

TONBRIDGE & MALLING BOROUGH COUNCIL

JOINT TRANSPORTATION BOARD

24 September 2012

Report of the Director of Kent Highways and Transportation

Part 1- Public

Matters For Decision

1 QUARRY HILL ROAD – TOUCAN CROSSING PROPOSALS

Summary

The purpose of this report is to provide members with the results of the Quarry Hill Road Toucan crossing consultation and to ask Members to decide whether to implement the proposals.

1.1 Background

1.1.1 A scheme to implement a pedestrian crossing on Quarry Hill Road by Brook Street and pedestrian island on Brook Street was originally promoted by the local community, Local Members and College and bid for as part of the 2011/12 LTP programme. The purpose of the scheme was to provide safer pedestrian routes to West Kent College encouraging modal shift and hence improving air quality by reducing congestion. The scheme has now been successful in receiving funding from the 12/13 LTP programme.

1.2 Proposals

1.2.1 The proposal is for a toucan crossing to be provided on Quarry Hill Road to aid pedestrians and cyclists crossing Quarry Hill Road, particularly those travelling to and from the educational facilities on Brook Street.

1.2.2 Consultation on these proposals was started on 30th July and included a letter drop to local residents. The consultation letter requested comments and objections be made to Kent County Council by 24th August for consideration. Details of these proposals can be seen in the drawing attached in **Appendix 1** of this report.

1.3 Results of the Consultation

A summary of the consultation responses received is shown in the table below.

Summary of Results

	Support	Object
Member of Public	1	3
Kent Police	1	
Total	2	3

- 1.3.1 Kent County Council received five responses to the consultation that was carried out. As shown in the table above, the results show that 2 supported and 3 objected to the proposals. Kent Police stated that in principle they had no objections to the proposals. The reasons given for objecting to the proposals were perceived access problems to residential properties, an increase in congestion on Quarry Hill Road and the perception that the toucan crossing would not be used.

1.4 Discussion

- 1.4.1 As there have not been any recorded personal injury crashes at this location in the last three years the Highway Authority cannot state that the proposals will statistically improve road safety in the area

1.5 Conclusion

- 1.5.1 The purpose of this report is to provide members with the results of the Quarry Hill Road toucan crossing consultation. Members are therefore asked to decide whether to implement the proposed toucan crossing on Quarry Hill Road based on the consultation responses.

1.6 Legal Implications

- 1.6.1 None.

1.7 Financial and Value for Money Considerations

- 1.7.1 Funding will be provided by Kent Highways and Transportation.

1.8 Risk Assessment

- 1.8.1 As described in the report.

1.9 Equality Impact Assessment

- 1.9.1 See 'Screening for equality impacts' table at end of report

1.10 Recommendations

- 1.10.1 In view of the balanced views of those responding to the consultation, Members are asked to decide whether this scheme should progress or not.

Background papers:

Nil

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Director of Highways and Transportation

Screening for equality impacts:		
Question	Answer	Explanation of impacts
a. Does the decision being made or recommended through this paper have potential to cause adverse impact or discriminate against different groups in the community?	No	
b. Does the decision being made or recommended through this paper make a positive contribution to promoting equality?	Yes	If progressed, the provision of signal controlled crossing point will provide safer means for all pedestrians to cross the highway.
c. What steps are you taking to mitigate, reduce, avoid or minimise the impacts identified above?		

In submitting this report, the Chief Officer doing so is confirming that they have given due regard to the equality impacts of the decision being considered, as noted in the table above.