

	<p><b>Finchley and Golders Green Area Committee</b></p> <p><b>27 April 2017</b></p>
<p style="text-align: right;"><b>Title</b></p>	<p><b>Alexandra Grove/Ballards Lane, N12 Junction – Pedestrian Improvements</b></p>
<p style="text-align: right;"><b>Report of</b></p>	<p>Commissioning Director for Environment</p>
<p style="text-align: right;"><b>Wards</b></p>	<p>West Finchley</p>
<p style="text-align: right;"><b>Status</b></p>	<p>Public</p>
<p style="text-align: right;"><b>Urgent</b></p>	<p>No</p>
<p style="text-align: right;"><b>Key</b></p>	<p>No</p>
<p style="text-align: right;"><b>Enclosures</b></p>	<p>Appendix 1 - Drawing No. C2016_BC/001027_04-100-01</p>
<p style="text-align: right;"><b>Officer Contact Details</b></p>	<p>Jamie Blake – Commissioning Director for Environment  <a href="mailto:Jamie.blake@barnet.gov.uk">Jamie.blake@barnet.gov.uk</a></p>

<h2>Summary</h2>
<p>This report details the outcome of the safety review of pedestrian improvements on Alexandra Grove junction with Ballards Lane and including Moss Hall Crescent. (N12).</p>

<h2>Recommendations</h2>
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. That the Finchley and Golders Green Area Committee note the review of the Alexandra Grove/Ballard’s Lane pedestrian safety improvement as outlined in this report and the appendices to this report containing details of design proposals and safety investigations.</li> <li>2. That the Finchley and Golders Green Area Committee agrees to implement the pedestrian safety scheme on Alexandra Grove, N12, as set out in this report and detailed in Appendix 1.</li> </ol>

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| <p><b>3. That the Finchley and Golders Green Area Committee, gives instructions to the Commissioning Director for Environment to carry out a statutory consultation on the approved scheme.</b></p>  |
| <p><b>4. That subject to no objections being received to the statutory consultation, referred to in recommendation 3, the Finchley and Golders Green Area Committee instruct the Commissioning Director for Environment to introduce the approved scheme.</b></p> <p><b>5. That the Finchley and Golders Green Area Committee agree that if any objections are received as a result of the statutory consultations, referred to in recommendation 3, the Commissioning Director for Environment will consider and determine whether the agreed option should be implemented or not, and if so, with or without modification.</b></p> |
| <p><b>6. That the Finchley and Golders Green Area Committee agree to allocate the funding for the agreed Option (£5,000) (CIL from this year's CIL Area Committee budget of £13,500 to design and carry out statutory consultation and, subject to the outcome of that consultation, introduce the approved scheme.</b></p>  |

## **1. WHY THIS REPORT IS NEEDED**

- 1.1 This report is needed to address the concerns highlighted for pedestrians crossing Alexandra Grove close to the junction with Ballards Lane, N12.
- 1.2 A petition was reported to the 6 July 2016 Finchley and Golders Green Area Committee with 43 signatories. *'Put a zebra crossing at the top of Alexandra Grove N12 and corner of Ballards Lane'*.
- 1.3 The lead petitioner presented the petition to the Committee, stating that Alexandra Grove is a busy road, which is difficult to cross and they had often seen children crossing the road by themselves.
- 1.4 Councillor Houston confirmed that it is a busy junction and a bus route. However, he noted the difficulty of placing a crossing in Alexandra Grove near its junction with Ballards Lane because of the proximity of Moss Hall Crescent.
- 1.5 The Finchley and Golders Green Area Committee unanimously agreed and it was therefore RESOLVED on 6 July 2016:  
That the Committee agrees the expenditure of £5,000 from the Area Committee budget for a feasibility study to be carried out for a pedestrian crossing on Alexandra Grove N12 near its junction with Ballards Lane. A report would come back to the Committee with the available options for Alexandra Grove
- 1.6 Site visits have been undertaken and the following noted:

- High incidence of pedestrian movement on Ballards Lane crossing at Alexandra Grove;
  - High traffic volumes on Alexandra Grove turning left or right into Ballards Lane;
  - Visibility issues with mature tree on Alexandra Road making it impractical to install a zebra crossing;
  - Alexandra Grove is a bus route.
- 1.7 Pedestrian crossing counts were carried out on Thursday 15 December and Saturday 17 December 2016 which indicate where the majority of pedestrian's are crossing. A manual classified traffic count was also carried out on Saturday 17 December 2016.
- 1.8 The Personal Injury Accident Data has been analysed and between 1 September 2011 and 31 August 2016. Five accidents occurred on Ballards Lane near its junction with Alexandra Grove. Four involved a powered two wheeler and one involved a pedestrian. All were slight, and occurred during day light hours and in dry conditions.
- 1.8 The initial investigations and the site visits indicated that overall it would benefit pedestrians to install a pedestrian facility in this location. However the layout of the junction with the access to Moss Hall Crescent being in close proximity to the junction with Ballards Lane makes it difficult to propose a zebra crossing points where the majority of pedestrians were shown to cross.
- 1.9 A proposal for installing a zebra crossing further west along Alexandra Grove was also investigated, however, not only was it even further from the desire line for pedestrians to cross, the location was obstructed by a very high profile tree and existing vehicle crossing points.
- 1.10 Therefore, the feasibility indicated that it would benefit both pedestrians and all forms of transport if an uncontrolled pedestrian crossing point complete with dropped kerb and tactile paving, was installed. A kerb build-out on the west side of Moss Hall Crescent incorporated into the design will narrow the junction mouth at its junction with Alexandra Grove and help to facilitate the crossing.
- 1.11 The location of the proposed island still allows access for the 221 Bus which serves Alexandra Grove from Ballard's Lane.

### ***Feasibility Design Proposals***

- 1.12 Drawing C2016\_BC/001027\_04-100\_01 shows the proposed layout which includes the construction of an informal island crossing point complete with dropped kerbs, tactile paving and keep left bollards.
- 1.13 It is proposed to install a kerb build-out to narrow junction mouth at Moss Hall Crescent junction with Alexandra Court. Increase double yellow lines as indicated on drawing to improve visibility for all users.
- 1.14 The proposals also includes:

- reposition existing lamp column to back of footway on Alexandra Grove.
- reposition existing 'Give Way' sign and post on Alexandra Grove.
- Proposed central road markings on the carriageway at new island crossing point

## **2 REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS**

2.1 The proposals are recommended to improve safety and make crossing Alexandra grove at its junction with Ballard Lane safer and more attractive environment for local residents, schools and local shopping facilities for those who make use of the pedestrian footways.

2.2 If approved the scheme will be implemented in Autumn 2017.

## **3 ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED AND NOT RECOMMENDED**

3.1 Consideration was given to making Moss Hall Crescent a 'no through' road and providing zebra crossing at its junction with Alexandra Grove. This location would not have been within pedestrian desire lines and therefore the crossing was less likely to be used with pedestrians still crossing closer to Ballards Lane where the proposed traffic island is to be located.

3.2 Consideration was also given to a zebra crossing on Alexandra Grove but because of visibility issues, i.e. a very high profile tree on Alexandra Grove which would have to be removed, the option was rejected. Siting the zebra crossing would have been even further west and would not have been within pedestrian desire lines and therefore the crossing was less likely to be used with pedestrians still crossing closer to Ballards Lane where the proposed traffic island is to be located.

3.3 The only other option at this stage is to not proceed with any of the proposed improvements. This will however not address the original concern raised by local residents.

## **4 POST DECISION IMPLEMENTATION**

4.1 If the reports recommendation is approved, the scheme would be progressed to consultation and implementation stage in the 2017/2018 financial year.

## **5 IMPLICATIONS OF DECISION**

### **5.1 Corporate Priorities and Performance**

5.1.1 The proposals here will particularly help to address the Corporate Plan delivery objectives of "a clean and attractive environment, with well-maintained roads and pavements, flowing traffic" and "a responsible approach to regeneration, with thousands of new homes built" by helping residents to feel confident moving around their local area on foot, and in a vehicle and contribute to reduced congestion.

5.1.2 The scheme will also impact on the health and wellbeing needs of the local population as identified in Barnet's Joint Strategic Needs Assessment.

## **5.2 Resources (Finance & Value for Money, Procurement, Staffing, IT, Property, Sustainability)**

5.2.1 Council funding of £5000 was agreed from the Finchley and Golders Green Area Budget to carry out the initial review of Alexandra Grove, preliminary design and layout proposals.

5.2.2 The estimated implementation cost for the recommendations is £13,500 (based on prices contained in Year 2, Volume 4 Adjusted Rates – London Highways Alliance Contract (LoHAC) Northwest1). The cost will be funded from the 2016/17 Area Scheme Funding.

5.2.3 The work will be carried out under the existing PFI and LoHAC term maintenance contractual arrangements.

## **5.3 Social Value**

5.3.1 None in the context of this report.

## **5.4 Legal and Constitutional References**

5.4.1 The Council's Constitution, in section 15 headed "Responsibility for Functions" (Annex A) states that Area Committees may take decisions within their terms of reference provided it is not contrary to council policy and can discharge various functions, including highway use and regulation, within the boundaries of their areas in accordance with Council policy and within budget.

5.4.2 The Traffic Management Act 2004 places an obligation on local traffic authorities to ensure the expeditious movement of traffic on their road network. Authorities are required to make arrangements as they consider appropriate for planning and carrying out the action to be taken in performing the duty.

5.4.3 The Council as the Highway Authority has the necessary legal powers to introduce or amend Traffic Management Orders through the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984.

5.4.4 Statutory consultation will be carried out in accordance with the provisions of The Local Authorities' Traffic Order (Procedure) (England and Wales) Regulations 1996 once the Committee has approved the scheme.

## **5.5 Risk Management**

5.5.1 None in the context of this report. Risk management may be required for work resulting from this report.

## **5.6 Equalities and Diversity**

- 5.6.1 The 2010 Equality Act outlines the provisions of the Public Sector Equalities Duty which requires Public Bodies **to have due regard** to the need to:
- eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation and other conduct prohibited by the Equality Act 2010
  - advance equality of opportunity between people from different groups
  - foster good relations between people from different groups

5.6.2 The broad purpose of this duty is to integrate considerations of equality into day business and keep them under review in decision making, the design of policies and the delivery of services

## **5.7 Consultation and Engagement**

5.7.1 A statutory consultation will be carried out in relation to the scheme proposals.

## **5.8 Insight**

5.8.1 None in relation to this report.

## **6 BACKGROUND PAPERS**

- 6.1 6 July 2016 Finchley and Golders Green Area Committee Item 8.  
<https://barnet.moderngov.co.uk/documents/g8749/Printed%20minutes%2006th-Jul-2016%2019.00%20Finchley%20Golders%20Green%20Area%20Committee.pdf?T=1>