

Nottinghamshire County Council

Equality Impact Assessment (EqIA)

Introduction

This EqIA is for:	Musters Road, West Bridgford – Zebra Crossing (located outside Jesse Gray Primary School)		
Details are set out:	Proposed controlled zone, Musters Road, West Bridgford – Zebra Crossing		
	Consideration of Objections		
Officers undertaking the assessment:	Mike Barnett – Team Manager (Major Projects and Improvements), Via East Midlands Ltd Priyesh Mistry – Assistant Project Engineer (Major Projects and Improvements), Via East Midlands Ltd		
Assessment approved by:	Gary Wood, Group Manager Highways and Transport	Date:	

The Public Sector Equality Duty which is set out in the Equality Act 2010 requires public authorities to have due regard to the need to: Eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation; Advance equality of opportunity between people who share a protected characteristic and those who do not; Foster good relations between people who share a protected characteristic and those who do not.

The purpose of carrying out an Equality Impact Assessment is to assess the impact of a change to services or policy on people with protected characteristics and to demonstrate that the Council has considered the aims of the Equality Duty.

Part A: Impact, consultation and proposed mitigation

1 What are the potential impacts of proposal? Has any initial consultation informed the identification of impacts?

The purpose of the controlled zone is to provide an area clear of parked vehicles to enable good inter-visibility between pedestrians and motorists when using the crossing. This will benefit road users, in particular pedestrians who are crossing at this point, in most cases to access the adjacent school. This would also improve links to the bus stops on either side of Musters Road.

The provision of a zebra crossing and controlled zone will:

 Ensure that motorists do not obstruct inter-visibility between pedestrians and motorists by stopping in the controlled zone

Since the retirement of the School Crossing Patrol in Decemeber 2018, a new crossing patrol has not been able to have been recruited, therefore the need for a controlled crossing in this location has risen. The County Council received a petition which was presented by Councillor J Wheeler to the Communities and Place Committee on 5th March 2020.

In response, it is proposed to construct a zebra crossing, subject to consultation, in place of the existing informal crossing, this would require the implementation of a controlled zone where stopping is prohibited at all times. The existing single yellow lining which prevents parking between 8am - 9:30am and 3pm - 4:30pm Monday to Friday which would be overruled by the introduction of a controlled zone.

2 Protected Characteristics: Is there a potential positive or negative impact based on:

Age	Positive	Negative	Neutral Impact
Disability	Positive	Negative	Neutral Impact
Gender reassignment	Positive	Negative	Neutral Impact
Pregnancy & maternity	Positive	Negative	Neutral Impact
Race including origin, colour or nationality	Positive	Negative	Neutral Impact
Religion	Positive	Negative	Neutral Impact
Gender	Positive	Negative	Neutral Impact
Sexual orientation including gay, lesbian or bisexual	Positive	Negative	Neutral Impact

3 Where there are potential negative impacts for protected characteristics these should be detailed including consideration of the equality duty, proposals for how they could be mitigated (where possible) and meaningfully consulted on:

How do the potential impacts affect people with protected characteristics <i>What is the scale of the impact?</i>	How might negative impact be mitigated or explain why it is not possible	How will we consult
Loss of parking would require vehicles to be parked outside the controlled zone (approximately15m away).	All residents have off street parking provisions which are sufficiently wide for disabled users to embark and disembark from any vehicles.	

Part B: Feedback and further mitigation

4 Summary of consultation feedback and further amendments to proposal / mitigation

As part of the consultation, all householders with directly affected frontages and all statutory consultees were written to detailing the zebra crossing proposal. The proposal was also publicised on Via's website, the local newspaper and site notices erected on the site of the proposed crossing. The consultation for the proposed zebra crossing was undertaken between 10th July and 14th August 2020.

Objections were received by three local residents. One householder who has a disabled grandchild would be directly affected by the proposed controlled zone given that they would be unable to stop on the carriageway in front of their property. They stated that their grandchild was disabled and currently embarks and disembarks from their vehicle in front of their property, on the existing vehicular access.

The property from which the objection was received from has existing off street parking provisions which are sufficiently sized for a vehicle to be parked and for anyone to board/get off of the vehicles. Access to the property's driveway will also be maintained as part of this proposal meaning that off-street parking facilities are still available.

The extent of the controlled zone would also mean that the nearest available on-street parking would be approximately 15m north, where any vehicle would be able to be parked alternatively.

In line with its Public Sector Equality Duty, Nottinghamshire County Council operates a policy for the provision of advisory disabled bay markings, to assist those with disabilities to access the highway. Where residents have significant health issues it may be appropriate to request an advisory disabled bay marking on the Highway, which would be provided free of charge by the County Council. Applicants must be in receipt of the higher level of disability allowance and in all cases, markings will only be considered if it can be demonstrated that off-street parking facilities (hard standing areas, driveways, garages) are not available or cannot feasibly be provided.

Given that the respondent's objection and their specific needs, consideration has been given to the introduction of an advisory disabled bay at this location, however as the necessary criteria have not been met, an advisory disabled bay is not required in this situation.

As the property has existing off-street parking provisions, the implementation of an advisory disabled bay is not required. The driveway is sufficiently sized to be suitable for the needs of the householder's relative who would require access to the property. The user of any proposed advisory disabled bay is also not a resident of the property that the response was received from. In line with the County Council's responsibility under the Equality Act 2010, access to the property has been maintained and no additional provision is required.

Completed EqIAs should be sent to <u>equalities@nottscc.gov.uk</u> and will be published on the Council's website.