

ITEM No ...3.....

REPORT TO: CITY DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE – 9 MARCH 2020
REPORT ON: FINTRY PRIMARY SCHOOL – PART TIME PROHIBITION OF DRIVING
REPORT BY: EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF CITY DEVELOPMENT
REPORT NO: 79-2020

1 PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 This report provides an update on the proposed School Streets project at Fintry Primary School and seeks approval to begin a consultation on the introduction of restricting access during school start and finish times. This will provide a safer route to Fintry Primary School utilising the powers of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984. These proposals were agreed as part of the Dundee Decides Project.
- 1.2 The report also seeks approval to revoke an existing flashing 20mph zone around Fintry Primary School to avoid confusion for road users and seeks approval to implement a permanent full time 20 mph zone.

2 RECOMMENDATION

- 2.1 It is recommended that the Committee:
 - a approves the preparation of a draft order and a consultation to be started on a proposal for a Part Time Prohibition of Driving Order to prohibit vehicles from driving over the entire length of Finavon Terrace, Findcastle Street, Findcastle Place and Findcastle Terrace surrounding Fintry Primary School during school start and finish times.
 - b approves the preparation of the necessary Traffic Regulation Order for the permanent 20mph zone which will replace the part time 20mph speed limit during school start and finish times.

3 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 3.1 The cost of preparing the Traffic Regulation Order with the associated traffic signs and road markings for the project implementation is £20,000. The cost will be met from financial provision set aside for this Dundee Decides Project within the Community Infrastructure Fund (CIF).

4 BACKGROUND

- 4.1 These proposals are a further development from the nationally award winning innovative Part Time Prohibition of Driving around St Mary's Primary School in Lochee and Forthill Primary School, Broughty Ferry which have been in place since 2013. The main difference being that there were no exemptions for vehicles as these locations were not residential areas.
- 4.2 As part of the Dundee Decides initiative, a project to "Reduce traffic congestion around Fintry Primary School" was shortlisted. Further engagement with the Fintry community demonstrated that there was support for the project to proceed.
- 4.3 The proposal is to develop and deliver a nationally recognised initiative called 'School Streets' in Dundee. This initiative, has been successfully deployed at many schools in and around Edinburgh, and would see motor vehicles that did not belong to local residents being prohibited from driving in the streets around Fintry Primary School. This would expect to create a safer

and welcoming environment for pupils and their families when arriving at Fintry Primary School during the school start and finish times, which would be identified by flashing signs which will be programmed on a timer. Parked vehicles within the zone would not be affected by the restriction.

- 4.4 Residents of the School Streets would be exempt from the prohibition of driving along with emergency vehicles and contracted taxis for school transport. They would be issued with permits for their vehicle that would allow them to use the streets at any time. Permits would initially be issued without charge, and this could be reviewed if necessary in the future. There would be no other exemptions and all other vehicles will be subject to enforcement by Police Scotland. The permits specific for the Fintry Schools Streets would be administered by the business support team based in the Council's Finmill Community Centre within the School Streets Zone.
- 4.5 With the prohibition of driving for all vehicles with the exemption of the local residents and contracted taxis there will be an impact on adjacent streets with likely displacement of vehicles. Visitors and deliveries to the "School Streets" Zone travelling by vehicle would need to choose an alternative arrival and departure times. The Part Time Prohibition of Driving would be in place Monday to Friday on school days from 8.30 am - 9.15 am and 3.00 pm – 3.30 pm in line with Forthill Primary School and St Mary's Primary School.
- 4.6 A traffic regulation sign will be required to provide the detailed information for the prohibition of vehicles around the Fintry Primary school entrances. The proposed sign for this purpose will require authorisation to use a non-prescribed sign in Scotland by the Scottish Government. Similar schemes have been piloted in other Local Authorities so it is not anticipated that there would be any major issues achieving this sign approval.
- 4.7 The location plans showing the streets to be affected for the 'School Streets' scheme proposals are shown in Appendix 1.

5 POLICY IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 This report has been subject of an assessment of any impacts on Equality and Diversity, Fairness and Poverty, Environment and Corporate Risk. A copy of the integrated Impact Assessment is available on the council's website at www.dundee.gov.uk/ia.
- 5.2 Due to the only exemptions to be local residents and contracted taxis during the school start and finish times blue badge holders will not be able to drive through the part time prohibition and would need to consider their visiting time within the School Street Zone.

6 CONSULTATIONS

- 6.1 Extensive consultations have taken place over the last 2 years. This included Community engagement which has been carried out with the 3 North East Ward local elected members, Fintry Primary School staff and parents and community representatives including Fintry Community Council on the proposals of this School Streets Zone. From the consultations representatives from the Community Council were not in favour of the proposals to restrict access at school start and finish times to residents and contracted taxis only.
- 6.2 Extensive consultation exercises have taken place with Police Scotland Senior Officers on the level of enforcement for part time prohibition of driving within the School Streets Zone. The original list of exemptions included an extended list of exemptions similar to that at the School Streets schemes in many schools in and around Edinburgh. Following consultations with Police Scotland, Dundee Local Policing Area, Tayside Division this is considered problematic. It was preferable from a policing and enforcement perspective for all vehicles to be prohibited for the specified time periods and a consistent approach to be adopted across Dundee.

- 6.3 Following Police Scotland Senior Officers reservations a reduced list of exemptions was submitted which included residents only and contracted taxis which would display a permit specific for the Fintry Schools Streets. This was accepted by Police Scotland.
- 6.4 The Council Management Team and Police Scotland were consulted in the preparation of this report.

7 BACKGROUND PAPERS

- 7.1 None.

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APPENDIX 1



