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## Report of the Director of City Development

### Executive Board

Date: 2 September 2008

Subject: Tingley Bar Roundabout / Gyratory Morley: Response to the Deputation submitted 9 April 2008.

<p><b>Electoral Wards Affected:</b></p>           <input type="checkbox"/> Ward Members consulted (referred to in report)
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<p><b>Specific Implications For:</b></p> <p>Equality and Diversity <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Community Cohesion <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Narrowing the Gap <input type="checkbox"/></p>
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Eligible for Call In

Not Eligible for Call In  
(Details contained in the report)

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## 1.0 Executive Summary

1.1 Local residents submitted a deputation to Council on 9th April 2008 concerning the condition of Tingley Bar Roundabout / Gyratory, Morley. This report outlines the subsequent action taken by various sections of the Council.

## 2.0 Purpose Of This Report

1.1 The purpose of this report is to inform the Executive Board of the action taken following receipt of the deputation made to Council on 9 April 2008 (attached in Appendix 1) by local residents concerned about the condition of Tingley Bar roundabout / gyratory.

## 2.0 Background Information

2.1 This report provides responses to the issues raised by the deputation.

## 3.0 Main Issues

3.1 Most of the roads around Tingley Bar Roundabout flood when it rains, due to either the road gullies being blocked or a few inches higher than the rest of the roads, so

water has to build up until it finds its own level to run away into people's gateways and the Tingley Mill yard.

**Response:** The gullies on Tingley Bar roundabout are scheduled to be cleaned every eight months and the last scheduled visit took place on 13/1/08. In addition, a complaint had been received from Rein Road residents group about the condition of the gullies on Bridge street, these were cleaned outside of the agreed of schedule on 26 and 27 April 2008. In view of the complaints regarding Tingley Bar roundabout, this area has been put onto the Streetscene Services 'Wet Spot' team schedule which means that gullies will be serviced every three months.

- 3.2 When it rains a pond covers half of the road from the Tingley Bar Fisheries doorway and car park, along Bridge Street to the bus stop lay-by. This causes problems for people waiting to catch the bus. A bit further on from the bus stop, there is the remains of an old road sign sticking out from the surface of the pavement.

**Response:** The gullies on Bridge street were cleaned out on 26 and 27 April 2008. A highways inspector visited the site to remove the old road sign although the remains could not be found. We suspect this could have been an old lighting column that has since been removed. Messages were left for Mr Slingsby to confirm the exact location.

- 3.3 Some clean-up work has been carried out recently but "there is still muck at the entrance of Shire Road and the pedestrian crossing opposite, to clear up and vandals keep smashing the phone box windows at Tingley Bar adding more broken glass to the problem".

**Response:** Streetscene Services did respond to a complaint and a team was deployed to clean the area. The local Streetscene Area Manager will monitor this area to ensure that acceptable standards of street cleaning are maintained. In terms of glass etc as a result of vandalism this will continue to be dealt with in response to complaints or routine inspections unless picked up during scheduled visits.

- 3.4 As a member of Morley Council's Highways committee, I spent over an hour with a Leeds Highway Engineer, pointing out things that needed to be done for Health & Safety reasons, i.e. a bollard or barrier to stop traffic mounting the pavement opposite Tingley Bar Fisheries and parking on double yellow lines, causing pedestrians, pram and wheelchair users to go out onto the road. This is an accident waiting to happen.

**Response:** It is unclear from our records who the "Highways Engineer" referred to is and which footway is in question. We suspect it to be Bridge Street. The footways here vary from about 1.2m to 2m wide and any parking on the footways could cause pedestrians, particularly those with pushchairs etc., to walk out into the carriageway to pass. It is not clear as to why parking in this area is taking place; possibly the customers of Tingley Bar Fisheries. If so, then it is likely to be either a lunchtime or tea time issue. No Waiting, Loading or Unloading at any time restrictions are in place at the junction and are enforceable. Parking Services have been informed of these concerns and appropriate enforcement action has been requested. The provision of street furniture would not be recommended because this would narrow the footways thereby defeating the object of the exercise. Following the recent City Centre Conference, there is also a drive to reduce the amount of street clutter wherever possible.

- 3.5 Weeks ago, we witnessed a Southern Electric wagon parked and stuck on the grass verge near Shire Road, as it was dragged out, it ripped up the grass and brought a load of muck out onto the pavement and road. I contacted Leeds Highways the next day to ask if they or the police were going to see to this matter, Leeds Highways assured me they would send a Cleaning Crew out the very next day.

**Response:** Having checked SEC's records it confirmed that Mrs Riley, 1 Shire Road, reported to SEC on 7 March 2008 that a vehicle had damaged the grass verge whilst installing a lighting column and the spoil had transferred onto the footpath. SEC subsequently telephoned Mrs Riley to advise her that they would be attending site to make good the damage. SEC's Construction Team Leader has confirmed that they did attend site and did wash down the footway. He has, however, also confirmed that they decided not to lay any top soil due to the prevailing weather conditions. Unfortunately, they have, in his words, overlooked the need to return to site and for this he has apologised. LPC, their sub-contractor returned to site on Saturday 12 April to make good the area concerned. A further inspection on the following Monday morning confirmed this had been dealt with.

- 3.6 We would like to know the date of the Decision Notice for the Rein Park housing development. Enquiries from Leeds Council's Planning Department reveal that developers are responsible for replacing any dead / vandalised trees that die off etc, within 5 years of the Decision Notice?

**Response:** This has been developed in two phases, following grant of outline permission in March 1998 (23/297/97/OT). Phase 1 was approved in November 2000 (23/271/00/FU) and Phase 2 was approved in April 2003 (23/500/01/RM).

- 3.7 Our MP wrote a letter, dated 5<sup>th</sup> February 2008, which has received no reply as yet, to Leeds City Council about the replacement of trees at Rein Park after we were continually told by Councillor Finnigan there was no Section 106 agreement money available for trees. We have found out under the Freedom of Information Act that Leeds has received over £6,000,000 and Morley South over £500,000 in S.106 money. How many trees would the interest alone from figures like that pay for?

**Response:** There is currently £119,461 s106 green space monies available in Morley South. Following discussions with ward members on priorities the council is examining two schemes at Dartmouth Park and Scratchard Park which will spend all this balance and a considerable proportion if not all of those sums currently expected in the future. There are no s106 greenspace monies available in the area of Rein Park for replacement tree planting. The greenspace at Rein Park is to be transferred to Parks and Countryside for future maintenance. Two planning applications are concerned with greenspace at Rein Park. The council is currently holding two sums for the future maintenance of the public open space at Rein Park, but until the legal transfer of land takes place these sums will not be used. Parks and Countryside have agreed with Taylor Woodrow that some areas which were previously planted with trees will not now be planted due to continuous vandalism. The site is now maintained by Parks and Countryside, but the legal transfer has not taken place due to issues over the emergency highway access.

- 3.8 What is the difference between Cottingley in Bloom and Tingley Bar in Bloom? In the YEP it said you can't see the road (M621) for the trees and Cottingley residents are very proud of their trees. Their trees were funded by Leeds City Council's Parks and Countryside and South Leeds Health for All. We couldn't see Tingley House Farm for the trees before Rein Park was built, now it looks more like a petrified forest.

**Response:** Parks and Countryside currently have a registered group called Cottingley in Bloom, who we work with in partnership in improve greenspace in the Cottingley area. We have been contacted by South Leeds Health for All who wanted to set up an In Bloom Group for a singular estate in Tingley calling itself Tingley in Bloom. Our Floral Initiative Officer advised them that if the group took the name Tingley in Bloom it would have to encompass the whole of Tingley not just one area. In response to the trees we removed 3 dead trees on Monday 7th July together with a small amount of flytipping.

#### **4.0 Implications For Council Policy And Governance**

4.1 There are no significant policy or governance implications arising from this report.

#### **5.0 Legal And Resource Implications**

5.1 There are no significant Legal or Financial implications arising from this report.

#### **6.0 Recommendations**

6.1 The Executive Board is requested to **note** the action taken by various sections following the receipt of the deputation relating to Tingley Bar Roundabout / Gryatory, Morley.

#### **7.0 Background Papers**

7.1 There are no background papers associated with this report.