

**CORPORATE SERVICES DEPARTMENT**  
Director – Caroline Holland



**Democracy Services  
London Borough of Merton  
Merton Civic Centre  
London Road  
Morden SM4 5DX**

**Direct Line: 0208 545 3616  
Email: democratic.services@merton.gov.uk**

**Date: 20 December 2017**

Dear Councillor

**Notification of a Decision taken by the Cabinet Member for  
Regeneration, Environment and Housing**

The attached non-key decision has been taken by the Cabinet Member for Regeneration, Environment and Housing, with regards to:

- Beddington Lane – Proposed Shared Use Path and Carriageway Widening

and will be implemented at **noon on Wednesday 27 December** unless a call-in request is received.

The call-in form is attached for your use if needed and refers to the relevant sections of the constitution.

Yours sincerely

**Lisa Jewell  
Democracy Services**

## NON-KEY DECISION TAKEN BY A CABINET MEMBER

See over for instructions on how to use this form – all parts of this form must be completed. Type all information in the boxes. The boxes will expand to accommodate extra lines where needed.

**1. Title of report and reason for exemption (if any)**

Beddington Lane- Proposed Shared Use Path & Carriageway Widening

**2. Decision maker**

Councillor Martin Whelton, the Cabinet Member for Regeneration Environment & Housing

**3. Date of Decision**

19 December 2017

**4. Date report made available to decision maker**

5 December 2017

**5. Date report made available to the Chairs of the Overview and Scrutiny Commission and of any relevant scrutiny panel**

N/A

**6. Decision**

To agree the implementation of the proposed measures for Beddington Lane that include widening of the carriageway and the construction of a shared path (pedestrians and cyclists).

**7. Reason for decision**

The proposed measures will provide a safe and easy access for pedestrians and cyclists along what is currently a hostile environment. This feeds into the Council's objectives in improving the environment and road safety for vulnerable road users and encourage walking and cycling.

**8. Alternative options considered and why rejected**

8.1 Do Nothing. This however, will do nothing to improve road for all road users or improve pedestrian/cycling permeability and strategic connections.

**9. Documents relied on in addition to officer report**

N/A

**10. Declarations of Interest**

None



Cllr Martin Whelton

Cabinet member for regeneration, housing and environment

19 December 2017

## **Cabinet Member for Regeneration, Environment and Housing:**

**Date:** 05 December 2017

**Agenda item:**

**Ward:** Pollards Hill and Cricket Green

**Subject:** Beddington Lane-Proposed Shared Use Path & Carriageway Widening

**Lead officer:** Chris Lee, Director of Environment & Regeneration

**Lead member:** Councillor Martin Whelton, Cabinet Member for Regeneration, Environment and Housing

**Contact Officer:** Paul Miles Tel: 020 8545 4869

**Email:** paul.miles@merton.gov.uk

### **Recommendations:**

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That the Cabinet Member considers the content of this report and:

- A. Agrees to the implementation of the proposed measures for Beddington Lane that include widening of the carriageway and the construction of a shared path (pedestrians and cyclists).

## **1 PURPOSE OF REPORT AND EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

- 1.1. For the Cabinet Member for Environmental Sustainability and Regeneration to consider the content of this report and approve the implementation of carriageway resurfacing/widening and a Shared- Use path on common land along the eastern side of Beddington Lane between Croydon Road and Brookmead Road (which is on the borough boundary with L.B Sutton).

## **2 BACKGROUND**

- 2.1. Beddington Lane is a B class road subject to a 30mph speed limit. The road is a London Distributor route linking Merton to Sutton and Croydon. It accommodates the bus service 463 and serves the industrial units along its length. Beddington Lane is a relatively narrow road with a narrow footway on one side of the road. It is considered that the carriageway width is too narrow to comfortably accommodate industrial traffic. The road condition is also in poor condition. Due to the nature of the road and the high volume of HGV that use this road throughout the day, Beddington Lane is considered to be dangerous route for cyclists and pedestrians. Cyclists either have to use the footpath or adapt a primary cycling position in the road (centre of lane). According to Personal Injury records in the last 3 years up to 14<sup>th</sup> November 2016, there was 1 accident which involved a cyclist. As a whole, however, cyclists avoid using this route and due to the narrow footway, pedestrians find it an intimidating and a hostile environment.

- 2.2. Over the years officers have received numerous complaints from cyclists, pedestrians and vehicular traffic regarding safety along this road. Safety has always been an issue and many attempts have been made in previous years to resolve these issues but without success with the primary contributory factor being the Common Land that would be required for a meaningful engineering measure.
- 2.3. Given the strategic connection between Merton, Croydon and Sutton and the presence of a tram stop that attracts users, it is considered paramount that the appropriate safe facilities are provided for cyclists and pedestrians in order to promote usage in what can be described as a very hostile environment to all road users. The proposed measures include widening and resurfacing of carriageway and footway which will provide:
- An off-road route for cyclists of all abilities for both commuting and leisure.
  - A safe and DDA compliant walking route for pedestrians.
- 2.4. Over the years as part of the Council's LiP, officers have been introducing safety and accessibility measures throughout the borough. In line with its many initiatives, there is a drive to improve and increase sustainable modes of transport such as walking and cycling. In recent years, officers had identified a number of routes that require a great deal of improvements to meet the above objectives. One particular route was Croydon Rd which was subject to improvements last financial year. Another route is Beddington Lane that requires major improvements. However, the identified improvements require Mitcham Common land and officers have been discussing / negotiating with the Mitcham Common Conservators (MCC) regarding the necessary licence and land uptake.
- 2.5. Council's proposals of a shared use path alongside Mitcham Common has been accepted by MCC. In order to construct this path some of the Common Land will need to be converted to hard surface. Mitcham Common Conservators have accepted there will be land loss and the path is subject to licence conditions which are in the final stages of being legally drawn up. Another stipulation to building the path is that the Council will fund and construct a bund on Redhouse Road which will be exempt to any future maintenance or implications.

### **3 PROPOSAL**

- 3.1. The proposed 3m wide path will run parallel to the carriageway along the eastern side of Beddington Lane. Please see appendix A for General Layout.
- 3.2. The existing carriageway will be widened from 6.0m to 7.5m and resurfaced.
- 3.3. It is hoped to introduce pedestrian/cycle crossing facilities at existing Croydon Road signalised junction. This would be subject to TfL agreement and the design is currently undergoing traffic modelling. Please see appendix B.
- 3.4. Given that there are no properties adjacent to Beddington Lane a public consultation will not be necessary although the industrial estate and local residents will be directly notified via email/letter drop. Given the nature of the improvements, a statutory consultation is not necessary.
- 3.5. It is worth noting that the London Borough of Sutton in partnership with Transport for London (TfL) is currently developing the Beddington North TfL Major

Scheme. This scheme is focused on improving Beddington Lane (up to the borough boundary) and includes measures to reduce the impact of high traffic volumes on the local community, improve facilities for pedestrians and cyclists and responds to the concerns of local businesses regarding congestion. The Merton and Sutton proposals will tie in at Brookmead Road.

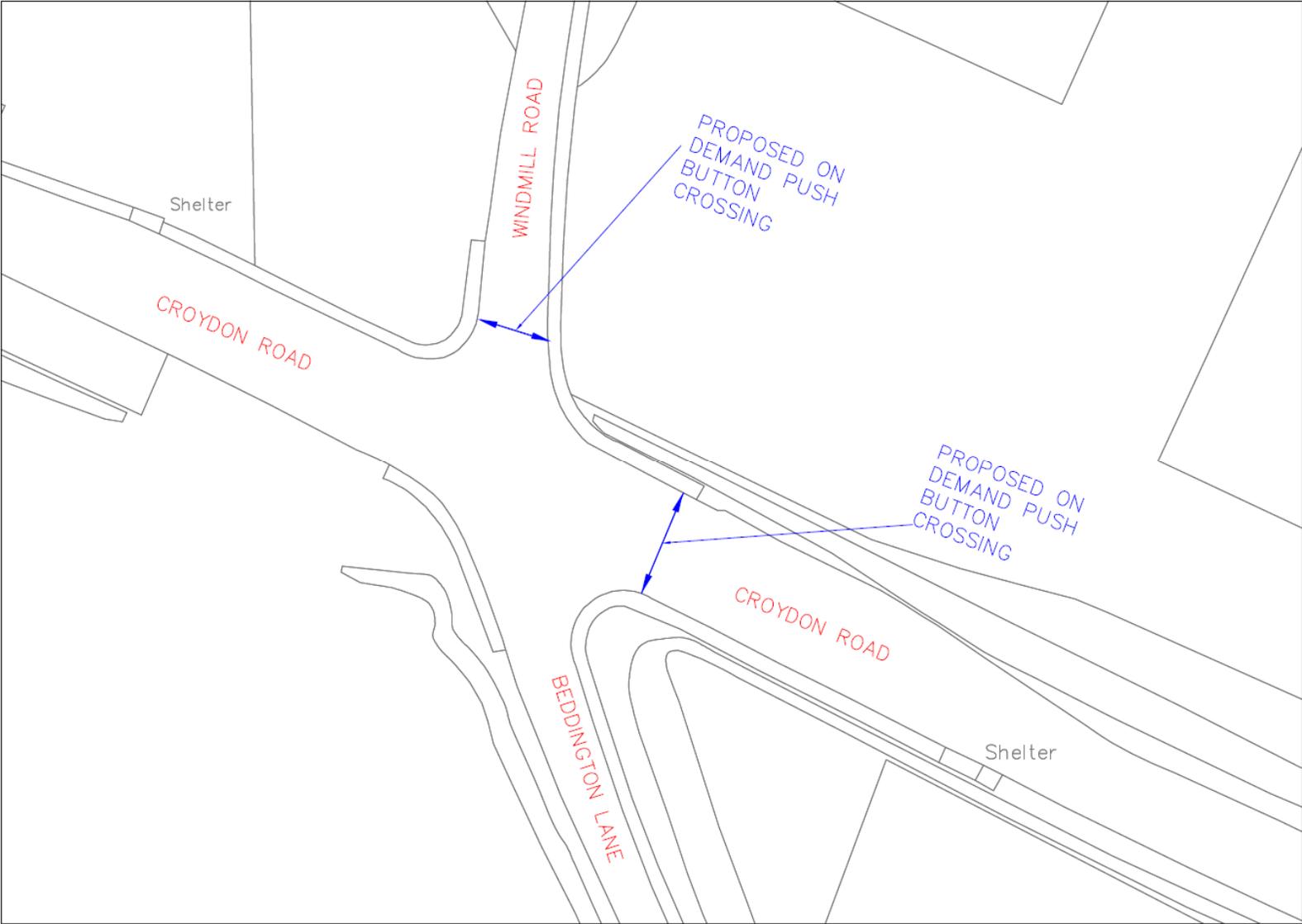
- 3.6. It is considered that this proposed share path will provide connectivity from Mitcham town Centre along Croydon Road to Croydon and Sutton feeding into Sutton's scheme.

#### **4 FINANCE & TIME FRAME**

The estimated cost for implementing the above proposal is approximately £800k. The shared-use path will be funded from the boroughs cycling budget provided by TFL, Merton Capital and the carriageway works will be funded from the boroughs Capital Resurfacing Budget. Given the extent of the works, it is proposed to commence construction towards the last quarter of this financial year and will be completed within the first quarter of next financial year. The construction cost will therefore need to be spread over both the 2017/18 and 2018/19 financial years from both the cycling and Capital Resurfacing budgets. The works are programmed to commence in January 2018 and likely to be completed by April 2018.



**Appendix B-Proposed Pedestrian Phases**



## Merton Council - call-in request form

### 1. Decision to be called in: (required)

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### 2. Which of the principles of decision making in Article 13 of the constitution has not been applied? (required)

Required by part 4E Section 16(c)(a)(ii) of the constitution - tick all that apply:

(a) proportionality (i.e. the action must be proportionate to the desired outcome);	
(b) due consultation and the taking of professional advice from officers;	
(c) respect for human rights and equalities;	
(d) a presumption in favour of openness;	
(e) clarity of aims and desired outcomes;	
(f) consideration and evaluation of alternatives;	
(g) irrelevant matters must be ignored.	

### 3. Desired outcome

Part 4E Section 16(f) of the constitution- select one:

(a) The Panel/Commission to refer the decision back to the decision making person or body for reconsideration, setting out in writing the nature of its concerns.	
(b) To refer the matter to full Council where the Commission/Panel determines that the decision is contrary to the Policy and/or Budget Framework	
(c) The Panel/Commission to decide not to refer the matter back to the decision making person or body *	
* If you select (c) please explain the purpose of calling in the decision.	

**4. Evidence which demonstrates the alleged breach(es) indicated in 2 above (required)**

Required by part 4E Section 16(c)(a)(ii) of the constitution:

**5. Documents requested**

**6. Witnesses requested**

**7. Signed (not required if sent by email): .....**

**8. Notes – see part 4E section 16 of the constitution**

Call-ins must be supported by at least three members of the Council.

The call in form and supporting requests must be received by 12 Noon on the third working day following the publication of the decision.

The form and/or supporting requests must be sent:

- **EITHER** by email from a Councillor’s email account (no signature required) to [democratic.services@merton.gov.uk](mailto:democratic.services@merton.gov.uk)
- **OR** as a signed paper copy to the Head of Democracy Services, 7<sup>th</sup> floor, Civic Centre, London Road, Morden SM4 5DX.

For further information or advice contact the Head of Democracy Services on 020 8545 3864