



HIGHWAYS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

15 MAY 2012

REPORT

Subject Heading:

**AIRFIELD WAY PEDESTRIAN REFUGE
Outcome of Public Consultation**

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The subject matter of this report deals with the following Council Objectives

Clean, safe and green borough	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Excellence in education and learning	<input type="checkbox"/>
Opportunities for all through economic, social and cultural activity	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Value and enhance the life of every individual	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
High customer satisfaction and a stable council tax	<input type="checkbox"/>

SUMMARY

This report makes recommendations based on the outcome of the public consultation held for the proposed pedestrian refuge on Airfield Way adjacent to the junction with Rochester Road.

The scheme is within the **Elm Park** ward.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. That the Committee having considered this report recommends to the Cabinet Member for Community Empowerment that the highway improvement works on Airfield Way as detailed in this report and shown on Drawing QB035/01/01 are approved for implementation.
2. That it be noted that the estimated cost of the highway improvement works set out within this report is £18,000 and can be funded by the developer under a Section 278/38 (Highway Act 1980) Agreement for the scheme.

REPORT DETAIL

1.0 Background

- 1.1 Following the construction of the residential estate off Airfield Way in late 2011 / 2012 the Council formally adopted a number of estate roads within the site, as highway maintainable at public expense. The roads comprised Rochester Road, North Weald Close, Elstree Close and Ridgewell Grove.
- 1.2 Under the terms of an Agreement made under s278/38 of the Highways Act 1980 (“the Agreement”) between the Council and the developer the developer made funds available to improve pedestrian access to the new estate.
- 1.3 The Agreement stipulated that the funds were to be used for either: (a) the construction of a footway connecting the new estate to Dowding Way; or (b) the construction of a pedestrian refuge, to aid pedestrians crossing, Airfield Way.
- 1.4 In 2011 an informal consultation was carried out by Essex Residential Services to gauge the opinion of residents of the new estate on their preference for either the construction of either a new (a) footway or (b) pedestrian refuge, as stipulated above.
- 1.5 The majority of the feedback from the informal consultation was for the construction of (b) a pedestrian refuge.

- 1.6 Drawing QB035/01/01 shows the arrangement of Airfield Way with the inclusion of the pedestrian refuge.
- 1.7 On 24 January 2012 the Highways Advisory Committee recommended that the proposals for the construction of either (a) a footway or (b) a pedestrian refuge, be publicly advertised and consulted on.
- 1.8 On or about 15 March 2012, approximately 250 letters were hand-delivered to residents potentially affected by the scheme. A closing date of 6 April 2012 was given for comments.
- 1.9 The proposals were advertised on or about 15 March 2012. The emergency services and London Buses were also consulted on the proposals.

2.0 Outcome of Public Consultation

- 2.1 By the close of consultation, no written responses were received from residents, from London Buses or from the Emergency Services.

IMPLICATIONS AND RISKS

Financial implications and risks:

The estimated cost of the proposals set out within this report is £18,000 and can be funded by the developer under the Section 278/38 Agreement (Highways Act 1980) for the scheme.

Legal implications and risks:

Agreements under S278/38 of the Highways Act are between the Highway Authority and developers in order for changes to be made to the existing highway and for new highway to be adopted respectively.

Human Resources implications and risks:

None.

Equalities implications and risks:

The provision of uncontrolled crossing facilities makes it easier for all sectors of the community to cross busy streets, but is especially helpful to the elderly, disabled people and children (both lone and accompanied).

BACKGROUND PAPERS

Project file: QB 035 Airfield Way adoption