

**TONBRIDGE & MALLING BOROUGH COUNCIL**

**JOINT TRANSPORTATION BOARD**

**3 December 2012**

**Report of the Director of Kent Highways and Transportation**

**Part 1- Public**

**Matters For Information**

**1 A20/SEVEN MILE LANE JUNCTION**

**Summary**

**The purpose of this report is to provide members with information on the comments received during the consultation that has been carried out for the proposed traffic signals at the A20 London Road/Seven Mile Lane and to outline the proposed action going forward.**

**1.1 Background**

1.1.1 A report was submitted to the Joint Transportation Board in March outlining the background information and current proposals for the A20 London Road junction with Seven Mile Lane to address the crashes occurring at this location.

**1.2 Proposals**

1.2.1 In addition to the consultation noted in the March JTB report in Appendix 1, a further consultation on the traffic signal proposals was started on 20<sup>th</sup> September and included a letter drop to local residents. This consultation requested comments on the proposed traffic signals and the pedestrian crossing facilities only and these comments needed to be made to Kent County Council by 26<sup>th</sup> October 2012 for consideration. Details of the proposals can be seen in the drawing attached in **Appendix 1** of this report.

**1.3 Results of the Consultation**

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

Summary of the Results

	<b>Support</b>	<b>Object</b>	<b>Roundabout</b>
Member of Public	19	1	6
Businesses/Companies	2		
Police	1		
Ambulance	1		

	<b>Support</b>	<b>Object</b>	<b>Roundabout</b>
Road Haulage Association	1		
Parish Council	3		1
Tonbridge and Malling Borough Councillors			2
Ward Member	1		
<b>Total</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>9</b>

1.3.2 Kent County Council received a total of 38 responses to the consultation that was carried out. As shown in the table above, there were 28 letters of support, 1 objection and 9 responses that requested a roundabout as opposed to traffic signals. The main reasons given for objecting to the proposals and for requesting a roundabout were:

- Traffic signals would prevent the free flow of traffic and this would result in significant congestion;
- Increased pollution and noise;
- Traffic lights would cause vehicles to divert onto unsuitable roads to avoid this junction.

1.3.3 The main reasons for supporting the proposals were that it would improve the safety at the junction by addressing the existing crash problem and that it was an effective means of traffic control.

1.3.4 A number of the consultation responses suggested measures that needed to be considered as part of this scheme. These suggestions have been considered and where appropriate will be implemented as part of the detailed design process. One of these measures will be the provision of “keep clear” markings at the side road junctions of Teston Road and Ford Lane.

1.3.5 Kent County Council is aware of the existing flooding that occurs under the railway bridge on Seven Mile Lane and this is currently being addressed.

## **1.4 Ongoing Work**

1.4.1 Kent County Council have commissioned Jacobs to undertake safety assessment studies looking at the scheme’s value in terms of its ability to save crashes over a specified period of time compared to alternative options. Kent County Council will provide an update to a future Joint Transportation Board once the results of this work have been received.

## **1.5 Legal Implications**

1.5.1 None at this stage.

**1.6 Financial and Value for Money Considerations**

1.6.1 This work will be funded by the County Council.

**1.7 Risk Assessment**

1.7.1 Not required.

Background papers:

Nil

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