

OPEN

## **Highways and Transport Committee**

**23 November 2023**

**Petition: The Hill Sandbach Controlled  
Crossing**

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**Report of: Thomas Moody, Director of Infrastructure and Highways**

**Report Reference No: HTC/29/23-24**

**Ward(s) Affected: Sandbach Heath and East**

### **Purpose of Report**

- 1 The purpose of this report is to receive a petition and determine what course of action is appropriate in respect of the petition.

### **Executive Summary**

- 2 The Council has received a petition regarding the installation of a pedestrian crossing on The Hill, Sandbach.
- 3 In accordance with the Council's Constitution, petitions signed by over 5000 petitioners may be submitted to Full Council or a Committee for consultation.
- 4 The report outlines the Council's current position regarding the matters outlined in the petition and gives recommendations to the Highways and Transport Committee as a result of the petition.
- 5 The location has been considered previously in 2018 and did not meet the policy criteria for a controlled crossing. A new assessment will be undertaken due to the time elapsed and new development/s in the locality.

## RECOMMENDATIONS

The Highways and Transport Committee is recommended to:

1. Receive the petition.
2. That the petition is noted and recorded by the Council

### Background

- 6 The current pedestrian crossing policy was approved by the Cabinet Member for Environmental Services in December 2011. This is based around advice in the Local Transport Note (LTN) 1/95: The Design of Pedestrian Crossings.
- 7 The policy uses a formula called “PV<sup>2</sup>” (Calculated from surveyed numbers of pedestrian and vehicle traffic) to assess demand. Following initial request, sites are assessed through a manual count to calculate an initial PV<sup>2</sup>. A full survey assessment is undertaken on any sites where the initial manual count assessment figure is greater than 0.1x10<sup>8</sup>. Following a full survey assessment, sites with values under 0.6x10<sup>8</sup> are not considered for a formal crossing however, alternative measures may be considered where appropriate.
- 8 The Hill, Sandbach received an initial manual count assessment on the 25<sup>th</sup> May 2018 enabling the location to proceed to a full survey assessment.
- 9 On the 5<sup>th</sup> September 2018 the site received a full survey assessment and scored 0.23 x 10<sup>8</sup> and an adjusted PV<sup>2</sup> of 0.27x10<sup>8</sup> as a result, it was not prioritised for further consideration.
- 10 Additionally, a school crossing patrol assessment was conducted in April 2023. This site was not prioritised for consideration under this assessment.
- 11 Prior to the submission of this petition, a meeting was held on 6<sup>th</sup> June 2023 between residents, the Locally Elected Ward Councillor, and the Head of Highways to discuss the provision of a crossing at The Hill, Sandbach.
- 12 The Council is developing a new pedestrian crossing strategy, the aim of which is to identify any suppressed demand for crossings and consider a broader range of local factors. Following Public Consultation,

the new approach will be considered for adoption by the Highways and Transport Committee from late spring 2024.

- 13 Due to the Council's current financial position and the review of strategy, committing resources to assessing the need for a crossing is recommended to be deferred. Should the Highways and Transport Committee accept the petition, the site will be considered as soon as possible following the review of strategy, with any assessment considered against the approved policy criteria.
- 14 If the site meets the criteria following the assessment, then it will be prioritised and considered against all other identified sites in the Borough for funding.

### Consultation and Engagement

- 15 There are no consultation and engagement implications of this paper.

### Reasons for Recommendations

- 16 In accordance with paragraph 4.29 of Chapter 3 of the Constitution (July 2023) and Chapter 7 and the Petitions Scheme of the Constitution, petitions signed by over 5000 petitioners may be accepted at the start of a meeting of a committee.
- 17 Other Options Considered

Option	Impact	Risk
Do nothing	Council would be seen not to open and transparent	The Council Could be open to Challenge

### Implications and Comments

#### *Monitoring Officer/Legal*

- 18 In accordance with paragraph 4.29 of Chapter 3 of the Constitution (July 2023) and Chapter 7 and the Petitions Scheme of the Constitution, petitions signed by over 5000 petitioners may be accepted at the start of a meeting of a committee.
- 19 Petitions regarding matters affecting the area or the functions of the Council or relating to consultation exercises or pursuant to specific legislation, may be accepted at the start of an ordinary Council meeting or a service committee. Petitions will not be considered at the Annual Meeting of Council or at Extraordinary Meetings of Council unless the Extraordinary Council Meeting is convened to consider the subject matter of the petition.

- 20 The petition organiser must register the petition with the Head of Democratic Services and Governance. Petitions must relate to the functions of the Council and the area of Cheshire East.
- 21 There are no other direct legal implications arising from the recommendations of this report currently. Any decision of the committee which gives rise to the need for a further report may have legal implications, which will be assessed at that time.

#### *Section 151 Officer/Finance*

- 22 There are no direct financial implications arising from the recommendations of this report. Any decision of the committee which gives rise to the need for a further report may have financial implications.

#### *Policy*

- 23 There are no direct policy implications, however there may be such implications as a consequence of any further action taken.

#### *Equality, Diversity and Inclusion*

- 24 There are no direct equality implications, however there may be such implications as a consequence of any further action taken.

#### *Human Resources*

- 25 There are no direct human resource implications, however there may be as a consequence of any further action taken.

#### *Risk Management*

- 26 There are no direct risk management implications, however there may be as a consequence of any further action taken.

#### *Rural Communities*

- 27 There are no direct implications on rural communities, however here may be as a consequence of any further action taken.

#### *Children and Young People including Cared for Children, care leavers and Children with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND)*

- 28 There are no direct implications of the decision to receive the petition, however there may be as a consequence of any further action taken.

#### *Public Health*

29 There are no direct implications of the decision to receive the petition, however there may be as a consequence of any further action taken.

*Climate Change*

30 There are no direct implications of the decision to receive the petition, however there may be as a consequence of any further action taken.

<b>Access to Information</b>	
Contact Officer:	Simon Wallace Contract Asset Manager
Appendices:	Appendix 1 – Redacted copy of the Hill Sandbach Pedestrian Crossing Campaign Petition.
Background Papers:	