



Report to Leader (Transport portfolio)

Decision Date: 11 August 2021

Reference number: TR13.21

Title: Chartridge Lane , Chesham, Proposed Signalised Crossing

Relevant councillor(s): Cllr P Birchley, Cllr J MacBean, Cllr M Fayyaz

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Ward(s) affected: Chiltern Ridges

Recommendations:

It is recommended that:

- A. The Leader approves the implementation of the signalised crossing scheme.
- B. The Leader acknowledges the correspondence received in response to the consultation and concludes that no objections to the scheme were received.

Reason for decision: The installation of a signal-controlled crossing forms part of a Section 106 Agreement to mitigate concerns of road safety, and to provide a safe means of crossing Chartridge Lane by students, following expansion of Chiltern Heights Academy School. The project is promoted and supported by Buckinghamshire Council, Parish Council and Elected Members.

Executive summary

- 1.1 The proposal to install a signal-controlled crossing forms part of a planning requirement following the expansion to Chiltern Heights Academy School.
- 1.2 The crossing is to be funded using a Section 106 Agreement financial contribution and supplemented by further funding from the Education Department.
- 1.3 The proposals for the installation of a new signalised crossing, will provide students and other pedestrians with a new and safe means of crossing Chartridge Lane, particularly at peak traffic times, to safeguard the most vulnerable users on foot.

- 1.4 It is anticipated that there will be an increase in the number of students attending the school and that there will be an increase in footfall, particularly crossing Chartridge Lane.
- 1.5 The consultation response indicates a good level of support for implementing the signal-controlled crossing.
- 1.6 It is recommended that the Leader approves the implementation of the signal-controlled crossing.

Content of report

- 1.7 This report sets out the proposals to introduce a new signal-controlled crossing on Chartridge Lane, Chesham, fronting Chiltern Heights Academy School.
- 1.8 The proposal is in response to a Section 106 agreement which was made following the decision to expand Chiltern Heights Academy School, where it is anticipated that a greater number of pupils will be admitted to the school.
- 1.9 The proposal is to mitigate concerns of road safety, which is an increase in pedestrian footfall accessing the school with no controlled crossing facilities in place.
- 1.10 The proposal is being funded using the S106 financial contribution and is further supplemented by a financial contribution made by the Buckinghamshire Council's Education Department.
- 1.11 The proposal has been welcomed by the school, internal departments within Buckinghamshire Council, Parish Council and Elected Members.
- 1.12 The proposal was subject to Statutory Public Consultation which was duly undertaken from 9th to 31st March 2021.
- 1.13 These proposals received a large volume of consultation responses and includes much positive feedback.
- 1.14 However, many responses appear to comment upon the current and anticipated traffic parking problems occurring in and around the school at drop-off and collection times. The general public have voiced concerns in connection with the expansion of Chiltern Heights Academy, and whether the council has any mitigation measures proposed to control the current and potential parking, and effects on the adjacent streets.
- 1.15 The signal-controlled crossing is supported by legislation which prohibits any vehicle parking on the associated zig-zag markings which will prohibit parking. However, these restrictions alone are insufficient to address the parking concerns raised and therefore, TfB shall liaise with the Parking Enforcement and Traffic Management

Teams to bring these concerns forward. Any proposal to address the parking concerns will need to be addressed as a separate project.

- 1.16 The scheme has been developed through joint meetings between Buckinghamshire Council Schools Commissioning Department and TfB Design Services team.
- 1.17 The proposals have been subject to a full public statutory consultation and the outcome of the consultation is recorded later in this report.

Other options considered

- 1.18 No alternative measures have been considered.

Legal and financial implications

- 1.19 The project is promoted and funded by Buckinghamshire Council's Transport Strategy and Education Department.
- 1.20 In accordance with Section 23 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act and The Zebra, Pelican and Puffin Pedestrian Crossings Regulations and General Directions 1997, TfB has undertaken a Statutory Consultation for the provision of installing a signal-controlled crossing on Chartridge Lane, Chesham.
- 1.21 When the decision is taken and recommendations agreed, the scheme can progress to implementation stage for construction. The responders to the consultation and persons likely to be affected will be informed of the decisions made and supplied with the BC Decision Web-site's on-line link to the decision report and appendices.

Corporate implications

- 1.22 *Equality and Diversity Issues - Equality Act 2010*

This proposal will not have any disproportionate effect upon people with protected characteristics. The scheme will introduce parking restrictions near to road junctions to improve access/egress and visibility, contributing to a safer highway network for all road users.

- 1.23 *Property implications*

None identified.

- 1.24 *Value for Money (VfM) Self Assessment*

The scheme construction works will be tendered and carried out by an approved sub-contractor working on behalf of Transport for Buckinghamshire.

1.25 Resource Implications

Future maintenance of all asset will be through the Transport for Buckinghamshire general maintenance budgets.

The funding of the project is to be met by an external contribution committed within a S106 agreement, and internal contribution from Schools Commissioning Departmental budget.

Consultation and communication

1.26 Following consultation, the elected Members were contacted. Post consultation and following the recent elections, Councillor Mohammed Fayyaz has newly joined this ward and has since been consulted on the proposals. Their responses are recorded below:

Consultee name	Response
Cllr Jane MacBean	Cllr Birchley and I have been lobbying for this crossing for several years I think you can take it as read that we are supportive of the plan.
Cllr Patricia Birchley	As Jane MacBean has stated, we are fully supportive of the crossing.
Cllr Mohammed Fayyaz	I fully support the new signal controlled crossing to be installed in Chartridge Lane as this will make it much safer for the children and the vulnerable.

1.27 Consultation Feedback was received by TfB either directly by email or via the Council's online consultation system, Citizen Space. A summary of the consultation responses is recorded below.

Proposals	Unsure about the proposals	Objects to the proposals	Supports the proposals
Do you agree with the proposal Traffic-calming support?	11	0	26

1.28 Please refer to Appendix C for the Consultation Response Summary Report and TfB's response to mitigate the concerns raised.

1.29 Please refer to Appendix D for the full list of responses received to the consultation.

- 1.30 Thames Valley Police responded to the consultation and emailed their report on the crossing scheme, summarising that they have “no objections” to the proposals. This response was assigned as “support” in the context of the consultation process.
- 1.31 All consultees and respondents to the consultation will be contacted by either e-mail or letter and will be informed of the decision and where they can find the details of the statutory consultation and the decision taken. This report will be published on the Council’s web page.

Next steps and review

- 1.32 Subject to the approval of this Key Decision Report, all consultees and correspondents to the consultation will be contacted by either email or letter and will be informed of the decision and where they can find the details of the Statutory Consultation and the decision taken. The report will be published on the Council’s webpage.
- 1.33 TfB shall proceed to programme the works for the installation of a signal-controlled crossing in Chartridge Lane.

Appendices to the Report

Appendix A - Consultation Letter; Statutory Consultation Detail.

Appendix B – Consultation Plan

Appendix C – Summary of consultation responses with TfB’s comments in response to the concerns raised.

Appendix D - All Feedback from Statutory Consultation – (Anon- except Members)

Your questions and views (for key decisions)

If you have any questions about the matters contained in this report please get in touch with the author of this report. If you have any views that you would like the cabinet member to consider please inform the democratic services team. This can be done by telephone 01296 382343 or email democracy@buckinghamshire.gov.uk