

North Tyneside Council

Report to Director of Regeneration and Economic Development

Date: 12 January 2024

Title: Pedestrian crossing – Wallsend Road, North Shields

Report by: Nick Saunders, Traffic & Road Safety Team Leader

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

Wards affected: Chirton

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 establish a zebra crossing on Wallsend Road, North Shields.

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 representations are received following the period of consultation, a pedestrian crossing shall be established in accordance with the proposal.

1.3 Forward Plan:

Seeking delegated decisions to advertise proposals to establish pedestrian crossings and, in the event that no objections are received, to determine that

pedestrian crossings 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
 - We will increase opportunities for safe walking and cycling, including providing a segregated cycleway at the coast

- 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

In accordance with the Authority's aims to improve road safety, it is proposed to install a zebra crossing on Wallsend Road, North Shields to the west of its junctions with Ripley Avenue and The Quadrant. The proposal also includes minor improvements to the tactile paving at the existing pedestrian crossing on The Quadrant at its junction with Wallsend Road.

The proposal was developed following requests from members of the public and ward councillors who identified a need for improvements to the crossing provision at this location particularly due to the presence of a nearby primary school.

It is envisaged that the proposal will contribute to supporting an increase in travel by walking and wheeling and improve road safety in this area.

1.5.2 Proposal in relation to pedestrian crossing

It is proposed to install a zebra crossing on Wallsend Road, North Shields at a point 14 metres south-west of its junction with Ripley Avenue as shown on the plan at Appendix 1.

The proposed introduction of the zebra crossing on Wallsend Road and improvements to the existing zebra crossing on The Quadrant will facilitate safe walking and wheeling in the area which will be particularly beneficial at school start and end times.

1.5.3 Consultation

Engagement on the scheme was undertaken between November 2023 and January 2024. This included contact being made with the standard technical consultees, ward members and St Joseph's RC Primary School.

Letters have also been issued 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.

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 local 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 improve road safety in the vicinity of St Joseph's Primary School whilst contributing to ensuring that highway conditions are conducive to support greater usage of walking and wheeling.

1.8 Appendices:

Appendix 1 Plan of scheme

Appendix 2 Equality Impact Assessment – BAU Zebra Crossings



WLR-CAP-GEN-XX-D
R-TR-1001_P02.pdf



EqIA BAU 23 Zebra
Crossings Approved J

1.9 Contact officers:

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 proposal is available from the 2024/25 (Road Safety) Local Transport Plan budget.

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.

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 will be 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 1.5.3.

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 set out in section 1.5.4.

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 zebra crossings has been undertaken and is attached as Appendix 2 to this report. It is noted that a number of the identified potential impacts are positive: these relate principally to improved accessibility

for people who currently experience difficulty using footways and crossing the road. Actions are specified to reduce the identified potential negative impacts including those relating to access arrangements during construction work and loss of parking provision.

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. The proposals therefore support the target within the Carbon Net-Zero 2030 Action Plan to reduce car-based school trips.

PART 3 – SIGN OFF

- Chief Finance Officer
- Monitoring Officer
- Assistant Chief Executive