

# HAMPSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

## Officer Decision Record

<b>Decision Maker:</b>	Director of Economy, Transport and Environment
<b>Title:</b>	Aldershot: North Lane Mini Roundabout

**Contact name:** Alfred Nortey

**Tel:** 07874793399

**Email:** [Alfred.Nortey@hants.gov.uk](mailto:Alfred.Nortey@hants.gov.uk)

### 1. The decision:

- 1.1. That the Director approves this addition to the 2021/22 Capital Programme at a value of £210,000.
- 1.2. That the Director approves the details of the mini-roundabout scheme at the junctions of North Lane, North Close and Lower Newport Road, Aldershot as set out in this paper.
- 1.3. That the Director gives approval to procure, spend and enter necessary contractual arrangements to implement this scheme, at a total estimated cost of £210,000, to be funded from Developer Contributions.

### 2. Reason(s) for the decision:

- 2.1. To reduce the number of conflict points at the North Lane/North Close/Lower Newport Road crossroads.
- 2.2. To redesign the junction so it operates in a safe manner for all road users.
- 2.3. To enhance safety for pedestrians through reduced traffic speeds and enhanced intervisibility with approaching vehicles.

### 3. Other options considered and rejected:

- 3.1. The alternative is to Do Nothing but given the ongoing safety concerns, the implementation of a mini-roundabout is the most efficient option in addressing the safety and congestion issues at the junction.

### 4. Conflicts of interest:

- 4.1. Conflicts of interest declared by an Executive Member who is consulted by the officer which relates to the decision: None.

**5. Dispensation granted by the Head of Paid Service:**

5.1. None.

**6. Supporting Information:**

6.1. None.

**Approved by:**



**Date:**

06/07/21

**Stuart Jarvis**

**Director of Economy, Transport and Environment**

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## Decision Report

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### 1. Executive Summary

- 1.1. The purpose of this paper is to provide details of the proposed scheme to implement a mini-roundabout at the junctions of North Lane, North Close and Lower Newport Road.
- 1.2. The proposed scheme will involve the construction of a mini-roundabout to enhance safety for all road users at the existing crossroads of North Lane, North Close and Lower Newport Road as well as realigning the kerb lines.
- 1.3. Concerns for safety is central to the proposals, given the Personal Injury Accident record and the number of damage-only collisions at the junction.
- 1.4. To further enhance safety at the junction, all approaches to the junction will be resurfaced to achieve a high level of skid resistance. New warning signs and carriageway markings will be employed to complement the physical measures.
- 1.5. Hampshire County Council's ITS Group carried out a feasibility study in 2018 which sought to investigate a few options designed to reduce congestion and improve the function of the North Lane/North Close/Lower Newport Road junction. The preferred option out of six alternatives is to redesign the current junction to a 4-arm mini-roundabout. To achieve this the area would require kerb realignment along with new warning signs and carriageway markings.
- 1.6. Automatic Traffic Surveys will be carried out following construction of the mini-roundabout as well as an analysis of traffic collisions to determine whether overall safety has improved because of the scheme.

### 2. Background

- 2.1. North Lane provides access to a significant number of commercial and industrial units which makes its HGV composition relatively high compared to similarly classed roads in the area. It also serves a large residential area (North Town). A location plan is provided in the report appendix.

- 2.2. Lower Newport Road is subject to a one-way Traffic Regulation Order (TRO) whereby traffic can only head west on Lower Newport Road but not permitted to exit onto North Lane. There exists a prohibition of right turn for vehicles exiting North Lane onto the A323 Ash Road which is a signalised junction. The A323 is a busy route through Aldershot that connects the A325 to the west and the dual carriageway A331 to the east near the Hampshire-Surrey border.
- 2.3. In a feasibility report produced in July 2016, Hampshire County Council and Rushmoor Borough Council established that there is insufficient stacking capacity at the junction of North Lane and the A323 Ash Road, leading to a knock-on effect on traffic flows through North Lane and onto the A323 Ash Road. As a result, there is local congestion on the connecting roads such as North Close and Lower Newport Road.
- 2.4. As part of the planning consent for the KFC outlet located to the northeast of the A323 junction with North Lane, vehicles can only exit onto the A323 to head eastbound towards the A331. This, coupled with the opening of McDonald's which is situated at the corner of the A323 and North Lane, have contributed to increased traffic volumes. Adding on to the above developments is the proposed regeneration of the North Town estate with an estimated 700 new homes.
- 2.5. Notwithstanding the larger Aldershot Urban Extension development, more pressure will be placed on the network (especially on North Lane) considering these developments. In addition, the volume of HGV's accessing North Lane exacerbates the situation by further reducing the capacity of the section of North Lane between North Close and the A323.
- 2.6. Traffic waiting to turn right from North Lane onto North Close blocks northbound traffic on North Lane and subsequently causes traffic queues to block the exit from the A323 Ash Road onto North Lane. There have been instances of right turning traffic cutting the corner towards exiting traffic from North Close. This has resulted in a collision, with one incident causing an injury to a pedestrian.
- 2.7. A [petition](#) set up by Borough Councillor Gaynor Austin with over 1000 signatures was received via a BBC Radio Surrey media enquiry regarding the safety at the North Lane/North Close/Lower Newport Road junction.
- 2.8. Whilst the number of damage-only accidents remain a concern, there were three serious and seven slight Personal Injury Accidents (PIA) at the North Lane/North Close/Lower Newport Road junction (including North Lane/A323 junction) for the most recent five-year period, which is the period normally used for monitoring road safety.

### 3. Finance

3.1	<u>Estimates</u>	<u>£'000</u>	<u>% of total</u>	<u>Funds Available</u>	<u>£'000</u>
	Design Fee	17	8	Developer Contributions	210
	Client Fee	15	7		
	Supervision	7	3		
	Construction	154	74		
	Land	0	0		
	Utility Diversion	12	6		
	Other	5	2		
	<b>Total</b>	<u>210</u>	<u>100</u>	<b>Total</b>	<u>210</u>

3.2	<u>Maintenance Implications</u>	<u>£'000</u>	<u>% Variation to Committee's budget</u>
	Net increase in maintenance expenditure	0.1	0.000%
	Capital Charges (Depreciation and notional interest charges)	20.0	0.013%

### 4. Programme

	Gateway Stage			
	3 - Project Appraisal	Start on site	End on site	4 - Review
Date (mm/yy)	June 2021	August 2021	September 2021	September 2022

### 5. Scheme Details

5.1. Works will be undertaken within the extents of the public highway and involves the construction of a mini-roundabout which will have a slightly raised central area in order to influence traffic speeds. To ensure that the mini-roundabout marking is conspicuous while deterring straight-through movements, adequate deflection is proposed using the larger 4-metre diameter central area.

- 5.2. Levels of the gully at the centre of the mini-roundabout will be revised to satisfy issues relating to drainage, and the existing gullies will be reconnected to the drainage system. Reinstatement of drain and duct trenches in the carriageway and footways shall be carried out in accordance with HCC standard details.
- 5.3. With the challenges of Covid-19 notwithstanding, a topographical survey was undertaken as part of the detailed design and was then followed by trial holes to ascertain the profile of Virgin Media cables.
- 5.4. An assessment of the carriageway surface at the site was undertaken to fully identify the level of intervention required. Concerns regarding the sub-structure led to a coring test undertaken and the report produced corroborated with the assessment that structural repairs to the carriageway were necessary.
- 5.5. The outcome of the combined Stage 1/2 Road Safety Audit (RSA) suggested applying additional measures to further highlight the junction for northbound traffic especially. In response, a permanent roundabout warning sign is proposed at approximately 45 metres from the junction transverse markings for the benefit of northbound traffic, and for this direction a Give Way sign will complement the mini-roundabout warning sign. Additional measures for the northern approach will include SLOW markings.
- 5.6. To lay emphasis on the one-way regulation on Lower Newport Road, an additional traffic sign will be erected opposite the chemist carpark entrance. Also, the right-turn-only road marking arrow located outside the chemist will be refreshed as well as the addition of new carriageway hatching to influence traffic behaviour.
- 5.7. To further enhance safety at the junction, all approaches will be resurfaced to achieve a high level of skid resistance (PSV>68). The proposal is to have a full carriageway binder, surface course and pavement reinforcement grid.

## **6. Departures from Standards**

- 6.1. None.

## **7. Community Engagement**

- 7.1. The County Councillor, Bill Withers Lt Col (Retd) has been fully supportive of this scheme as well as Borough Councillor Keith Dibble.
- 7.2. Businesses in close proximity to the North Lane/North Close/Lower Newport junction, particularly Vernons Chemist, North Lane Dental Practice and The Salvation Army Community Centre will be notified ahead of any construction activity.

7.3. Advance Warning Signs shall be erected at least two weeks prior to commencement of works and HCC sign boards will be provided on each approach to site for the duration of the works.

## **8. Statutory Procedures**

8.1. [Section 64 of the Highways Act 1980](#) gives highway authorities power to carry out works at crossroads or other junctions, for regulating the movement of traffic.

## **9. Land Requirements**

9.1. No additional land is required as the works will be undertaken within the extents of the public highway.

## **10. Maintenance Implications**

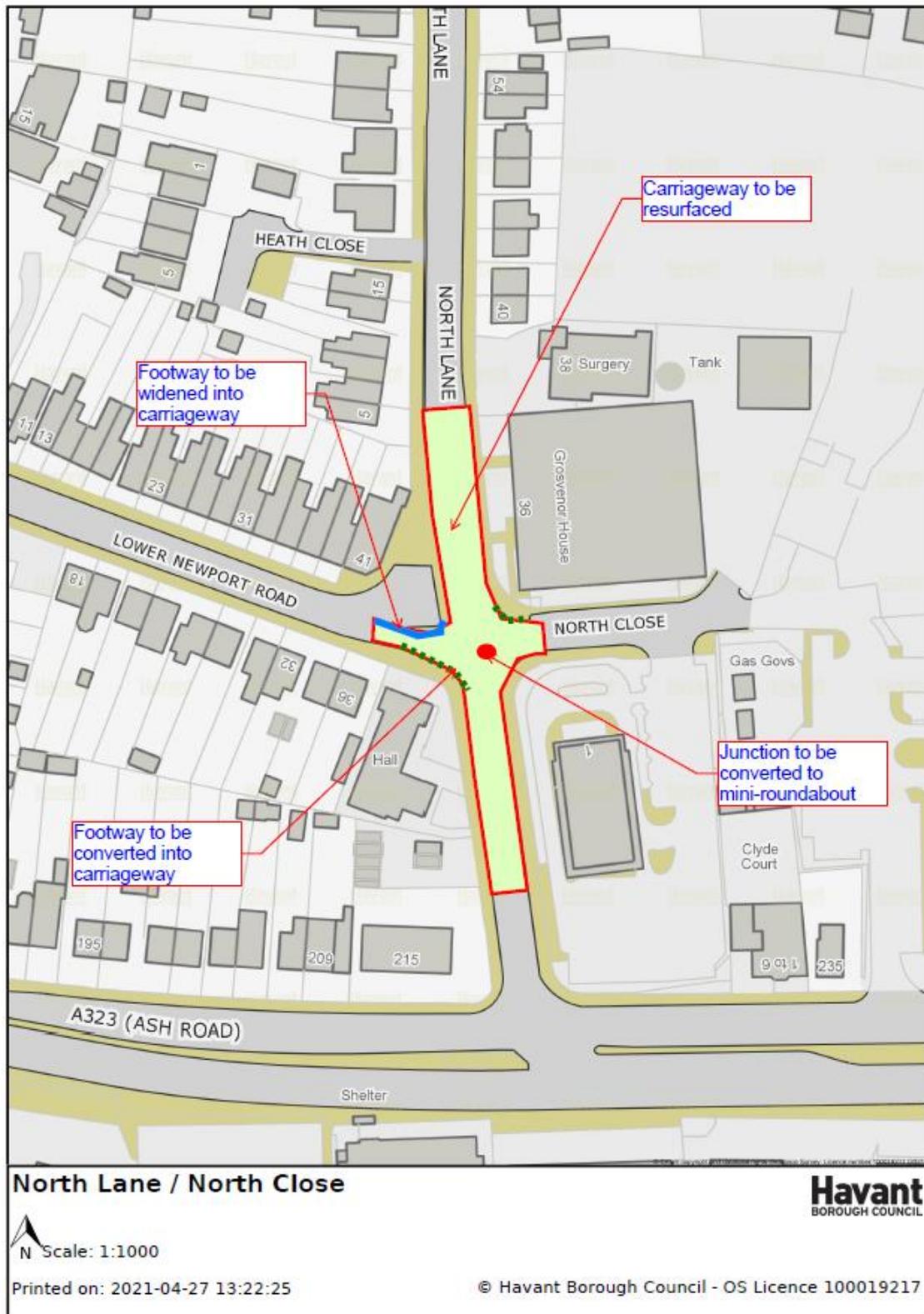
10.1. Having consulted ETE's Asset Management Team as part of the formal design approval process, they have consented to the choice of materials being used. Whilst detailed discussions also ensued on matters relating to the use of coloured surfacing, its use was excluded and will be replaced with a high PSV (polished stone value) surface. The proposed scheme will therefore have minimal impact on the highway maintenance budget, with annual cost calculated to be approximately £240.

## **11. Recommendations**

11.1. That the Director approves this addition to the 2021/22 Capital Programme at a value of £210,000.

11.2. That the Director approves the details of the mini-roundabout scheme at the junctions of North Lane, North Close and Lower Newport Road, Aldershot as set out in this paper.

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## LTP3 Priorities and Policy Objectives

### 3 Priorities

To support economic growth by ensuring the safety, soundness and efficiency of the transport network in Hampshire

Provide a safe, well maintained and more resilient road network in Hampshire

Manage traffic to maximise the efficiency of existing network capacity, improving journey time reliability and reducing emissions, to support the efficient and sustainable movement of people and goods

### 14 Policy Objectives

Improve road safety (through delivery of casualty reduction and speed management)

Efficient management of parking provision (on and off street, including servicing)

Support use of new transport technologies (i.e. Smartcards; RTI; electric vehicle charging points)

Work with operators to grow bus travel and remove barriers to access

Support community transport provision to maintain 'safety net' of basic access to services

Improve access to rail stations, and improve parking and station facilities

Provide a home to school transport service that meets changing curriculum needs

Improve co-ordination and integration between travel modes through interchange improvements

Apply 'Manual for Streets' design principles to support a better balance between traffic and community life

Improve air quality

Reduce the need to travel, through technology and Smarter Choices measures

Promote walking and cycling to provide a healthy alternative to the car for short local journeys to work, local services or school

Develop Bus Rapid Transit and high quality public transport in South Hampshire,  
to reduce car dependence and improve journey time reliability

Outline and implement a long term transport strategy to enable sustainable  
development in major growth areas

**Other**

Please list any other targets (i.e. National Indicators, non LTP) to which this  
scheme will contribute.

**CORPORATE OR LEGAL INFORMATION:****Links to the Strategic Plan**

Hampshire maintains strong and sustainable economic growth and prosperity:	no
People in Hampshire live safe, healthy and independent lives:	yes
People in Hampshire enjoy a rich and diverse environment:	no
People in Hampshire enjoy being part of strong, inclusive communities:	no

**Other Significant Links**

<b>Links to previous Member decisions:</b>	
<u>Title</u>	<u>Date</u>
N/A	
<b>Direct links to specific legislation or Government Directives</b>	
<u>Title</u>	<u>Date</u>
N/A	

**Section 100 D - Local Government Act 1972 - background documents**

The following documents discuss facts or matters on which this report, or an important part of it, is based and have been relied upon to a material extent in the preparation of this report. (NB: the list excludes published works and any documents which disclose exempt or confidential information as defined in the Act.)

<u>Document</u>	<u>Location</u>
<i>Ash Road Junction Improvement Scheme Feasibility Report</i>	<a href="#">CMS 3189 North Lane Miniroundabout - Aldershot - Feasibility Reports - All Documents (sharepoint.com)</a>
<i>North Lane Traffic Flow Improvement Feasibility Report</i>	<a href="#">CMS 3189 North Lane Miniroundabout - Aldershot - Feasibility Reports - All Documents (sharepoint.com)</a>

## Impact Assessments

### 1. Equalities Impact Assessment:

1.1. The proposals in this report have been developed with due regard to the requirements of the Equality Act 2010, including the Public Sector Equality Duty and the Council's equality objectives. The website contains a summary [assessment of the impacts](#) on developing Hampshire's highway network and transport systems.

1.2. Statutory considerations:

<b>Impact</b>	
Age	None
Disability	None
Sexual Orientation	None
Race	None
Religion and belief	None
Gender Reassignment	None
Sex	None
Marriage and civil partnership	None
Pregnancy and maternity	None
<b>Other policy considerations</b>	
Poverty	None
Rurality	None
Other factors	None
Geographical impact	Aldershot

2. **Impact on Crime and Disorder:** None

3. **Climate Change:**

Traffic congestion remains a concern in the transportation sector. The proposed mini-roundabout at the North Lane/North Close/Lower Newport Road crossroads will improve traffic flows and safety. This will result in an improved air quality by reducing vehicle emissions caused by idling as well as sudden acceleration and braking.