

Delegated Decision Report

Decision below £250k



Subject:	Buckstones Primary School, Delamere Avenue, Shaw
Decision maker: Senior Officer	Director of Environment, Nasir Dad
Decision maker: Cabinet Member	Don't Trash Oldham, Councillor C Goodwin
Decision date:	28 August 2024
Report author:	Mark Woodhead
Ward (s):	Shaw

Reason for decision

High traffic levels outside schools pose road safety risks to all road users, including pedestrians, create congestion and obstruct access for residents and the emergency services.

Removing vehicular traffic at certain times of the day from roads in the vicinity of school entrances will facilitate safer journeys for children travelling to school and make active travel options (cycling and walking) viable and more appealing.

The Council first introduced "School Streets" in 2023 - a School Street seeks to provide safe, primarily traffic free environments, outside schools. In turn, this encourages active travel measures to be used for the school drop off and pickup journeys, improving children's wellbeing and reducing emissions from vehicles. School Streets are a nationwide initiative that are being promoted and funded across Greater Manchester by TfGM.

For a school street to be enforceable, there is a requirement to introduce a 'Prohibition of Motor Vehicles (except for permit holders) Traffic Regulation Order'. This will prohibit vehicles entering the lengths of carriageway designated as the school street in the restricted hours.

On 22 November 2023, the Council introduced an Experimental Traffic Order to restrict vehicle access to Buckstones Primary School. Following positive feedback from the school and residents during this trial period, it is proposed to introduce the School Street restriction using a permanent traffic regulation order, supported with additional parking restrictions.

Recommendation(s)

The preferred option is Option 1

Background

On 22 November 2023, the Council introduced an Experimental Traffic Order to restrict vehicle access to Buckstones Primary School. Following positive feedback from the school and residents during this trial period, it is proposed to introduce the School Street restriction using a permanent traffic regulation order, supported with additional parking restrictions.

Alternative option(s) to be considered *(please give the reason(s) for recommendation(s))*

Option 1 – to introduce the measures described to assist the safety of school children and access for residents.

Option 2 – to leave the parking arrangements as they are now, to the detriment of safety to the school children and access for residents

Consultation *(include any conflict of interest declared by relevant Cabinet Member consulted)*

The Ward Members have been consulted and Councillor H Sykes has commented:- I am not opposed to these proposals and do improve the situation of Delamere Avenue. However, I am concerned that it just displaces the problems to un-safer locations on Scarr Lane and Hillside Avenue. This is also my personal observation that traffic (parking) is worse on Scarr Lane and especially Hillside Avenue. And I really am concerned about the speed of traffic on Hillside Avenue and the double parking that occurs in this location and elsewhere at school pick up and drop off points. Also, the bus terminus restrictions are not enforced which cause further issues.

I also think the retractable 'ribbon barrier' – from the two planters - like what you have in pedestrian queues will not last 2 mins before someone breaks it, a more substantive barrier to prevent misuse is required. A removal barrier like road works or cones at least would be better.

The above issues need to be addressed in some way.

Response to Councillors Comments

The experimental order has been in place since October 2023; during the opening two weeks, officers visited the site daily and did not witness any significant increase in displaced parking.

The retractable barrier is being used to address issues during the trial which used road cones and signs. Further monitoring of the area will continue after the permanent measures have been implemented. Officers are aware of the bus terminus, alterations to the existing restrictions are being considered. However, to date, no solution has been identified.

G.M.P. View - The Chief Constable has been consulted and has no objection to this proposal.

T.f.G.M. View - The Director General has been consulted and has no comment on this proposal.

G.M. Fire Service View - The County Fire Officer has been consulted and has no comment on this proposal.

N.W. Ambulance Service View - The County Ambulance Officer has been consulted and has no comment on this proposal.

Risks

The introduction of the permanent schools street measures around Buckstones Primary will improve safety for road users, improve access and assist with visibility. There could be reputation risks around the scheme in terms of residents and business reactions to the proposals these can be mitigated by the temporary measures already in effect, effective communications, the publication notice and review of any objections received during the consultation period and acting on these prior to the measures being made permanent.

(Vicki Gallacher, Head of Insurance and Information Governance)

Implications

<p>Financial</p>	<p>The cost of introducing the measures are detailed below:</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="699 730 1312 909"> <thead> <tr> <th></th> <th>£</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Erection of Signs/planters</td> <td>3,500</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Advertisement of Order</td> <td>1,200</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Road Markings</td> <td>500</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Total</td> <td>5,200</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p><u>Capital Implications</u></p> <p>The proposed capital works will be a charge to the Highways – School Streets Capital Programme, funded primarily by the Active Travel Fund (ATF) grant.</p> <p>Provision exists within the capital programme to support these works.</p> <p>(Jit Kara – Senior Accountant)</p>		£	Erection of Signs/planters	3,500	Advertisement of Order	1,200	Road Markings	500	Total	5,200
	£										
Erection of Signs/planters	3,500										
Advertisement of Order	1,200										
Road Markings	500										
Total	5,200										
<p>Legal</p>	<p>The Council must be satisfied that it is expedient to make the Traffic Regulation Order in order to avoid danger to persons or other traffic using the road or any other road or for preventing the likelihood of any such danger arising, or for preventing damage to the road or to any building on or near the road, or for facilitating the passage on the road or any other road of any class of traffic, including pedestrians, or for preventing the use of the road by vehicular traffic of a kind which, or its use by vehicular traffic in a manner which, is unsuitable having regard to the existing character of the road or adjoining property or for preserving or improving the amenities of the area through which the road runs.</p> <p>In addition to the above, under section 122 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, it shall be the duty of the Council so to exercise the functions conferred on them by the Act as to secure the expeditious, convenient and safe movement of vehicular and other traffic (including pedestrians) and the provision of suitable</p>										

	and adequate parking facilities on and off the highway. Regard must also be had to the desirability of securing and maintaining reasonable access to premises, the effect on the amenities of any locality affected and the importance of regulating and restricting the use of roads by heavy commercial vehicles so as to preserve or improve the amenities of the areas through which the roads run, the strategy produced under section 80 Environmental Protection Act 1990 (the national air quality strategy), the importance of facilitating the passage of public service vehicles and of securing the safety and convenience of persons using or desiring to use such vehicles and any other matters appearing to the Council to be relevant. (Alan Evans)
Equality impact including implications for Children and Young People	None
Co-operative	The recommended proposals set out in this report will introduce a 'school street' outside of Buckstones Primary School. This will facilitate safer journeys for children travelling to school, more active travel, and reduced emissions from vehicles, leading to healthier lives for children and residents. This is in line with our cooperative agenda. (James Mulvaney, Policy Manager)

Has the relevant Legal Officer confirmed that the recommendations within this report are lawful and comply with the Council's Constitution?	Yes
Has the relevant Finance Officer confirmed that any expenditure referred to within this report is consistent with the Council's budget?	Yes
Are any of the recommendations within this report contrary to the Policy Framework of the Council?	No

Background Papers under Section 100D of the Local Government Act 1972

Schedule 1 – Prohibition of Motor Vehicles

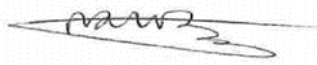
Column 1	Column 2	Column 3
Length of Road	Duration	Exemptions
Delamere Avenue – for its entire length	Mon-Fri 08.30 – 09.00 15:00 – 15.45	Permit Holders


No Waiting At Any Time

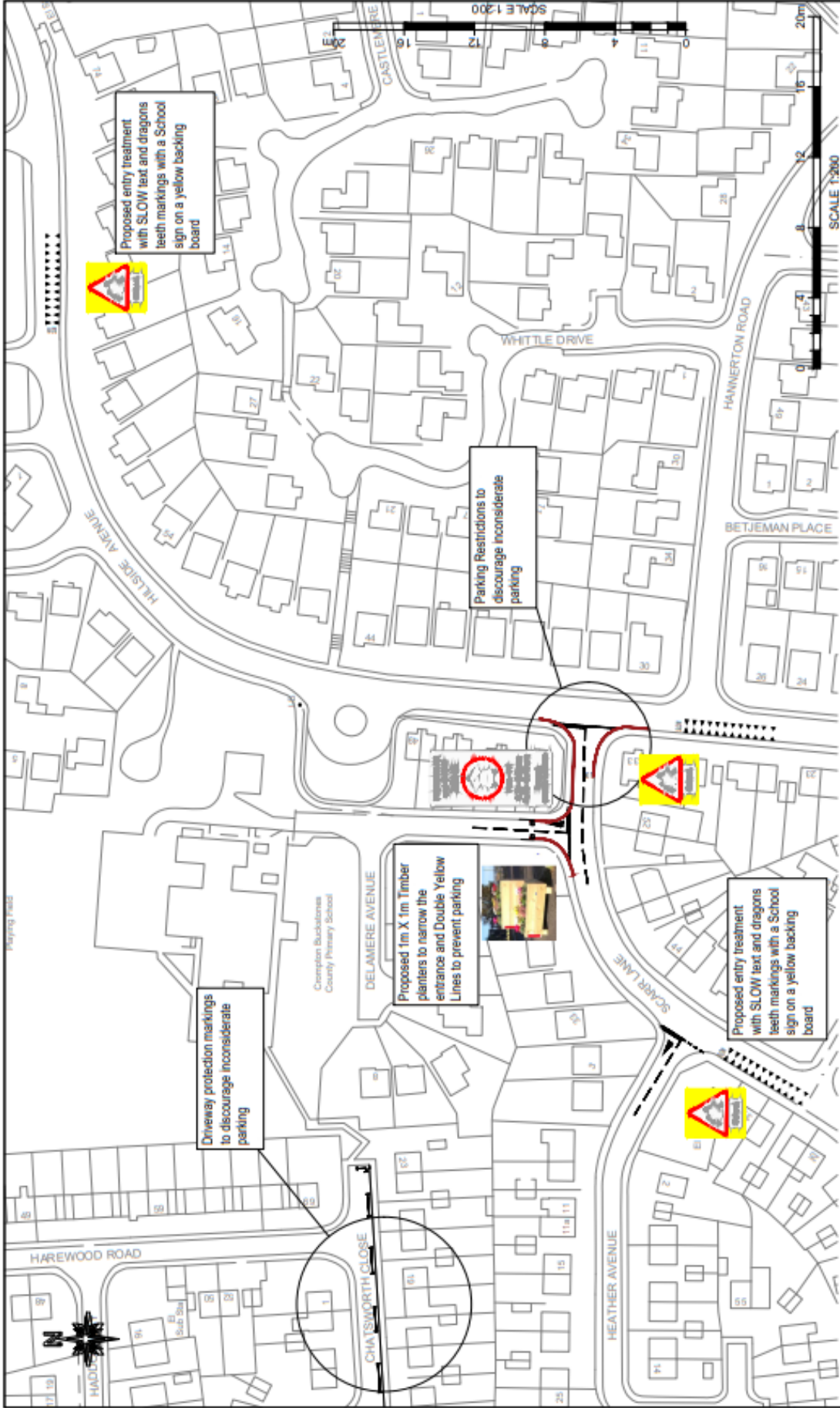
Item No	Length of Road	Duration	Exemptions	No Loading
	<u>Delamere Avenue</u> (Both sides) From its junction with Scarr Lane for a distance of 10metres in a northerly direction	At Any Time		
	<u>Scarr Lane</u> (North side) From its junction with Hillside Avenue for a distance of 42metres in a westerly direction	At Any time		
	<u>Scarr Lane</u> (South side) From its junction with Hillside Avenue for a distance of 10 metres in a westerly direction	At Any Time		

	<u>Hillside Avenue</u> (West Side) From a point 12 metres south of its junction with Scarr Lane for a distance of 30 metres in a northerly direction	At Any Time		
--	--	-------------	--	--

Report author sign-off	Mark Woodhead
Role	Traffic Engineer
Date of sign-off	15.08.24

Approval	
Officer approval sign-off	
Role	Director of Environment
Date of sign-off	28.08.2024

Approval	
Member(s) approval sign-off	
Role	Cabinet Member for Don't Trash Oldham
Date of sign-off	Wednesday 11 th September 2024



ORDNANCE SURVEY LICENCE INFORMATION:
 © Crown copyright and database rights 2022 Ordnance Survey licence 0100019688

		OMBC BUCKSTONES PRIMARY SCHOOLS STREET		GENERAL ARRANGEMENT OPERATIONAL TIMES (08:30 - 09:00 & 15:00 - 15:45)	
Project Buckstone Primary School	Date 15/03/2022	Drawn by NTS	Checked by NTS	Scale at A3 size 1:1000	Drawing No. BUCKSTONE/1200/01
HIGHWAYS & ENGINEERING Hertfordshire, Cheshire, Oxford, O.C.T. 189		T:001 TEAM RESOURCE/Traffic & Network Mair/01 Traffic/Traffic Phase 1/Buckstone Primary School/Buckstone Primary School 1200-01.dwg			