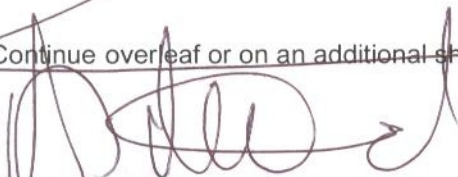


## ED2. EXECUTIVE DECISIONS BY A CABINET MEMBER OR AN OFFICER

<b>A. Report Title:</b> To consider a petition for a request for a pedestrian crossing to be implemented on South Road, South Ockendon.	
<b>B. Report Author(s):</b> Julie Nelder	<b>Tel: 01375-413366</b> <b>E-mail:</b> jnelder@thurrock.gov.uk
<b>C. Decision Maker:</b> Andrew Millard	
<b>D. Position held:</b> Head of Strategic Planning and Delivery	
<b>E. Key decision: YES/NO</b>	<b>F. Delegation ref:</b>
<b>G. Is the decision urgent? YES/NO</b>	
<b>H. If yes, state why.</b>	

<b>I. DECISION (strike out whichever does not apply) :</b>	
1. I agree the recommendations in the attached report for the reasons given in the report; <b>OR</b>	
2. <del>*My decision is:</del>	
*The reason for my decision is:	
<del>* Continue overleaf or on an additional sheet if necessary.</del>	
<b>Signed:</b> 	<b>Date:</b> 28.6.10

### URGENCY

Democratic Services will arrange for the completion of the following:	
<b>J. I confirm that in my opinion a decision on this matter is urgent and cannot reasonably be delayed:</b>	
<b>Signed:</b>	<b>Date:</b>

*To be completed by Democratic Services*

<b>Date decision received by Dem. Services:</b>	<b>Date decision published:</b>
<b>Implementation date:</b>	

<b>June 2010</b>		<b>ITEM</b>
<b>Delegated Decision Report</b>		
<b>PETITION FOR A PEDESTRIAN CROSSING ON SOUTH ROAD, SOUTH OCKENDON</b>		
<b>Portfolio Holder:</b> Councillor Yash Gupta, Environment		
<b>Wards and communities affected:</b> Belhus	<b>Key Decision:</b> No	
<b>Accountable Head of Service:</b> Andrew Millard, Head of Strategic Planning and Delivery		
<b>Accountable Director:</b> Bill Newman, Corporate Director of Sustainable Communities		
<b>This report is public.</b>		
<b>Purpose of Report:</b> To consider a petition for a request for a pedestrian crossing to be implemented on South Road, South Ockendon.		

**1. RECOMMENDATIONS:**

- 1.1 It is recommended that a Zebra crossing be implemented on South Road, in the vicinity of Oaklands Road and Thurrock Garden Centre and that a full speed survey be carried out as outlined in paragraphs 3.5 & 3.6. It is further recommended that the Lead Petitioner be notified accordingly.**

**2. INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND:**

- 2.1** A petition was presented on 25<sup>th</sup> February 2009 on behalf of local residents, asking for the Council to provide a pedestrian crossing facility in the vicinity of Oaklands Drive and the bus stop at the southern end of the Thurrock Garden Centre in South Road, South Ockendon.
- 2.2** South Road (B186) is a classified road providing a link to Upminster north of the borough and West Thurrock to the south. The bus services 370, 575 and

11 service South Road, with additional school buses utilising the bus stop outside the Garden Centre.

2.3 A total of 112 signatures were collected with an accompanying letter from the Lead Petitioner. The reasons for the request is outlined in the letter and listed below:

- Large number of school children and elderly persons use the bus stop
- Difficulty in crossing due to the volume of traffic.
- Many people wanting to cross the road to go to the Thurrock Garden Centre and use the bus stop.

2.4 There have been a total of 13 personal injury accidents in the past 3 years along the length of South Road. Eight of these accidents involved slight injury and 5 accidents involved serious injury. 2 involved pedestrians and 1 accident involved a cyclist. Of the total number of accidents, 1 occurred in the area in which the crossing facility is requested, although this accident did not involve a pedestrian.

2.5 Within the vicinity of the garden centre, there is a speed camera and vehicle activated sign in each direction, as shown in the attached location plan.

**3. ISSUES AND/OR OPTIONS:**

3.1 Pedestrian and traffic movement was monitored for half an hour within the peak times of the day on Friday 10<sup>th</sup> March 2009 to observe the number of pedestrians crossing in the vicinity of the garden centre. The monitoring was carried out at school peak times to allow for the period where most pedestrians are likely to cross South Road. The results are presented in the table below.

Pedestrians and Traffic Movements

Peak Periods	Pedestrians Eastbound	Pedestrians Westbound	Traffic Northbound	Traffic Southbound
AM Peak (8:30am – 9.00am)	10	4	214	250
PM Peak (3:00pm – 3:30pm)	7	20	261	276

3.2 During the morning peak time, the majority of pedestrians crossing eastbound are Thurrock College students that use the Stop to board the school bus. The evening peak time shows that the majority of westbound pedestrians crossing are school children or pedestrians alighting the bus.

3.3 It was observed that although South Road is a busy road, there are sufficient breaks in the traffic allowing pedestrians to cross the road. Further to this, the

vehicle-activated sign located next to the bus stop and the speed camera helps to reduce the speed, which assists the safety of pedestrians crossing.

- 3.4 There are many dropped kerbs in the area, which provide possible crossing points adequately located for the bus stop and the garden centre. Also, as shown on the attached location plan, there are many pedestrian desire lines, currently used to access the bus stops, shops and garden centre.
- 3.5 The implementation of a pedestrian refuge is not feasible due to the limited carriageway width on South Road. However, an alternative option is to provide a Zebra crossing. For safety reasons, and to ensure all appropriate measures are incorporated within the design, it is advisable to carry out a full traffic speed survey before implementing a Zebra Crossing.
- 3.6 Since the initial drafting of this report, the Integrated Transport Programme for 2009/10 has been approved and an allocated budget of £20,000 has been made available to implement a Zebra crossing at the junction of Buckles Lane & South Road. Therefore, it is recommended that a Zebra crossing be located in the vicinity of Oaklands Drive and the garden centre to facilitate pedestrians crossing the road at this location.

#### **4. CONSULTATION (including Overview and Scrutiny, if applicable)**

- 4.1 Ward Members were consulted on this report between 07/06/2010 and 11/06/2010. Cllrs S Gray and C Curtis have both expressed support for the proposal. Cllr Arnold is also in support of the proposal.

#### **5. IMPACT ON CORPORATE POLICIES, PRIORITIES, PERFORMANCE AND COMMUNITY IMPACT**

- 5.1 These actions accord with the Council priorities to create a safer environment.

#### **6. IMPLICATIONS**

##### **6.1 Financial**

Implications verified by: **Meinir Hall**  
 Telephone and email: **01375 652147**  
**mhall@thurrock.gov.uk**

Should the recommendations be carried forward for implementation, there are sufficient funds available within the budget allocated within the 2009/2010 Integrated Transport Programme.

##### **6.2 Legal**

Implications verified by: **Baljit Bhandal**  
 Telephone and email: **01375 652994**

**bbhandal@Thurrock.gov.uk**

The Head of Strategic Planning & Delivery has delegated authority under Part 3.9.21.73L of the Constitution to deal with this matter of pedestrian crossing. The Cabinet Member (PFH) and the Ward Members must be consulted prior to any decision made.

**6.3 Diversity and Equality**

Implications verified by: **Jane Potheary**  
 Telephone and email: **01375 652472**  
**jpotheary@thurrock.gov.uk**

The Council has a statutory duty under the Disability Discrimination Act 2005 to promote equality of opportunity in the provision of services. A zebra crossing would enable younger people, older people and disabled people to access the garden centre and the bus stop with greater ease, promoting accessibility for all to local services and infrastructure. The Council may consider installing a Puffin crossing to increase pedestrian control and greater accessibility for visually impaired people.

**6.4 Other implications (where significant) – i.e. Section 17, Risk Assessment, Health Impact Assessment, Sustainability, IT, Environmental**

click this box once and type any other implications that are relevant to this report

**7. CONCLUSION**

7.1 It is recommended that a Zebra crossing be implemented on South Road, in the vicinity of Oaklands Road and Thurrock Garden Centre and that a full speed survey be carried out as outlined in paragraphs 3.5 & 3.6. It is further recommended that the Lead Petitioner be notified accordingly.

**BACKGROUND PAPERS USED IN PREPARING THIS REPORT:**

- Petition

**APPENDICES TO THIS REPORT:**

**Report Author Contact Details:**

**Name:** Julie Nelder  
**Telephone:** 01375 413366  
**E-mail:** jnelder@thurrock.gov.uk