North Tyneside Council Delegated Decision Report Date: 16 September 2022

Title: Pedestrian crossings – A191 Front Street and Four Lane Ends

area, Benton

Report by: Nick Saunders, Senior Traffic Engineer

Report to: John Sparkes, Director of

Regeneration and Economic

Development

Wards affected: Benton

PART 1

1.1 Executive Summary:

This report seeks a delegated decision to advertise a proposal to establish and, in the event that no objections are received, proceed to upgrade two pedestrian crossings to toucan crossings, suitable for people walking, wheeling and cycling, on A191 Front Street and at its junction with Coach Lane, Benton.

1.2 Recommendation(s):

It is recommended that the Director of Regeneration and Economic Development:

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

1.3 Forward Plan:

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

1.4 Council Plan and Policy Framework

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

- A green North Tyneside
 - 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

1.5 Information:

1.5.1 Background

The Authority has obtained grant funding from the Government's Transforming Cities Fund (TCF) to improve accessibility by public transport, cycling, walking and wheeling to Four Lane Ends Metro and bus interchange.

The proposals associated with this report involve improvements to cycling, walking and wheeling links to Four Lane Ends interchange from the Benton area.

The proposals involve footway widening, street furniture de-cluttering and two upgraded crossing points. They have been designed to ensure that highway conditions are conducive to support greater usage of cycling, walking and wheeling.

1.5.2 <u>Proposal in relation to pedestrian crossings</u>

It is proposed to upgrade existing puffin crossings to toucan crossings at the following locations:

- Front Street/A191, Benton
- At a point 82m east of its junction with Benton Lane, from the southern kerbline of Front Street/A191 in a northerly direction to the northern kerbline of Front Street/A191
- b. At its junction with Coach Lane (west side), from the southern kerbline of Front Street/A191 in a northerly direction to the northern kerbline of Front Street/A191

The proposed introduction of the upgraded crossings will facilitate crossing the road when travelling by more sustainable modes and contribute to ensuring that highway conditions are conducive to support greater usage of cycling, walking and wheeling.

1.5.3 Consultation

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.

The Cabinet Member for Environment and ward members have been updated on the proposals. Arrangements have been made to issue letters to households and premises directly affected by the proposals, to set out the elements of the proposals.

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

The statutory consultation process is 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 which makes the proposal 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 Authority's scheme of Delegation to Cabinet Members, 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.

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 – Transforming Cities Fund – Four Lane Ends area A191 cycling and walking improvements

1.9 Contact officers:

Kenneth Horn, Senior Traffic Engineer, Capita, 07595 180677 Nick Saunders, Senior Traffic Engineer, Capita, 0191 643 6598 Andrew Flynn, Integrated Transport Manager, 0191 643 6083

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 proposals 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 which makes the proposal is required to consult the chief officer of police about its proposal and give public notice of the proposal.

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 1.5.3.

2.3.2 Community engagement

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

2.4 Human rights

The proposals within this report do not have direct implications in respect of the Human Rights Act 1998.

2.5 Equalities and diversity

An Equality Impact Assessment for the proposals has been undertaken and is attached as an appendix to this report.

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 X

Monitoring Officer
X

Assistant Chief Executive
X

Appendix 1

