

North Tyneside Council

Report to Director of Regeneration and Economic Development

Date: 6 June 2023

Title: Pedestrian crossings – Stephenson Street area, North Shields

Report by: Nick Saunders, Senior Traffic Engineer

Report to: John Sparkes, Director of
Regeneration and Economic
Development

Wards affected: Preston, Tynemouth

PART 1

1.1 Executive Summary:

This report seeks a delegated decision to advertise a proposal to introduce three signalised pedestrian crossings in the vicinity of the junction of Stephenson Street and A193 Albion Road-Tynemouth Road, North Shields, and three Parallel crossings on A193 Albion Road, A193 Tynemouth Road and Linskill Terrace, North Shields and in the event that no objections are received, proceed to introduce crossings at these locations.

1.2 Recommendation(s):

It is recommended that the Director of Regeneration and Economic Development makes a delegated decision

- (1) that notices for the proposal should be prepared and advertised in line with relevant statutory requirements; and
- (2) that if no objections are received following the period of consultation, pedestrian crossings shall be installed in accordance with the proposal.

1.3 Forward Plan:

Seeking delegated decisions to advertise proposals to install pedestrian crossings and, in the event that no objections are received, to determine that pedestrian crossings should be installed, is a standing item on the Forward Plan.

1.4 Council Plan and Policy Framework

The proposals in this report relate to the following priorities in Our North Tyneside, the Council Plan 2021 to 2025:

- A green North Tyneside
 - We will increase opportunities for safe walking and cycling, including providing a segregated cycleway at the coast
 - We will publish an action plan of the steps we will take and the national investment we will seek to make North Tyneside carbon net-zero by 2030
- A secure North Tyneside
 - We will continue to invest £2m per year in fixing our roads and pavements.

1.5 Information:

1.5.1 Background

The Authority has obtained grant funding from the Government's Transforming Cities Fund (TCF) for the 'Improvements to North Shields Transport Hub' project to improve public transport, cycling, walking and wheeling links to North Shields town centre.

The proposals associated with this report involve improvements to cycling, walking and wheeling links between the town centre and residential areas of North Shields, which complement the regeneration of the town centre and support road safety.

1.5.2 Proposal in relation to pedestrian crossings

It is proposed to establish new puffin crossings at the following locations:

- A193/Albion Road, North Shields
 - A. At a point 11m west of its junction with Stephenson Street
 - B. At a point 11m east of its junction with Stephenson Street
- Stephenson Street, North Shields
 - A. At its junction with the A193/Albion Road
- A193/Tynemouth Road, North Shields
 - A. At its junction with Stephenson Street (Left turn lane)

It is proposed to establish new Parallel crossings (zebra crossings with adjacent cycling provision) at the following locations:

- Albion Road, North Shields
 - A. At a point 9m west of its junction with Upper Norfolk Street, from the south eastern kerblines of Albion Road, in a north westerly direction to the north western kerblines of Albion Road
- A193, North Shields
 - A. At a point 15m east of its junction with Linkskill Avenue, from the northern kerblines of the A193, in a southerly direction to the southern kerblines of the A193
- Linkskill Terrace, North Shields

A. At a point 14m north of its junction with the A193, from the eastern kerblineline of Linskill Terrace, in a westerly direction to the western kerblineline of Linskill Terrace

1.5.3 Consultation undertaken

Engagement on the full scheme was carried out in Summer 2021, via a news item on the Authority's website linking to the 'Placechangers' consultation website. Feedback from this engagement informed the process of detailed design.

Arrangements have been made to issue letters to households in the area to set out the elements of the proposed scheme. The Cabinet Member for Environment and ward members have been updated on the proposals.

Arrangements have been made to contact the standard technical consultees in writing to advise of the proposals.

1.5.4 Proposed next steps

Proposals that restrict traffic movements are subject to statutory legal process as described in section 2.2: this includes the Authority giving public notice of the proposals and taking such other steps as it may consider appropriate for ensuring adequate publicity. In North Tyneside, this includes notices advertising proposals being displayed on affected streets and on the Authority's website. This enables members of the public or businesses to object to the proposal. Any objectors are sent a response and invited to reconsider their objection. Any objections not withdrawn are referred to the Cabinet Member for Environment for consideration in accordance with the Mayor's Scheme of Delegation.

1.6 **Decision options:**

The following decision options are available for consideration by the Director of Regeneration and Economic Development:

Option 1

To approve the recommendations as set out in paragraph 1.2 above.

Option 2

Not to approve the recommendations as set out in paragraph 1.2 above.

Option 1 is the recommended option.

1.7 **Reasons for recommended option:**

Option 1 is recommended for the following reasons:

The proposals will increase safety for all road users and contribute to ensuring that highway conditions are conducive to support greater usage of cycling, walking and wheeling.

1.8 Appendices:

Appendix 1 Plan of scheme

Appendix 2 Equality Impact Assessment



Appx1-Plan of
scheme_Stephenson-Impact Assessment_St



Appx2-Equality
Impact Assessment

1.9 Contact officers:

Nick Saunders, Senior Traffic Engineer, Capita, 0191 643 6598

Andrew Flynn, Integrated Transport Manager, 0191 643 6083

Amar Hassan, Principal Accountant, Investment (Capital) and Revenue, 0191 643 5747

1.10 Background information:

- (1) [North Tyneside Transport Strategy](#)
- (2) [Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984](#)
- (3) [The Traffic Signs Regulations and General Directions 2016](#)

PART 2 – COMPLIANCE WITH PRINCIPLES OF DECISION MAKING

2.1 Finance and other resources

Funding to advertise and implement the proposal is available from the grant funding from the Government's Transforming Cities Fund.

2.2 Legal

Proposals that involve revocations or amendments to the provision of pedestrian crossings and the installation of any new pedestrian crossings are subject to statutory legal process set out in the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 and the Regulations that flow from that Act, namely, The Traffic Signs Regulations and General Directions 2016. The Authority is required to consult the chief officer of police about its proposal and give public notice of the proposal.

In North Tyneside, in addition to being advertised in a local newspaper, notices advertising the proposal are displayed on the Authority's website and on roads affected by the order. Documents relating to the proposal are also available for public inspection at the Authority's offices at Quadrant. Objections to the proposal may be made within a period of 21 days starting from the date the notice was published.

In accordance with the Mayor's Scheme of Delegation, if any objections cannot be resolved, then the Cabinet Member for Environment is asked to consider those representations made and not withdrawn and to determine if a pedestrian crossing should be established.

2.3 Consultation/community engagement

2.3.1 Internal consultation

Internal consultation has involved the Cabinet Member for Environment. Ward members' views on the proposal were sought as described in section 1.5.2.

2.3.2 Community engagement

Views on the proposal were sought as described in section 1.5.2. The proposal is to be advertised in line with statutory process as also set out in section 1.5.3.

2.4 Human rights

Any human rights implications must be balanced against the duty that the Authority has to provide a safe highway for people to use. It is not considered that the proposed restrictions will have a negative impact on individuals' human rights.

2.5 Equalities and diversity

An Equality Impact Assessment for the scheme has been undertaken and is attached as Appendix 2 to this report. This identified potential impacts which are positive: these relate to improved accessibility for people who currently experience difficulty crossing the road. Actions are specified to reduce the identified potential negative impacts relating to the advertising of notices and orders regarding the proposed change and access arrangements during construction work.

2.6 Risk management

There are no risk management implications arising directly from this report. Strategic and operational risks associated with transport matters are assessed via the established corporate process.

2.7 Crime and disorder

There are no crime and disorder implications directly arising from this report.

2.8 Environment and sustainability

There are potential positive implications in that the proposals support the use of more sustainable modes of transport in preference to car use.

PART 3 - SIGN OFF

- Chief Finance Officer

- Monitoring Officer

- Assistant Chief Executive