

Decision Maker: Environment Portfolio Holder

For any pre-decision scrutiny questions by the Environment PDS Committee on

Date: 4 October 2011

Decision Type: Urgent Executive Non-Key

Title: **MILL BROOK ROAD - ZEBRA CROSSING**

Contact Officer: Malcolm Harris, Team Leader; Traffic Engineering
Tel: 020 8313 4500 E-mail: malcolm.harris@bromley.gov.uk

Chief Officer: Nigel Davies, Director of Environmental Services

Ward: Cray Valley East

1. Reason for report

- 1.1 A report on the Cray Valley Study (London Greenways), was presented to Members last year. This study identified a new walking and cycling route through various parks and open spaces and revealed various road safety improvements that could be made. One of these was the need for a new pedestrian crossing facility in Mill Brook Road, near its junction with Market Meadow.
- 1.2 This report seeks the approval of the Portfolio Holder for the installation of a zebra crossing in Mill Brook Road, St Mary Cray, as detailed in drawing number ESD-10936-1.
- 1.3 The decision for this item needs to be taken as a matter of urgency in view of the impending closure of Chislehurst Road bridge. The works will need to be completed in advance of the closure.
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2. **RECOMMENDATION(S)**

That the Portfolio Holder:

- 2.1 **Urgently agrees to the installation of a Zebra crossing in Mill Brook Road near to the street junction of Market Meadow, as detailed in drawing labelled ESD-10936-1, subject to an investigation of the statutory utilities under the footway; and**
- 2.2 **Agrees to the delegation of minor design details of the crossing to the Director of Environmental Services, in consultation with the Environmental Portfolio Holder.**

Corporate Policy

1. Policy Status: Existing policy.
 2. BBB Priority: Quality Environment.
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Financial

1. Cost of proposal: Estimated cost £20k
 2. Ongoing costs: N/A.
 3. Budget head/performance centre: TfL LIP funding for Cycling and Walking Schemes 2011/12
 4. Total current budget for this head: £345k, of which £65k is assigned to this scheme, with an uncommitted balance of £48k
 5. Source of funding: Transport for London LIP funding
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Staff

1. Number of staff (current and additional): 1
 2. If from existing staff resources, number of staff hours: 60
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Legal

1. Legal Requirement: Non-statutory - Government guidance.
 2. Call-in: Call-in is not applicable. Urgent Decision
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Customer Impact

1. Estimated number of users/beneficiaries (current and projected): All local residents and people using the Nugent Shopping Centre and nearby local shops around Mill Brook Road.
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Ward Councillor Views

1. Have Ward Councillors been asked for comments? Yes.
2. Summary of Ward Councillors comments: One councillor has responded and supported the scheme.

3. COMMENTARY

- 3.1 In FY09/10 TfL funded a study of a Greenways walking and cycle route from Orpington by-pass to our Borough boundary with Bexley. That study report highlighted various options to improve road safety at locations along this route. One of these locations was in Mill Brook Road by the road junction of Market Meadow. Observations revealed that there was a high desire for a formal crossing here, due to various nearby facilities such as the Nugent Centre on one side of Mill Brook Road and local shops on the other side around Sandway Road.
- 3.2 The scheme was supported by a Ward Member, Cllr Fortune.
- 3.3 The site was investigated by traffic engineers who concluded that the provision of a pedestrian crossing would create a safer crossing point for local residents and shoppers here.
- 3.4 In January 2010 a pedestrian count was conducted and this revealed a high number of people crossing at this specific location. An assessment of two different types of facility was requested by Councillors for a pedestrian crossing. A Zebra crossing or pedestrian refuge were the two main options considered by Councillors.
- 3.5 After this review and an assessment of costs a consultation was conducted for the provision of a Zebra crossing in Mill Brook Road.

Consultation

- 3.6 Pre-consultation documents were sent out to Ward Members inviting their comments. One Ward Member responded and was supportive of the scheme.
- 3.7 On 19th August 2011 local residents were consulted to seek their views concerning the proposal to install a Zebra crossing at this location. 250 questionnaires were delivered. There was a high number in favour of the proposal.

Summary of Consultation Response

No of questionnaires circulated	No of questionnaires returned	In favour	Against	Undecided
250	76	73	3	0

- 3.6 This proposal is in line with the Council's aims of improving road safety. This report seeks the approval of the Portfolio Holder to install a Zebra crossing in Mill Brook Road, St. Mary Cray.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 In "Building a Better Bromley 2020 Vision – Quality Environment", two stated issues to be tackled are: (i) Promoting safe motoring; and (ii) Improving the road network for all users.

4. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The estimated cost of this scheme is £20k and will be funded from the TfL LIP funding for Cycle and Walking Schemes 2011/12, which has an uncommitted balance of £48k available to fund the Cray Valley scheme. A Traffic Management Order will be required, but to minimise the financial impact the cost will be divided between this and other current schemes requiring Orders.

5. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

A Traffic Management Order will be required under Section 9 of the Traffic Regulation Act 1984.

Non-Applicable Sections:	Personnel Implications
Background Documents: (Access via Contact Officer)	Consultation document filed in room N87 CRAY VALLEY STUDY (LONDON GREENWAYS) PDS report 18 January 2010