**

Earlsdon

**Title:** Petition - Safe Crossing to Co-op Store, Earlsdon Street

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**Is this a key decision?**

No

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**Executive Summary:**

A petition of 129 signatures has been received requesting a safe crossing on Earlsdon Street by the Co-op Store.

In accordance with the City Council's procedure for dealing with petitions, those relating to road safety are heard by the Cabinet Member for City Services. The Cabinet Member had considered this petition prior to this meeting and in response to the request made, requested that the petition was dealt with by letter (determination letter), rather than a formal report being submitted to a meeting, to be able to deal with the matter more efficiently.

The determination letter advised of the investigations undertaken, the action proposed and approved in response to the issues raised. On receipt of the determination letter the petitioner advised they did not wish the petition to be progressed by letter and wanted the issue to be considered at a Cabinet Member for City Services meeting.

The cost of introducing road safety measures, is funded from the Highways Maintenance and Investment Capital Programme budget through the Local Transport Plan.

**Recommendations:**

Cabinet Member for City Services is recommended to:

- 1) Note the petitioners concerns
- 2) Endorse that the actions confirmed by determination letter to the petition spokesperson (as detailed in paragraphs 1.5 and 1.7 of the report) are undertaken

**List of Appendices included:**

Appendix A – Location Plan

Appendix B – Determination letter

**Background Papers**

None

**Other useful documents:**

None

**Has it been or will it be considered by Scrutiny?**

No

**Has it been or will it be considered by any other Council Committee, Advisory Panel or other body?**

No

**Will this report go to Council?**

No

Report title: Petition – Safe Crossing to Co-op Store, Earlsdon Street

## 1. Context (or background)

1.1 A petition of 129 signatures has been received requesting a safe crossing on Earlsdon High Street by the Co-op Store. The petition is supported by Councillor Sandhu.

1.2 The petition advises:

*'This letter is to give voice to the opinion of many in Earlsdon and those who shop in the High-street.*

1. *We have found that, although a zebra crossing has been provided near the Post-Office, elderly folk, especially those relying on frame or other walking aids, often find themselves near the roundabout and are unable to cross to enter the co-op.*

*I have spoken to many people lately who wish to sign my petition (instigated by a fall of my own whilst crossing to the Co-op. My eyes were suddenly drawn to a vehicle drawing out and, whilst my eyes temporarily averted from the curb, I fell breaking the left wrist).*

2. *Double parking, which is often seen here, is really a hazard to pedestrians and this links up with an ongoing campaign to limit vehicles around schools and shopping areas to avoid POLLUTION.*

*This, I know, has been addressed in the centre but many people come to the High-street to its numerous cafes as well as to shop – how wonderful it would be to take coffee outside on their terraces without breathing in fumes from passing traffic.*

3. *Lastly but not least, people who have fallen several times, asked me to mention the dreadful state of the pavements in the area.*

*As a CITY OF CULTURE perhaps more thought and consideration could be given to these points.*

1.3 Earlsdon Street is a busy street with a mix of shops, pubs, cafes and residential properties. A library, school and church are also located nearby. The Co-op referred to in the petition is located at the north eastern end of Earlsdon Street near to a 5 arm roundabout, which has zebra crossings across three of the arms. Another zebra crossing is located further along Earlsdon Street by the junction with Providence Street. There are 4 bus stops on Earlsdon Street, 2 of which are located near to the Co-op (outside and opposite). There are a mix of waiting restrictions on Earlsdon Street which includes double yellow lines and limited waiting, in addition there is also a pay and display car park which is accessed from Warwick Street. A location plan is shown in Appendix A.

1.4 In accordance with the City Council's procedure for dealing with petitions, those relating to road safety and parking issues are heard by the Cabinet Member for City Services. The Cabinet Member considered the petition prior to this meeting and in response requested that the issue was dealt with by determination letter rather than a formal report being submitted to a meeting, to be able to deal with the matter more efficiently.

1.5 The determination letter (copy in Appendix B) advised of the importance of targeting road safety measures in the city. Coventry is continuing to work towards becoming a safer speed city and to ensure the funding we have is utilised carefully, we use personal injury collisions reported to the Police. A review of the area highlighted showed two injury collisions (both classified as slight) had been recorded in the last three years, both involving reversing vehicles. Safety schemes are prioritised in locations where there have been six or more recorded injury collisions in the previous three years.

1.6 It was investigated whether an alternative crossing solution was possible. One possibility considered was the installation of a refuge island closer to the roundabout to try to assist pedestrians to cross, but unfortunately there is not enough available road space to do this and still allow buses and other large vehicles to pass. Another possibility was a central refuge, but this was not suitable in the requested location due to the proximity of the bus stops. To install additional crossing measures in the location requested would require substantial changes to how the road is used in terms of the positioning/removal of bus stops and parking bays.

1.7 The concerns relating to parking have been passed to the City Councils Parking Services Team and issues relating to the condition of the footway are addressed by current procedures.

## **2. Options considered and recommended proposal**

2.1 The recommended proposals regarding the issues raised have already been approved and are detailed in the determination letter (set out in Appendix B to the report) and paragraphs 1.5 and 1.7 of the report.

## **3. Results of consultation undertaken**

3.1 No consultation has been undertaken.

## **4. Timetable for implementing this decision**

4.1 The actions described have already been undertaken.

## **5. Comments from Director of Finance and Corporate Services**

5.1 Financial implications

None

5.2 Legal implications

There are no legal implications of the recommended proposal

## **6. Other implications**

**6.1 How will this contribute to achievement of the Council's key objectives / corporate priorities (corporate plan/scorecard) / organisational blueprint / Local Area Agreement (or Coventry Sustainable Community Strategy)?**

N/A.

**6.2 How is risk being managed?**

None

**6.3 What is the impact on the organisation?**

None

#### 6.4 Equalities / EIA

No specific equalities impact assessment has been carried out.

#### 6.5 Implications for (or impact on) the environment

None

#### 6.6 Implications for partner organisations?

None

#### Report author(s)

##### Name and job title:

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##### Directorate:

Place

##### Tel and email contact:

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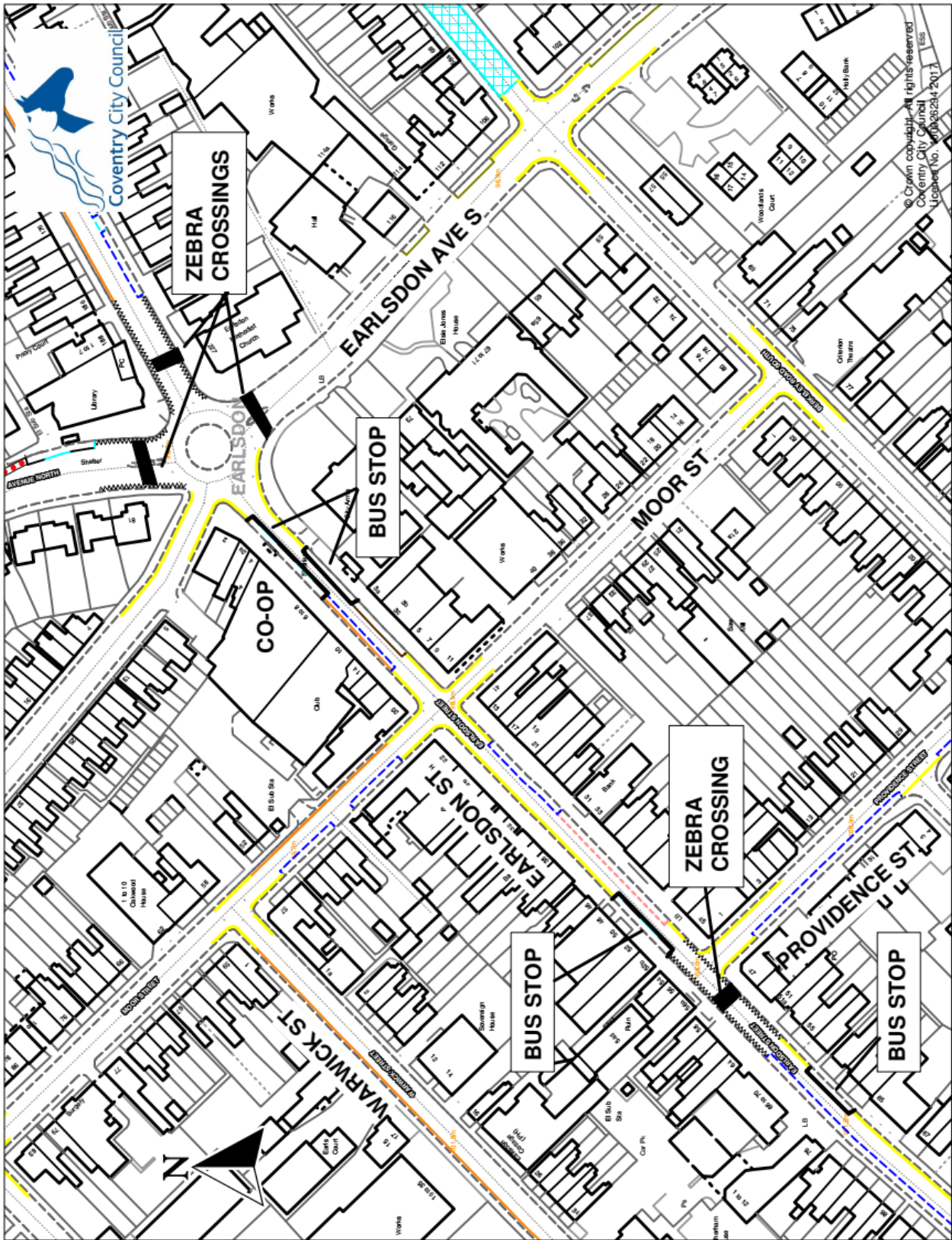
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Enquiries should be directed to the above person

Contributor/approver name	Title	Directorate or organisation	Date doc sent out	Date response received or approved
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Colin Knight	Director of Transportation and Highways	Place	03.01.2019	03.01.2019
Karen Seager	Head of Traffic and Network Management	Place	03.01.2019	08.01.2019
Michelle Salmon	Governance Services Officer	Place	03.01.2019	03.01.2019
<b>Names of approvers:</b> (officers and members)				
Graham Clark	Lead Accountant	Place	03.01.2019	03.01.2019
Rob Parkes	Team Leader, Legal Services	Place	03.01.2019	08.01.2019
Councillor P Hetherton	Cabinet Member for City Services	-	03.01.2019	03.01.2019

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Appendix A – Location plan



## **Appendix B – Copy of text of determination letter**

**re: petition submitted on 1 June 2018**

**Subject matter: Safer Crossing to Co-op Store Earlsdon High Street**

I am writing with regards to the above petition and your request for a safer crossing to the Co-op store on Earlsdon Street.

The matter was discussed with Councillor Innes, Cabinet Member for City Services, who has requested that this be dealt with by way of letter rather than a formal report being submitted to a future meeting, so that it can be dealt with more quickly.

It is important that we target road safety measures in the city. We do this using personal injury collision data to ensure the funding we have is utilised carefully.

Locations where there have been six or more personal injury collisions reported to the Police in the previous three years are considered for inclusion in our safety scheme programme. Our records show that there have been two personal injury collisions in the area you have highlighted in the last three years (both of which were classified as slight and involved reversing vehicles). Therefore, it does not meet the safety scheme criteria.

We have looked into the possibility of installing a central refuge island where the High Street meets the roundabout to try to assist pedestrians. However, the road at this location is not wide enough to accommodate a central refuge and still enable buses and other large vehicles to pass. The location would also not be suitable for a central refuge due its proximity to a bus stop.

Your concerns regarding double parking have been referred to our Parking Enforcement Team. With regards to the issues you highlight with the condition of the pavements, Earlsdon Street is inspected on a monthly basis and any maintenance issues that meet our intervention levels are added to our maintenance programme.

I would be grateful if you could confirm in writing, either by email or letter to the officer named above, that you agree that the petition be progressed by way of this letter. If you do not agree, a report responding to your petition will be prepared for consideration at a future Cabinet Member meeting. You will be invited to attend this meeting where you have the opportunity to speak on behalf of the petitioners.