

Cabinet Member for City Services

21 June 2023

Name of Cabinet Member:

Cabinet Member for City Services – Councillor P Hetherton

Director Approving Submission of the report:

Director of Transportation and Highways

Ward affected:

Holbrook

Title:

Petition E27/22 – Hen Lane Crossing

Is this a key decision?

No

Executive Summary:

A petition with 200 signatures was received requesting improvements to the zebra crossing on Hen Lane, including the upgrade of the crossing to a toucan crossing.

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 the petition prior to this meeting and 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. However, before the determination letter was issued, the petition sponsor requested that the issue be considered at a Cabinet Member for City Services meeting.

The agreed determination letter was to advise that the location does not meet the criteria for inclusion in the safety scheme programme, which is a programme to address recorded personal injury collisions. Therefore, it is not proposed to upgrade the crossing to a signalised crossing. Furthermore, the location is not suitable for a signalised crossing as it is too close to a side road junction. However, warning signage on the approaches to the crossing will be renewed and SLOW markings installed, a proposal for double yellow lines at the junction with Briscoe Road will be considered as part of the next waiting restriction review, pedestrian dropped kerbs will be installed on Briscoe Rd and tactile paving will be installed at the zebra crossing. Road markings at the zebra crossing and on the junction with Briscoe Road have recently been refreshed.

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 the actions which had been agreed to be issued by determination letter to the petition organisers (as detailed in paragraphs 1.5 and 1.6 of the report).

List of Appendices included:

Appendix A – Location plan
Appendix B – Speed survey results

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 E27/22 – Hen Lane Crossing

1. Context (or background)

1.1 A petition with 200 signatures was received requesting improvements to the zebra crossing on Hen Lane, including the upgrade of the crossing to a toucan crossing. The petition was sponsored by Councillor Lancaster.

1.2 The petition reads as follows:

“We the undersigned petition the Council to cut back the trees on the approach to the junction and crossing, renew the road markings in the area around the junction and crossing, provide extra signage such as road ‘slow’ signs or other appropriate prompts. Install bollards on the corner of Hen Lane and Briscoe Road to prevent vehicles parking and obscuring both the junction and the crossing. Measure the volume and speed of traffic at this location for a period of no less than two weeks and not during school holidays and undertake investigations into replacing the Zebra crossing to a signalled Toucan crossing.

We, the residents of Hen Lane and surrounding area, have significant concerns regarding speeding traffic, unclear signage and poor visibility at the junction of Briscoe Road and Hen Lane, which also impacts the adjacent zebra crossing, causing safety issues for pedestrians.

This Zebra crossing is used by children going to John Shelton Primary school and President Kennedy Secondary school, and there have been several near misses where children have narrowly avoided being hit by vehicles.”

1.3 Hen Lane is a residential local distributor road between Wheelwright Lane and Winding House Lane. It is subject to a 30mph speed limit. A location plan is shown in Appendix A to the report.

1.4 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 the petition prior to this meeting and requested that the petition was dealt with by letter (determination letter) rather than a formal report being submitted to a meeting, to enable the matter to be dealt with more efficiently. However, before the determination letter was issued, the petition sponsor requested that the issue be considered at a meeting of the Cabinet Member for City Services.

1.5 It is important that road safety measures in the city are targeted. This is done using personal injury collision data to ensure the available funding is utilised carefully. A review of the collision data for the zebra crossing on Hen Lane and the adjacent junction with Briscoe Road showed that there was one personal injury collision recorded by the Police in the last three years (January 2020 – January 2023). Locations where there have been six or more personal injury collisions in the previous three years are considered for inclusion in the Council's safety scheme programme; the location highlighted in the petition does not meet this criterion. Therefore, it is not proposed to upgrade the crossing to a signalised crossing. Furthermore, the location is not suitable for a signalised crossing, as it is too close to the side road junction.

- 1.6 However, in response to the petition and following an inspection of the location, the following measures will be taken:
- warning signage on the approaches to the crossing will be renewed and SLOW markings installed;
 - a proposal for double yellow lines to prohibit waiting at the junction with Briscoe Road will be considered as part of the next review of waiting restrictions;
 - pedestrian dropped kerbs with tactile paving will be installed on Briscoe Road and tactile paving will be installed at the zebra crossing.
- 1.7 Road markings at the zebra crossing and on the junction with Briscoe Road have recently been refreshed.
- 1.8 Speed surveys undertaken on Hen Lane west of Briscoe Road during school term time in March 2023 showed that both the mean and 85th percentile speeds were at or below the speed limit of 30mph (see Appendix B).

2. Options considered and recommended proposal

- 2.1 The recommended actions in response to the issues raised have already been agreed and are detailed in paragraphs 1.5 and 1.6 of this report.

3. Results of consultation undertaken

- 3.1 No formal consultation has been undertaken.

4. Timetable for implementing this decision

- 4.1 The agreed actions will be undertaken during the current financial year.

5. Comments from the Interim Chief Executive (Section 151 Officer) and the Chief Legal Officer

5.1 Financial implications

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

5.2 Legal implications

The proposed introduction of any new waiting restrictions is subject to a statutory legal procedure pursuant to the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984. The process includes a 21-day public objection period which commences when proposals are advertised. Any objections received are considered by the Council's Cabinet Member for City Services, who decides whether the proposed restrictions are introduced as advertised or revised in some way,

6. Other implications

6.1. How will this contribute to the One Coventry Plan?

By enhancing road safety, active travel and accessibility, the agreed actions will contribute to all five priorities of the One Coventry Plan.

6.2 How is risk being managed?

Health and safety risks relating to the agreed works will be managed through established contractual and supervisory processes.

6.3 What is the impact on the organisation?

None.

6.4 Equalities / EIA

The agreed actions will be of particular benefit to local residents, including children and young people who use the crossing on their way to and from school.

6.5 Implications for (or impact on) climate change and the environment

By enhancing pedestrian facilities, the agreed works will encourage active travel, thereby minimising the impact of travel on the environment and its contribution to climate change.

6.6 Implications for partner organisations?

By enhancing road safety, active travel and accessibility, the agreed works will benefit the health and wellbeing of local residents, including children and young people attending local schools.

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Councillor Hetheron	Cabinet Member for City Services	-	09/06/2023	13/06/2023

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Appendix A – Location plan



Appendix B – Speed survey results

		Average weekday		
Site (March 2023)	Direction	Mean speed (mph)	85%ile speed (mph)	Traffic flow
Hen Lane, west of Briscoe Road	Eastbound	25.3	29.8	2473
	Westbound	25.0	30.2	2318