

Decision Maker: Environment Portfolio Holder

For Pre-Decision Scrutiny by the Environment PDS Committee on

Date: 1st September 2021

Decision Type: Non-Urgent Executive Non-Key

Title: **SOUTH EDEN PARK ROAD, BECKENHAM – SAFETY IMPROVEMENT SCHEME.**

Contact Officer: Joel Mimbo-Hontang
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Chief Officer: Colin Brand

Ward: Kelsey and Eden Park, and West Wickham

1. Reason for report

- 1.1. To seek approval from the Environment Portfolio Holder to enable Council officers to carry out site investigations and feasibility studies into the issues of speeding, introducing a new path along Harvington Park, footway widening along South Eden Park Road and Hawksbrook Lane and improved crossing points along South Eden Park Road and to progress to any supported scheme accordingly
- 1.2. The Environment Portfolio Holder and Ward Members will be kept informed of progress and Members will be consulted on the detailed design of proposals through the usual channels as with any Council Highways scheme.

2. **RECOMMENDATION(S)**

- 2.1. The PDS committee is asked to consider the proposals and provide comment.

The Environment Portfolio Holder is asked to:

- 2.2. To permit Council officers to carry out feasibility studies and progress scheme to an informal consultation and detailed design which is expected to take up to 6 months.

Impact on Vulnerable Adults and Children

1. Summary of Impact: The potential scheme will be made accessible to vulnerable road users and will have positive impact on vulnerable adults and children. Cyclists will also be taken into account when designing the scheme.
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Corporate Policy

1. Policy Status: This proposal supports priority 5 of the 2021-2022 Environment Portfolio Plan to Improving Travel, Transport & Parking
 2. BBB Priority: Children and Young People Quality Environment Safe Bromley Supporting Independence Healthy Bromley
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Financial

1. Cost of proposal: Not Applicable
 2. Ongoing costs: Not Applicable
 3. Budget head/performance centre: Capital Programme – TfL Funded Schemes
 4. Total current budget for this head: £4.2m
 5. Source of funding: TfL Grant - Local Implementation Plan
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Personnel

1. Number of staff (current and additional): 2
 2. If from existing staff resources, number of staff hours: 150
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Legal

1. Legal Requirement: None
 2. Call-in: Applicable
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Procurement

1. Summary of Procurement Implications: The final proposals will be built by Bromley's term contractor for Highways.
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Customer Impact

1. Estimated number of users/beneficiaries (current and projected): N/A
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Ward Councillor Views

1. Have Ward Councillors been asked for comments? Yes
2. Summary of Ward Councillors comments:

As South Eden Park Road is shared between two wards; West Wickham Ward and Kelsey and Eden Park Ward, Councillors from both Wards met with residents and they provided the following comments.

The West Wickham Ward members would like the following considered for future changes:

1. A new crossing point, either a zebra or controlled crossing near to St David's School and the existing island.
2. 20 MPH warning signs to operate at the period when children are arriving and leaving school.
3. 30 MPH warning speed activated signs.
4. Widening of the pavement from 12 Beckenham Road to the junction of Beckenham Road junction with Red Lodge Road.
5. New cameras on the traffic lights at the junction with Red Lodge Road/Station Road and Ravenswood Crescent to prevent vehicles crossing on red.

One of the Kelsey and Eden Park Ward member would like the following to be considered for future changes:

1. A new crossing on one of the existing islands on South Eden Park Road on either side of Hawksbrook Lane. The proposed new crossing to be either a zebra or light controlled to improve safety for students attending the Langley schools.
2. New 20 MPH warning signs to operate between Creswell Drive and the Bridge during school drop offs and picks.
3. New 30 MPH warning speed activated signs between the Chinese Garage to bridge on South Eden Park Road, near the junction with Upper Elmers End Road.
4. Pavement widening from outside of 82 South Eden Park Road to Creswell Drive.
5. Widening the right-hand side pavement of Hawksbrook Lane, by the small bridge, approximately 60m from the junction with South Eden Park Road. Alternatively, install a new crossing point on Hawksbrook Lane before the bridge.
6. Either install a new crossing point or hire a new crossing patrol officer to operate at the mini roundabout at the junction of South Eden Park Road and Creswell Drive.
7. The bushes located between 82 South Eden Park Road and Creswell Drive to be regularly maintained as these are making the footway narrow.

3. COMMENTARY

South Eden Park Road

- 3.1. The Traffic team were contacted by Langley Park Learning Trust which oversees the two Langley Park secondary schools, Langley Park Primary School, Clare House and Hawes Down regarding road safety on Hawksbrook Lane at school start and finish times.
- 3.2. The Langley Park Learning Trust highlighted that the safety concerns at the junction of South Eden Park Road and Hawksbrook Lane may worsen in the next two years as the primary school continues to reach full capacity. Due to the pandemic, there has been a greater shift towards car travel which is unlikely to reverse quickly and may contribute to further safety concerns.
- 3.3. The Langley Park Learning Trust are concerned about the safety of school children crossings South Eden Park Road when travelling to and from the School.

- 3.4. A site walkabout took place on Wednesday 14th July 2021 and was attended by Councillor Harris, the Environment Portfolio Holder, Traffic team officers and some residents to discuss the issues and agree on possible solutions to the issues.
- 3.5. There is a request for a new pedestrian crossing on South Eden Park Road at the junction with Oakfield Gardens. Currently, the western footway ends outside no 105 South Eden Park Road and pedestrians have to negotiate with vehicles to let them cross. This is a safety concern that needs to be investigated with the possibility to install a new crossing point.
- 3.6. There is also a speeding issue concern on South Eden Park Road between Creswell Drive and the bridge especially when the children are going to or from school.
- 3.7. There is a request to improve visibility at the Creswell Drive roundabout as the residents have complained about incoming traffic not seeing children waiting to cross.
- 3.8. There is a request from the schools and the residents to convert the informal crossing to zebra crossing at South Eden Park Road junction with Hawksbrook Lane and Upper Elmers End Road.

Harvington park

- 3.9. The residents request for a new paved path through Harvington park to connect Eden Park Avenue to South Eden Park Road. They consider this route as a shortcut and is currently being used by parents and school children going to and from Unicorn school.
- 3.10. This issue was raised before, but it was dropped. It was discussed that this path will not be required if an alternative walking route is available via Oakfield Gardens.

Hawksbrook Lane

- 3.11. The ward councillors have raised concerns about the existing conditions of the footway on Hawksbrook Lane and is described as very narrow. It has been reported that this footway becomes congested with parents' vehicles during morning drop off and afternoon pick-ups.
- 3.12. The ward councillors have proposed that the southern footway on Hawksbrook Lane be widened to improve safety and access to Langley Park Schools.
- 3.13. There is a request to investigate the speeding issues along Hawksbrook Lane which usually occurs during morning drop-off and afternoon pick-ups. There are thousands of students from all three schools that use Hawksbrook Lane to travel to and from the schools, having speeding vehicles along the road present a safety concern that needs to be investigated.

Footpath between Hawksbrook Lane and Creswell Drive

- 3.14. The eastern footway between 82 South Eden Park Road is described as narrow and the ward Councillors have requested that feasibility studies be carried out to determine whether the footway can be widened. This is because the perceived speed and high vehicle volumes on South Eden Park Road can be considered as a safety concerns for pedestrians, especially for parents attending both schools.
- 3.15. The bushes are causing the already narrow pavements to be even worse.

St Dunstan Lane

- 3.16. There are concerning reports regarding the width of the road as it might not be compatible for a two-way traffic as the road gets congested during school pick-ups.

Monks Orchard roundabout

- 3.17. There had been a total of 10 injury accidents that occurred at the roundabout in the five years period up to June 2020. These consist of 2 serious and 8 slight personal injury collisions. 50% of the collisions involved cyclists, 30% occurred at night, 20% occurred in wet conditions and 10% occurred under frosty conditions. Only 1 collision involved a pedestrian.
- 3.18. Officers would like to review the existing road layouts at the roundabout and surroundings to improve safety for all road users.

Junction of South Eden Park Road and St David's Close

- 3.19. There is a request to improve visibility at the existing crossing near the junction of South Eden Park Road and St David's Close as there are reports of vehicles parking too close to the crossing point hence making it difficult for children to be seen when attempting to cross.
- 3.20. There are also reports of potential speeding issues near the crossing point.

Future plans

- 3.21. Traffic team to organise feasibility studies which will consist of traffic surveys to capture speeds and volumes of vehicles on South Eden Park Road near the following junctions; Creswell Drive, Oakfield Gardens, Hawksbrook Lane and St David's Close, **appendix 1**.
- 3.22. Pedestrian survey to be carried out at the following junctions South Eden Park Road on both sides of Hawksbrook Lane to capture the number of pedestrians crossing. This will enable the traffic team to decide which type of crossing point to implement.
- 3.23. The traffic team to investigate the possibility to install better signs, buff strips and potentially 20 flashers at the Creswell Drive roundabout.
- 3.24. The traffic team to carry out site visits during morning drop off and afternoon pick-ups at the junction of South Eden Park Road and Hawksbrook Lane to establish the real issues at that junction. These site visits to be carried out in September 2021 when all year groups are fully back on.
- 3.25. The Traffic team to investigate the possibility of converting St Dunstan Lane to a one way road in the direction towards Wickham Way and to install a drop off area for pupils at the junction with Hawksbrook Lane - This would require school staff to be present and a walking bus arrangement by the school. The traffic team to monitor the traffic around the school.
- 3.26. The Traffic team to carry out site visits in September 2021 to monitor the reported speeding issue on Hawksbrook Lane and investigate potential speed reduction to 10 or 20mph.
- 3.27. The traffic team to look at possibility for improving visibility at this crossing through parking restrictions at the junction of South Eden Park Road and St David's Close and potentially install 20mph flasher.
- 3.28. Wards members to be consulted on the outcomes of the feasibility studies for the roundabout, the potential footway widening on South Eden Road and potential new crossing points. Ward Member views will be sought and if progressed, the Environment Portfolio Holder and Ward Members will be consulted throughout the detailed design process.

- 3.29. The Traffic team colleagues will then be able to undertake informal consultation with relevant stakeholders about the proposals. Further Member and public consultation will take place on the details of the proposals when appropriate during the design process prior to implementation, including statutory consultation where necessary.
- 3.30. A follow up PDS report may be written to present the committee with the consultation's results. This will depend upon costs of the final costs of the proposals.

3. IMPACT ON VULNERABLE ADULTS AND CHILDREN

The potential solution to the issues listed above in section 3 will be designed to be accessible for all vulnerable road users and will have positive impacts on Vulnerable Adults and Children.

4. POLICY IMPLICATIONS

This proposal supports priority 5 of the 2021-2022 Environment Portfolio Plan to Improving Travel, Transport & Parking by working:

- Implement new walking and cycle schemes.
- Implement road safety measures.
- Implement sustainable travel plans

5. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 The proposals recommended in this report to carry out feasibility studies and progress schemes to an informal consultation and detailed design will be undertaken by existing employees. Therefore, there are no direct additional costs as a result of this report.
- 5.2 At this stage, the costs of any new measures are not known and would need to be determined if the proposals are subsequently progressed to implementation. It is anticipated that funding would be met from the Council's LIP allocation; however, TfL have yet to confirm funding levels beyond December 2021.

6. PERSONNEL IMPLICATIONS

- 6.1. Traffic team already employs staff who can project manage the design and delivery of the scheme. The members of staff undertaking these functions are funded via TfL's annual Local Implementation Plan budget at no cost to the Authority.
- 6.2. Given the volume of responses expected as part of the consultation exercise, it is likely that the engagement team will be required to take help with consultation responses from stakeholders and residents.

7. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

Traffic Management Orders will be required at some points, notably if feasibility studies confirm that an upgraded crossing point will be required near the junction of Upper Elmers End Road, Hawksbrook Lane and South Eden Park Road.

8. PROCUREMENT IMPLICATIONS

It is anticipated that the construction work will be undertaken by the Council's term contractors, so no procurement implications are expected, the scale of works being within the threshold.

Non-Applicable Sections:	[List non-applicable sections here]
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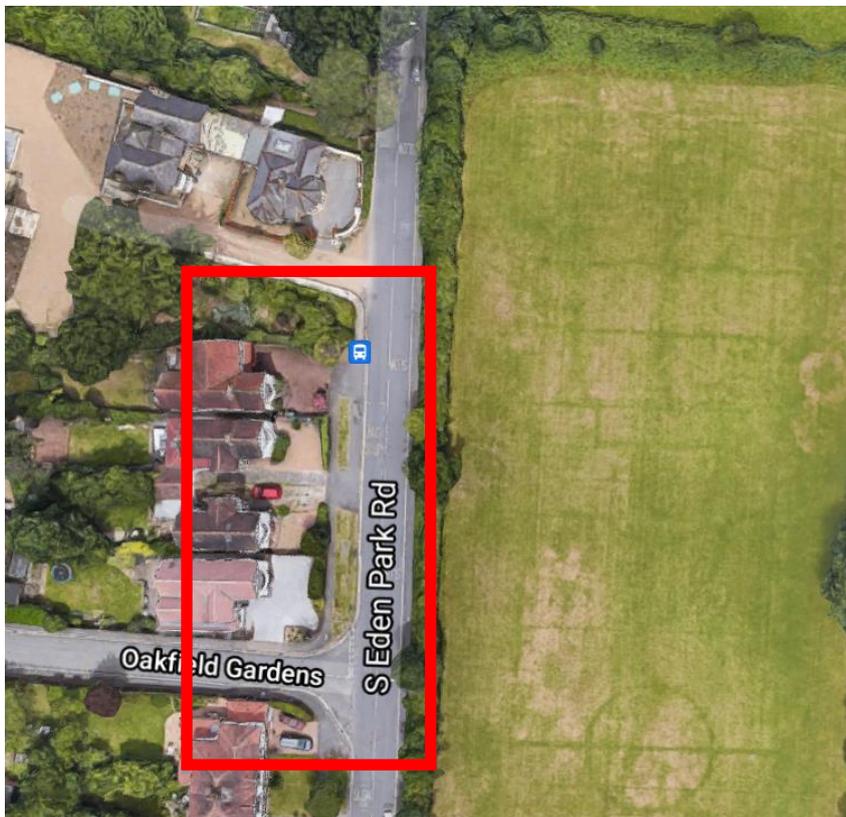
Background Documents: (Access via Contact Officer)	Non-applicable
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Appendix 1: Survey areas

1. Junction of South Eden Park Road and Creswell Drive



2. Junction of South Eden Park Road and Oakfield Gardens



3. Junction of South Eden Park Road and Hawksbrook Lane



4. Junction of South Eden Park Road and St David's Close



Appendix 2: Monks Orchard roundabout

