

# KINGSHILL AVENUE, HAYES – PETITION OBJECTING TO PROPOSED ZEBRA CROSSING

<b>Cabinet Member</b>	Councillor Keith Burrows
<b>Cabinet Portfolio</b>	Planning, Transportation and Recycling
<b>Officer Contact</b>	Catherine Freeman Planning, Environment, Education and Community Services
<b>Papers with report</b>	Appendices A & B

## HEADLINE INFORMATION

<b>Purpose of report</b>	To inform the Cabinet Member that a petition has been received objecting to the location of the proposed zebra crossing on Kingshill Avenue, Hayes.
<b>Contribution to our plans and strategies</b>	The proposed zebra crossing forms part of the Council's strategy for road safety and School Travel plans
<b>Financial Cost</b>	If the Cabinet Member decides to progress the proposed zebra crossing scheme, the estimated cost for implementation is £35,000
<b>Relevant Policy Overview Committee</b>	Residents' & Environmental Services
<b>Ward(s) affected</b>	Charville Ward

## RECOMMENDATION

That the Cabinet Member:

- 1. Meets with the petitioners to discuss in greater detail their concerns regarding the location of the proposed zebra crossing on Kingshill Avenue.**
- 2. Considers the views of the petitioners and other stakeholders when deciding subsequently upon whether or not he formally approves the pedestrian crossing.**
- 3. Subject to (1) instructs officers in Highway Maintenance to inspect the condition of the footway in Kingshill Avenue.**

## INFORMATION

### Reasons for recommendation

The Council wishes to consider the views of residents when designing road safety measures. The petition hearing will provide an extremely valuable opportunity to hear directly from the petitioners of their concerns and suggestions.

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Cabinet Member meeting with Petitioners

PART 1 – Members, Public and Press

## Alternative options considered / risk management

These can be discussed in greater detail with petitioners

## Comments of Policy Overview Committee(s)

None at this stage

## Supporting Information

1. The Council has received a petition of 397 signatures from residents of Hayes concerning the location of the proposed zebra crossing on Kingshill Avenue. Residents have signed the petition under one or both of the following headings:-
  - *'Against having a zebra crossing at the proposed site, in front of 320 Kingshill Avenue'* (204 signatures)
  - *'We want a safe place to cross. Make the south island safer'* (193 signatures)
2. The petitioners are concerned that the location of the proposed zebra crossing is too close to the bend where vehicle speeds are high. They consider there to be a shortage of on-street parking spaces in Kingshill Avenue and some residents are Blue Badge holders. The petition includes photographs showing the parking situation in Kingshill Avenue and its neighbouring roads at different times of the day. The residents are also concerned that there have been accidents at the junction of Kingshill Avenue and Frogmore Avenue.
3. A number of the petitioners appear to be requesting a formal pedestrian crossing at the location of the existing central island on Kingshill Avenue, southwest of the junction with Adelphi Way, as shown in Appendix A. Residents do not consider the existing island to be a safe crossing point and visibility is restricted by parked vehicles. They would like a formal crossing at this location because it would provide a safe facility for pedestrians accessing the shops as well as for children walking to school.
4. The petition also raises concerns relating to various issues including the condition of the footway in Kingshill Avenue. Residents have requested additional restrictions and increased enforcement to stop delivery vehicles parking in front of the shops and on existing yellow lines. They have also requested additional waiting restrictions on junctions and have stated that buses need more space to turn the corner at the junction of Kingshill Avenue and Adelphi Way.
5. The Cabinet Member will be aware that the proposed zebra crossing scheme on Kingshill Avenue has been developed in response to a request from Hayes Park School which was identified as part of the 'School Travel Plan Programme'. Hayes Park School is located on Raynton Drive, as shown in the location plan attached as Appendix A.
6. The Transport for London (TfL) funded 'School Travel Plan' programme is a road safety based initiative that draws upon school concerns to develop measures of benefit to pupils, in their journey to and from school. Schools that participate in the 'School Travel Plan' programme generate their own Action Plans with support from the Council, which are then used as the basis for bids to TfL in order to secure funding for relevant traffic scheme and works. A request for a new zebra crossing on Kingshill Avenue is one of the key elements of Hayes Park School's Action Plan.

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Cabinet Member meeting with Petitioners

PART 1 – Members, Public and Press

7. The Council's School Travel Plan Advisor has indicated that the preferred location for the crossing is near the junctions with Bradenham Road and Frogmore Avenue as this is the desire line for children and parents crossing Kingshill Avenue to access Hayes Park School via its entrance on Frogmore Avenue.

8. In 2010 officers carried out a feasibility study to determine the optimum location for the requested zebra crossing. This included a careful review of the existing layout of driveways along Kingshill Avenue in the vicinity of Bradenham Road and Frogmore Avenue. A feasible location was identified on Kingshill Avenue, northeast of the junction with Frogmore Avenue, as shown in Appendix B.

9. In December 2010, the local Ward Councillors were consulted on the proposed zebra crossing scheme. Two of the Ward Councillors indicated their support for a zebra crossing on Kingshill Avenue, northeast of Frogmore Avenue. One of the Ward Councillors raised concerns regarding the loss of on-street parking on this section of Kingshill Avenue and instead suggested locating the crossing at the existing central island, near the junction with Adelphi Way.

10. The proposed scheme was reviewed in a combined Stage 1 and 2 Road Safety Audit carried out independently by Colin Buchanan. The auditor's comments and recommendations have been incorporated within the design of the scheme, which includes the re-location of an existing tree outside Nos. 320/322 Kingshill Avenue to improve visibility of pedestrians waiting to use the crossing. The auditor did not raise any concerns regarding vehicle speeds and the proximity of the bend to the proposed crossing location.

11. A public notice stating the Council's intention to install the proposed zebra crossing was advertised on 9<sup>th</sup> February 2011 for 14 days. During this period the Council received two objections to the proposed scheme.

12. The two objectors are residents of Kingshill Avenue with properties directly affected by the proposed crossing. The main reason for objection is due to the loss of on-street parking. One of the objectors stated that themselves and another resident are Blue Badge holders and have applied for a disabled parking bay outside their property.

13. The second objector is concerned that the proposal does not show all of the driveways for residents who currently park in their front gardens on this section of Kingshill Avenue. The resident stated that they have limited mobility and there is already insufficient on-street parking in Kingshill Avenue and Frogmore Avenue. Both objectors suggested that the Council installs a formal pedestrian crossing at the location of an existing central island near Adelphi Way.

14. The Cabinet Member will be aware that there is pressure on parking in Kingshill Avenue which is the same as many other residential roads in the Borough. Site observations have indicated that some residents of Kingshill Avenue currently park in their front garden but do not have an official vehicle access.

15. Officers have investigated suggestions to install a formal pedestrian crossing at the location of the existing central island on Kingshill Avenue, southwest of the junction with Adelphi Way. The central island is approximately 100 metres east of the junction with Frogmore Avenue. Discussions with the Council's School Travel Plan Advisor has indicated that the location of the existing island would not be in the desire line for pedestrians crossing Kingshill Avenue between the junctions with Bradenham Road and Frogmore Avenue to access Hayes

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Cabinet Member meeting with Petitioners

Park School via the entrance on Frogmore Avenue. There is also an existing parking lay-by approximately 8 metres southwest of the existing island. If a formal crossing was to be installed at this location then vehicles would be parking within the controlled area on the eastbound approach to the crossing which would increase the potential for conflicts between pedestrians and vehicles.

16. In May 2011, the local Ward Councillors were consulted further on the proposed zebra crossing scheme. One Ward Councillor enquired whether any existing trees in Kingshill Avenue would need to be removed to accommodate the new crossing. Another Ward Councillor stated that the safety of children and local residents crossing this very busy road is cause for concern. The same Ward Councillor sympathises with the petitioners' concerns over the loss of parking places in Kingshill Avenue, and also supports the petitioners' request for additional waiting restrictions on junctions to improve access for buses.

17. Hayes Park School supports the principle of the need for a safe pedestrian crossing, and has identified this in their School Travel Plan, but is mindful of the sensitivities associated with its precise location.

18. Analysis of Police recorded personal injury accident data has shown that there have been four collisions on Kingshill Avenue between the junctions of Park Lane and Lansbury Drive during the 3 year period ending December 2010. Two accidents involved pedestrians colliding with vehicles on Kingshill Avenue approximately 40 metres northeast of the junction with Frogmore Avenue. One accident was a shunt type collision involving two vehicles on Kingshill Avenue approximately 30 metres northeast of the junction of Adelphi Way. One accident involved a vehicle moving off and being hit by another vehicle on Kingshill Avenue approximately 30 metres northeast of the junction of Dales Drive.

19. It is suggested that the Cabinet Member discusses in detail with petitioners their concerns regarding the location of the proposed zebra crossing on Kingshill Avenue.

### **Financial Implications**

If the Cabinet Member decides to progress the proposed zebra crossing scheme, the estimated cost for implementation is £35,000. This can be funded by Transport for London as part of the Council's Local Implementation Plan (LIP) bid. The Leader of the Council formally released this funding in August 2010.

### **EFFECT ON RESIDENTS, SERVICE USERS & COMMUNITIES**

#### **What will be the effect of the recommendation?**

It will allow further consideration of the petitioners' concerns

#### **Consultation Carried Out or Required**

- The proposed zebra crossing scheme was raised as an item at the Council's Traffic Liaison Meeting in January 2011, which was attended by representatives from the emergency services. No objections were raised to the proposed scheme at this meeting.
- Local Ward Councillors were consulted on the proposal in December 2010 and May 2011.

- An informal consultation letter was hand delivered to the directly affected residents on 10<sup>th</sup> January 2011.
- A public notice stating the Council's intention to install the proposed zebra crossing was advertised on 9<sup>th</sup> February 2011 for 14 days.

## **CORPORATE IMPLICATIONS**

### **Legal**

#### The Power to Establish a Zebra Crossing

The Local Authorities power to establish, alter and remove crossings is contained in the Road Traffic Regulations Act 1984 ("the Act"). Crossings should be provided in accordance with The Zebra, Pelican and Puffin Pedestrian Crossing Regulations and General Directions 1997.

#### Requirement to Consider Responses

Section 23(2) of the Act provides that before establishing a crossing the local traffic authority shall: -

- I. Consult with the chief officer of police about their proposal to do so;
- II. Shall give public notice of that proposal to do so; and
- III. Shall inform the Secretary of State in writing.

The statutory requirement to give notice of the proposal includes a duty upon the Council to consider the responses received, to give adequate time to those considerations and consider such responses with a receptive mind and in a contentious manner before finalisation of any proposals.

A meeting with the petitioners is perfectly legitimate as part of a listening exercise, especially where consideration of the policy, factual and engineering issues are still at a formative stage. Fairness and natural justice requires that there must be no predetermination of a decision in advance of any wider non-statutory consultation.

#### Balancing the Considerations -The Statutory Requirements

The Council is under a duty imposed by section 122 of the Act to secure the expeditious, convenient and safe movement of vehicular and other traffic (including pedestrians) and the provision of suitable and adequate parking facilities on and off the highway.

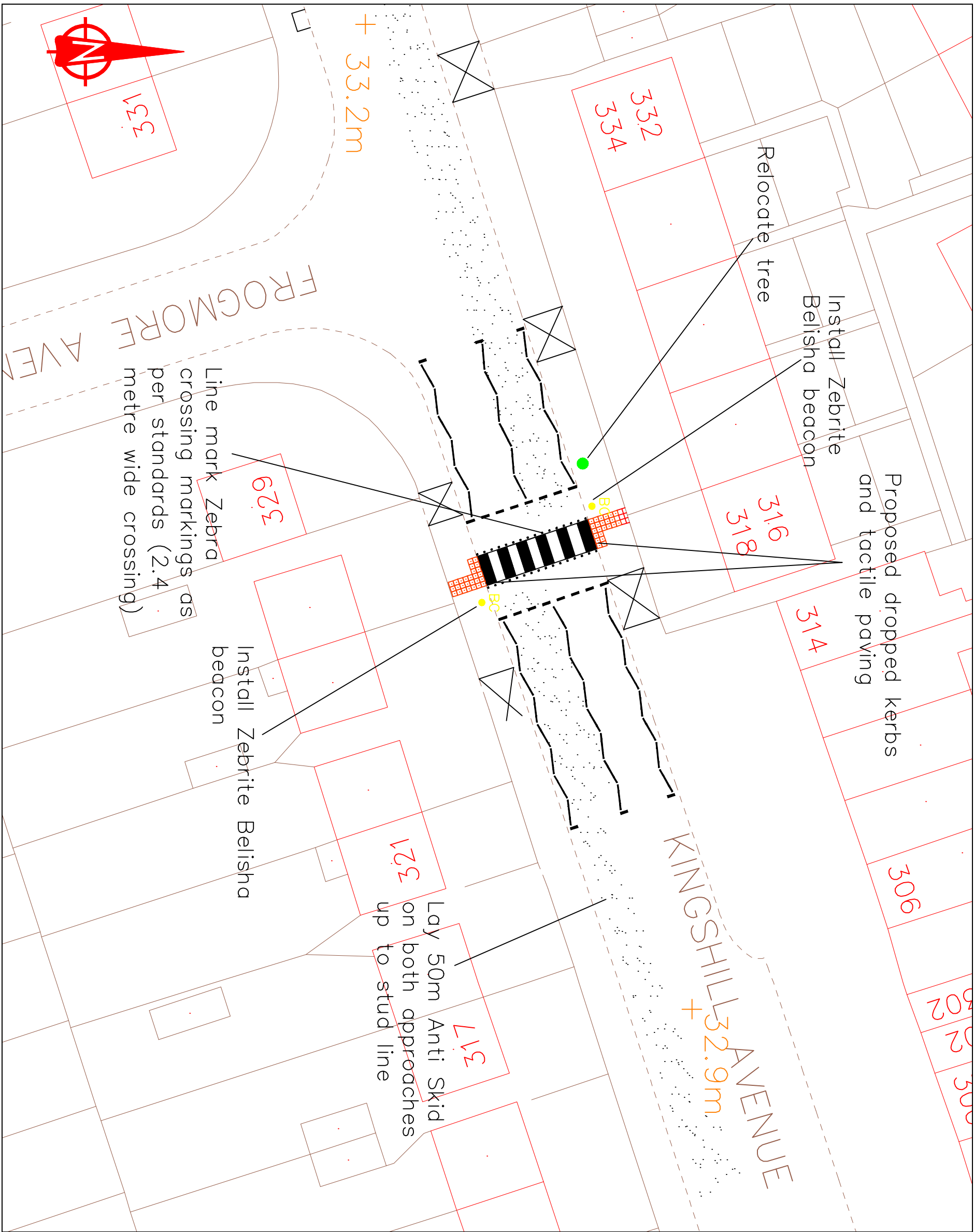
The Council must also have regard to a number of matters set out in Section 122(2), which include -

- I. The desirability of securing and maintaining reasonable access to premises.
- II. The effect on the amenities of any locality affected,
- III. The importance of facilitating the passage of public service vehicles and of securing the safety and convenience of persons using or wishing to use such vehicles.
- IV. Any other matter appearing to the Local Authority to be relevant.

The Council must balance the duty to secure the expeditious movement of traffic under section 122 of the Act (above) with the requirement to take into account the matters listed above under section 122(2). The Courts have held that the duty for expeditious, convenient and safe movement of traffic must be followed but only as far as possible once it has considered the matters to be taken into account in section 122(2) above. R v Leicester CC Exp LPC Group (2002)

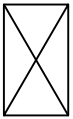
## **BACKGROUND PAPERS**

Petition objecting to the proposed zebra crossing on Kingshill Avenue, received 6<sup>th</sup> April 2011.



- Notes:**
- 1) Check lighting and drainage at detailed design stage
  - 2) Critical dimensions to be checked at detailed design stage

**Key:**

 Vehicle access

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London Borough of Hillingdon 100019283 2011



**Project**  
Kingshill Avenue, Hayes  
**Proposed zebra crossing**

Description			
Scale	Drawn	(Initials/Date)	Checked
NTS	CF	01/11	
Project No.	Drawing No.		Rev.