

Report to the Cabinet

Meeting to be held on Thursday, 10 August 2017

Report of the Head of Service - Highways

Part I

Electoral Divisions affected:
Ribble Valley South West;
South Ribble East;

Traffic Calming Scheme and Weight Restriction on Branch Road and Intack Lane, Mellor Brook (Appendix 'A' refers)

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Executive Summary

Approval is sought for the delivery of a traffic calming scheme and 7.5t weight restriction on Branch Road and Intack Lane in Mellor Brook.

The proposed scheme has been brought forward to limit the traffic impact of the Enterprise Zone (EZ) on the residents of Branch Road and Intack Lane.

The County Council is currently constructing a link road through the EZ connecting the A59 to the A677. The County Council is intending to adopt the highway subject to securing the necessary approvals. Once this route is operational it will provide an alternative route for vehicles currently using Branch Road and/or Intack Lane.

This is deemed to be a Key Decision and the provisions of Standing Order No 25 have been complied with.

Recommendation

The Cabinet is recommended to authorise implementation of highway works on Branch Road and Intack Lane, Mellor Brook as detailed at the attached Appendix 'A', and the promotion of an associated Traffic Regulation Order to introduce a weight limit.

Background and Advice

The Enterprise Zone (EZ) is located within the historic boundary of the BAE Systems' Samlesbury site, it focuses on the advanced engineering and manufacturing (AEM) sector and anchored by BAE Systems. A key strategic economic priority of the EZ is

underpinned by the LEP's ambition to reclaim Lancashire's role as one of the nation's key centres for advanced manufacturing.

The original combined projections for job creation at the Samlesbury and Warton EZs was expected to be between 4,000 and 6,000 high-value high-skilled jobs over the Zone's lifetime, with a further 5,000 to 7,000 high-value jobs generated in the AEM supply chain.

Access to the Samlesbury EZ be provided onto the A59 and A677 with a spine road through the EZ site. Highway works along the spine road have been completed from the new A677 signalised junction up to the BAE Academy for Skills and Knowledge Training Centre and Wincanton Defence Logistics Facility. The County Council's Highways team has recently commenced with the remaining works which will link to the A59 signalised junction.

Once the spine road is completed and adopted, it will provide a direct link between the A677 and the A59, therefore traffic will not be reliant on using Branch Road. To maximise the use of the new linking road traffic management changes are required on Branch Road providing benefits to residents on Branch Road. The developed traffic management scheme with a weight restriction will reduce the attractiveness of the Branch Road corridor being used as a through route.

As part of the Branch Road scheme minor kerb line changes will also be undertaken on the junction of Park Road and the A677, the improvements are to improve the left turn movements out of Park Road for larger vehicles. This is for vehicles that previously would have turned right of Park Road and then used Branch Road to head East on the A59.

Consultations

The EZ has progressed through a Local Development Order, which did include the principle of the traffic calming on Branch Road, and which was supported by the public and members at that time through its own process.

A public consultation event took place during November 2016. In response to the event a scheme was developed then circulated to interested parties and residents facilitated by the local County Councillors. A total of 193 responses were received in relation to the traffic management scheme, 188 were in favour of the proposed scheme and 5 against of which 4 respondents raised concerns over the location and use of the speed humps. The plans were amended to best accommodate concerns raised. The scheme appended has also been presented to the cabinet member for Transport and highways and was supported.

Implications:

This item has the following implications, as indicated:

Risk management

The scheme includes proposed Traffic Regulation Orders (TROs) on Branch Road to remove the through movement by vehicles over 7.5t. The implementation of TROs is

subject to a separate statutory process including further consultation. In the event that TROs are not supported, all other aspects of the scheme can be delivered.

Financial

The proposed works are a direct consequence of the Spine Road and treated as part of the overall highway works. £100,000 is available to deliver the Branch Road scheme, funded as part of the EZ phase 1 Infrastructure works.

List of Background Papers

Paper	Date	Contact/Tel
Scheme Drawing 05TC RV1	30 November 2016	Neil Stevens/(01772) 534057

Reason for inclusion in Part II, if appropriate

N/A