

ABERDEEN CITY COUNCIL

COMMITTEE: **Environment, Planning and Infrastructure**

DATE: **24 May 2011**

DIRECTOR: **Gordon McIntosh**

TITLE OF REPORT: **Various small scale traffic management and development associated proposals – Initial Statutory Consultation**

REPORT NUMBER: **EPI/11/139**

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

To advise the Committee of the results of the initial statutory consultation process undertaken following the reports titled 'Various, Small Scale Traffic Management and Development Associated Traffic Management Proposals (New Works)' dated 18 January 2011 and 15 March 2011.

2. RECOMMENDATION(S)

That the Committee acknowledges the responses received as a result of the Statutory Consultation, and thereafter instructs Officers to progress to the public advertisement stage and report the results to a future Committee.

3. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The locations marked with circular bullet points are to be funded through the 'Road Safety and Traffic Calming' capital budget. Those marked with a diamond will be funded by the developer. Whilst the proposed new section of 30mph speed limit on the Brodiach Road would be funded by Aberdeenshire Council.

4. OTHER IMPLICATIONS

There is a risk, if funding is insufficient, that any approved traffic regulation orders may have to re-enter the legislative process if they are unable to be implemented within the statutory implementation time of 2 years from the start of public consultation.

5. BACKGROUND/MAIN ISSUES

5.1 The initial Statutory Consultation Process gave various parties the opportunity to consider to the development associated and small scale traffic management proposals set out in the reports dated 18 January 2011 and 15 March 2011. The various parties consulted appear in Table 1, which is appended to this report. The schemes under consideration during the initial statutory consultation were as follows:

- **Ash-hill Road (Hilton / Stockethill Ward)** – ‘At any time’ waiting restrictions.
- **Brodiach Road (Kingswells / Sheddocksley Ward)** – Section of 30mph mandatory speed limit.
- **Cairn Road, Peterculter (Lower Deeside Ward)** – ‘At any time’ waiting restrictions.
- **Cromwell Road (Hazlehead / Ashley / Queens Cross Ward)** – ‘Monday to Friday, 8am to 6pm’ waiting restriction.
- **Gladstone Place, Woodside (Hilton / Stockethill Ward)** – ‘At any time’ waiting restrictions.
- **Great Northern Road / Anderson Road (Hilton / Stockethill Ward)** – Prohibition of vehicular right-turn manoeuvre from Great Northern Road into Anderson Road.
- **Great Southern Road at Bloomfield Place (Torry / Ferryhill Ward)** – ‘At any time’ waiting restrictions.
- **Greenbank Place (Kincorth / Loirston Ward)** – ‘At any time’ waiting restrictions.
- ❖ **Justice Mill Lane / Hardgate (Torry / Ferryhill Ward)** – ‘At any time’ waiting restrictions, ‘Monday to Friday, 8am to 6pm’ waiting restriction, Disabled Parking Bays, ‘Pay & Display’ Bays.
- **Kirk Brae, Cults (Lower Deeside Ward)** – ‘At any time’ waiting restrictions.
- **Little Belmont Street (George Street / Harbour Ward)** – Proposed exemption to allow Street Pastors “Safe Space” vehicle park on ‘At any time’ waiting restrictions between the hours of 9.00pm to 5.00am.
- ❖ **Minto Drive, Aberdeen College Development (Kincorth / Loirston Ward)** – Revocation of ‘At any time’ waiting restrictions.
- **Pitstruan Terrace / Salisbury Terrace (Airyhall / Broomhill / Garthdee Ward)** – ‘At any time’ waiting restrictions.
- ❖ **Riverside Drive (Torry / Ferryhill Ward)** – ‘At any time’ waiting restrictions.
- ❖ **Woodend Tesco Development (Kingswells / Sheddocksley Ward) (Hazlehead / Ashley / Queens Cross Ward)** – ‘At any time’ waiting restrictions / Prohibition of right-turn vehicular movements.

- *Funded from the non-housing 'Road Safety and Traffic Calming' capital budget*
- *Funded by Aberdeenshire Council*
- ❖ *Funded by the developer*

- 5.2 Two substantial comments have been received as a result of the consultation. Mastrick, Sheddocksley & Summerhill Community Council have expressed concerns with regard to the proposal for additional "At any time" waiting restrictions at the junction of Stronsay Drive with Eday Road and Stronsay Place. The aforementioned "At any time" waiting restrictions being associated with the conversion of this junction to a fully signal controlled junction. The other substantial comment is from Grampian Police with regard to the proposal to extend the 30mph speed limit on the Brodiach Road.
- 5.3 The introduction of signal controls at the junction of Stronsay Drive with Eday Road and Stronsay Place is a result of the nearby development at Rousay Drive where a Tesco Store will be established. The necessity to install signals at this junction was highlighted in the Traffic Impact Assessment during the planning application process and assures the junction will operate both efficiently and in a safe manner when taking into account the increased volume of vehicular traffic as a result of this development. Accordingly when the application was approved the introduction of signals was a condition attached to the planning consent.
- 5.4 The concern from Mastick, Sheddocksley & Summerhill Community Council relates to the necessary "At any time" waiting restrictions associated with the conversion to a signal controlled junction and therefore the loss of some on-street parking places (approximately 9 parking spaces when considering standard passenger vehicles). In particular the Community Council express serious concern with the requirement to relocate two disabled parking spaces associated with nearby residents (one disabled space is located on Eday Road, the other on Stronsay Place).
- 5.5 In response, should this proposal to implement 'At any time' waiting restrictions proceed, the two disabled parking spaces would be relocated to points as near as possible to the associated properties. Thereafter, other vehicles displaced by the waiting restrictions can be parked on-street in the near vicinity.
- 5.6 With regard to the proposal to extend the 30mph speed limit on the Brodiach Road, Grampian Police have stated the following.

"In relation to the proposal to extend the 30mph limit eastwards from the built up area of Westhill, again I am unable to provide evidence in support of such a proposal. I am aware of community concerns regarding vehicles speeding within the built up area there. The speed survey carried out there recorded some speeds which were slightly higher than I would have hoped for. This resulted in enforcement action by Grampian Police Officers from the Road Policing Department and Aberdeenshire Division. These checks will continue, as and when duties allow but the Chief Constable is of the opinion that without accompanying traffic calming measures is unrealistic and, to ensure compliance, would require a

level of enforcement activity which would be unsustainable. In pursuance of a long term self policing solution, through consultation between Grampian Police and Aberdeenshire Council Roads Department, perhaps consideration could be given to reviewing the route with a view to establishing physical traffic calming measures within Westhill.

I am unaware of any proposals to develop the land adjacent to Westhill Road but if that was to materialise in the future Grampian Police would be happy to offer comment in respect of any traffic management or traffic calming measures which may be deemed appropriate.

Grampian Police are entirely comfortable with the current location of the 30mph signs and consider them to be in the right place to service both the community and road safety requirements. Grampian Police have concerns that the extension of the existing 30mph limit would create an unrealistic expectation from the Community for the speed limit to be enforced and such an extension of the restricted area would, in effect, create a problem which does not currently exist."

- 5.7 Whilst the enforcement issues noted by Grampian Police are acknowledged, officers are still of the opinion there would be value in changing the speed limit on a short section of this road. To reiterate, this proposal would involve extending the 30mph speed limit on Westhill Road eastwards to a point just east of Broadford Cottages (approximately 500m within Aberdeenshire's jurisdiction and 100m within Aberdeen's jurisdiction). It was judged a westbound driver would enter the new speed limit just prior to the section where a few properties are clustered and in very close proximity to the road, with building lines actually being adjacent to the road verge. This was deemed the most appropriate point to consider installing new 30mph limit as most drivers would naturally be decelerating to take into account the road layout / environment and thereafter travelling a short distance prior to entering the main residential development on Westhill Road.

6. IMPACT

This report meets with the local Community Plan objectives to continually improve road safety and maximise accessibility for pedestrians and all modes of transport.

The proposals are in line with the Councils Transportation Strategy to improve safety for all road users by continuing to reduce the number of casualties in traffic collisions.

It is also in accordance with the administration's Vibrant, Dynamic and Forward Looking, under the heading of Transport and highlighted in Paragraph 7.

These proposals will be of interest to the residents/proprietors on the affected streets, and also possibly commuters who utilise any of the streets.

7. BACKGROUND PAPERS

N/A

8. REPORT AUTHOR DETAILS

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Table 1

Initial Statutory Consultation

Development Associated Traffic Regulation Orders & Small Scale Traffic Management Schemes (schemes originally outlined in reports to Enterprise, Planning & Infrastructure Committee, 18 January 2011 & 15 March 2011)

<u>Consultee</u>	<u>Response</u>
Grampian Police	Grampian Police are entirely comfortable with the current location of the 30mph signs and consider them to be in the right place to service both the community and road safety requirements. Grampian Police have concerns that the extension of the existing 30mph limit would create an unrealistic expectation from the Community for the speed limit to be enforced and such an extension of the restricted area would, in effect, create a problem which does not currently exist. <i>See main report for further detail.</i>
Freight Transport Association	No response.
Scottish Ambulance Service	No response.
Stagecoach Bluebird	No response.
Public Transport Unit	No comment.
The Access Panel	No comment.
Grampian Fire & Rescue Service	These proposals should not have any detrimental effect on our operational appliances proceeding through these areas in response to incidents.
First Aberdeen Ltd	No response.
RAC Foundation	No response.
Federation of Small Businesses	No response.
Road Haulage Association	No response.
Aberdeen Cycle Forum	No substantial comments.
Cyclist Touring Club	No response.
Ashley & Broomhill Community Council	<i>Due to the next meeting of the Community Council falling on the 5 May there were no comments received with regard to the proposed waiting restrictions on sections of Pitstruan Terrace / Salisbury Terrace. However, the Chairperson took the opportunity to distribute a plan with accompanying background information to residents within the vicinity of these</i>

<u>Consultee</u>	<u>Response</u>
	<p>proposals. As a result, seven substantial comments / objections have been received from residents.</p> <p>As this is an initial consultation for Statutory Consultees the comments/objections received from residents will be held for consideration on the basis the Committee approves the progression of these proposals to full public advertisement. In the meantime it is nevertheless intended to engage with the residents and local members to further discuss the issues at this location.</p>
Cove & Altens Community Council	No response.
Culter Community Council	No response.
Cults, Bieldside & Milltimber Community Council	We have no objections, provided the residents in No's 30 to 38 Kirk Brae are in agreement with the proposal.
Kingswells Community Council	No response.
Mastrick, Sheddocksley & Summerhill Community Council	<p>Have serious concerns regarding the affect of the proposals on the Stronsay Drive, Eday Road, Stronsay Place junction, as shown in Plan 1.</p> <p><i>See main report for detail.</i></p>
Queen's Cross / Harlaw Community Council	No response.
Torry Community Council	No response.
Westhill & Elrick Community Council	<p>I write in response to the letter you sent....regarding the proposed change to the speed limit on the C class Brodiach Road leading out of Westhill which links with the A944.</p> <p>The letter was discussed at the meeting of W&ECC on 14th April and was unanimously welcomed by the members as being a very sensible suggestion. We all agreed it will help with encouraging drivers to pay heed to the speed they travel at along the most populated part of that well used road.</p>