



SHEFFIELD CITY COUNCIL

Cabinet Highways Committee

11

Report of: Executive Director, Place

Date: 8 DECEMBER 2011

Subject: WHITEWAYS SCHOOL
RESULTS OF PUBLIC AND TRAFFIC REGULATION ORDER
CONSULTATIONS

Author of Report: James Burdett - 0114 273 6170

Summary:

This report is to inform Members of comments received following public consultation on proposed changes to waiting restrictions on Whiteways Road near to Whiteways School. The report includes a response to the comments received and makes a recommendation on how to proceed.

Reasons for Recommendations

Officers have given due consideration to the views of all respondents in an attempt to provide acceptable solutions. The recommendations are considered to be a balanced attempt to address residents' concerns.

Recommendations:

Approve the implementation of measures set out in Appendix B, namely:

- Double yellow lines on Whiteways Road and associated junctions
- A single yellow line on Whiteways Road
- School Keep Clear markings on Whiteways Road

Inform all respondents of the decisions made.

Background Papers:

Category of Report: OPEN

WHITEWAYS SCHOOL

RESULTS OF PUBLIC AND TRAFFIC REGULATION ORDER CONSULTATIONS

1.0 SUMMARY

- 1.1 This report is to inform Members of comments received following public consultation on proposed changes to waiting restrictions on Whiteways Road near to Whiteways School. The report includes a response to the comments received and makes a recommendation on how to proceed.

2.0 WHAT DOES THIS MEAN FOR SHEFFIELD PEOPLE

- 2.1 The proposals have been developed to address planning conditions related to the redevelopment of Whiteways School. Officers have developed measures with a view to empowering residents, by incorporating their aspirations in the design of their streets. The report contributes to “putting the customer first” by responding to the views expressed during the public consultation exercises undertaken when developing the proposals.
- 2.2 The report will also contribute to the “A Great Place to Live” objective of the Council’s Corporate Plan particularly the “sustainable and safe transport” priority, with proposals that aim to improve pedestrian safety and better regulate parking.

3.0 OUTCOME & SUSTAINABILITY

- 3.1 The measures outlined in this report should meet with the objectives of improving road safety for pupils walking to Whiteways School, with a view to further encouraging a shift away from dependency on the private car, whilst encouraging more healthy physical activity amongst the school pupils.

4.0 REPORT

- 4.1 In 2003, following two child accidents caused when children were attempting to cross between parked vehicles, a small build out was built opposite the entrance to Whiteways School. The aim of the scheme was to prevent parking at the entrance, lessen the width of road that children had to cross and also make it easier for children to see past parked cars and, equally importantly, be seen by approaching drivers.
- 4.2 Whilst the build out scheme has been successful in reducing accidents and improving road safety, and is well used by children walking to and from school, the congestion issues around the school remain and have increased since the scheme was implemented. One side of Whiteways Road is usually completely parked up at school starting and finishing time, primarily by traffic associated with the school, which narrows the road to one lane past the school entrance. This can lead to vehicle/vehicle conflicts as vehicles travelling in opposite directions are unable to pass each other. This results in hazardous reversing manoeuvres, sometimes across the pedestrian crossing point, thereby putting schoolchildren at risk.
- 4.3 The increase in the number of pupils attending the school following the redevelopment has only increased the congestion problems further. For this reason, when granting planning permission to redevelop Whiteways School, a number of conditions were set, some of which related to works in the highway.

- 4.4 As a result of the planning conditions, in order to address the ongoing congestion issues it is proposed to provide “passing places” at strategic locations, by means of “H” markings and waiting restrictions, in order to enable vehicles travelling in opposite directions to pass each other without the need to reverse. This report details the consultation and discussion regarding the proposed measures. A general location plan can be found in Appendix A, the revised proposal in Appendix B, and the original proposal in Appendix C.
- 4.5 A scheme was developed to address the conditions (as shown in Appendix C), which was the subject of public consultation in December 2009. Although several comments were received, no actual objections were received at that time.
- 4.6 Due to uncertainty about the funding of the scheme, no progress was made on implementing the restrictions until September 2011, when funding was finally confirmed. In view of the long duration between the original consultation and the confirmation of funding however, it was felt appropriate to contact residents once again to inform them of the forthcoming scheme.
- 4.7 Some residents then objected to the proposed double yellow lines outside 19A, 21, and 23 Whiteways Road. Officers considered these objections and developed a revised proposal which was then distributed to the properties concerned. This proposal, which is shown in Appendix B, provides greater flexibility for residents as it allows parking outside their homes between 6pm and 8am Monday to Friday. Residents remain unhappy at the loss of parking however, with two telephone calls and one written objection subsequently being received. It has also been commented that the restrictions will be ineffective. No comments were received about the other proposed restrictions.
- 4.8 A petition was also received on 22 November 2011 with 18 signatures objecting to the proposals. The petition states that “We, the residents of Whiteways Road, strongly oppose to the proposed waiting restrictions being sought for the road outside our properties”. It should be noted however that only 6 of the signatories are directly affected by waiting restrictions outside their properties, although it is acknowledged that ‘Keep Clear’ markings are proposed across many driveways.
- 4.9 Two residents of Whiteways Road have also since contacted officers by telephone to indicate their support for the scheme, arguing that it will help to address the congestion experienced at busy times. Additionally, a scheme request form was received in September 2010, asking for similar measures to those proposed.
- 4.10 There are no other options available to address the conditions, and to try and resolve the congestion issues. The scheme has already been relaxed to help residents but daytime waiting restrictions are needed to try and regulate parking at peak times and prevent the severe congestion. It is acknowledged that drivers may contravene the restrictions, but Parking Services would at least be able to carry out enforcement, something that is not possible at present.
- 4.11 South Yorkshire Passenger Transport Executive has indicated that the bus route through the area is often affected by the congestion at peak times and they would welcome measures to ensure the buses can pass through the area more easily.
- 4.12 A decision on how to progress this scheme is required urgently as the TRO must be legally made by 4 January 2012, otherwise a new TRO will be required to allow the restrictions to be introduced.

Relevant Implications

- 4.13 The budget estimate for this scheme is £7,000 which covers all measures identified in this report. This includes a sum to cover the expected commuted sum for the scheme. The scheme is funded by the Capital Delivery section responsible for the redevelopment of the school.
- 4.1 All classes of road user will benefit from the proposed measures. An Equalities Impact Assessment has been undertaken and concludes that the proposal will be particularly positive for young people (i.e. school children) and people with disabilities due to improved pedestrian access and safety..

5.0 ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED

- 5.1 These proposals have been developed following previous consultations over the last 2 years. The scheme has since been altered to try and address residents' concerns.

6.0 REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

- 6.1 Officers have given due consideration to the views of all respondents in an attempt to provide acceptable solutions. The recommendations are considered to be a balanced attempt to address residents' concerns.

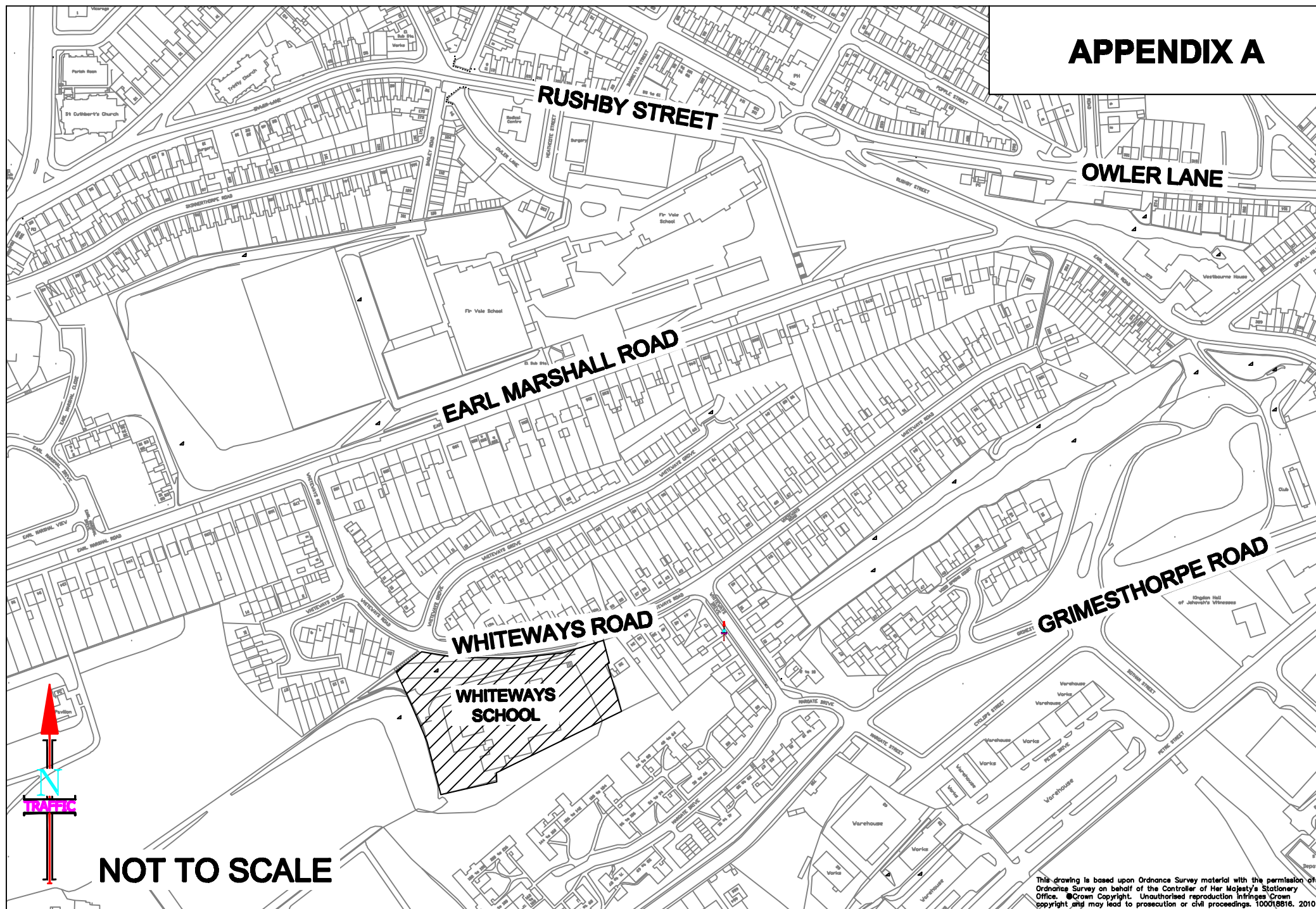
7.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 7.1 Approve the implementation of measures set out in Appendix B, namely:
- Double yellow lines on Whiteways Road and associated junctions
 - A single yellow line on Whiteways Road
 - School Keep Clear markings on Whiteways Road
- 7.2 Inform all respondents of the decisions made.

Simon Green
Executive Director, Place

8 December 2011

APPENDIX A





APPENDIX B

WHITEWAYS SCHOOL WAITING RESTRICTIONS

Revised Proposal

KEY

-  Double yellow lines
-  Single yellow lines
(no waiting Mon-Fri
8am-6.00pm)

School Keep Clear Markings as
shown (no waiting at any time)

Not To Scale

REVISION

The proposed double yellow lines
have been removed from across the
driveways to 19a and 21 Whiteways
Road, allowing residents to park
across their drives at all times

REVISION

The double yellow lines outside 21
and 23 Whiteways Road have been
changed to a single yellow line,
allowing residents to park between
6.00pm and 8am, and at weekends

REVISION

The double yellow lines outside 27 & 29 Whiteways
Road have been also changed to a single yellow
line, allowing residents to park between 6.00pm
and 8am, and at weekends, in response to a
comment during the initial consultation..

APPENDIX C

WHITEWAYS SCHOOL WAITING RESTRICTIONS Original Proposal

KEY

— Double yellow lines

School Keep Clear Markings as
shown (no waiting at any time)

Not To Scale

