



Report of the Head of Scrutiny and Member Development

Scrutiny Board (City Development)

Date: 13th January 2009

Subject: A660 Corridor Transport Issues

Electoral Wards Affected:

Headingley
Hyde Park & Woodhouse
Weetwood



Ward Members consulted

Specific Implications For:

Equality and Diversity

Community Cohesion

Narrowing the Gap

1.0 Introduction

- 1.1 The North West (Inner) Area Committee on 18th December 2008 considered the attached report of the Director of City Development on the A660 Corridor Transport Issues.
- 1.2 The Area Committee resolved that the joint report of the Chief Highways Officer and Director of Resources dated 24th November 2008 for the detailed design and public consultation on the A660 Woodhouse Lane/Clarendon Road, Woodhouse Proposed Inbound Bus/Cycle Lane and Junction Improvement Measures be referred to this Board for discussion. A copy of this joint report is attached . Members also asked for an explanation as to the rationale for canceling the Scrutiny Board (Central and Corporate) Call-In meeting on 22nd December 2008 concerning the Director of Resources delegated decision on this matter. A copy of the Area Committee's minute is attached in full for reference purposes.

2.0 Background

- 2.1 The Chief Highways Officer took a delegated decision to approve this scheme on 24th November 2008 which was not Called-In. The Director of Resources subsequently approved a delegated decision for the funding of this scheme on 2nd December 2008. This decision was Called-In by Councillors Monaghan and Illingworth because they stated that:

“the Area Committee has not been consulted as stated in the report. The item is to be discussed at the meeting on the 18th December 2008. Previous discussion was abortive through a misunderstanding.”

- 2.2 As a consequence of the Call-In, a meeting of Scrutiny Board (Central and Corporate) functions was called for the 22nd December to hear the request.
- 2.3 The Chief Highways Officer having subsequently investigated the concerns raised by Ward Councillors agreed to rescind his delegated decision authorising the scheme on 17th December 2008. The Director of Resources rescinded his delegated decision authorising funding of this scheme on the same date.
- 2.4 As a consequence of the delegated decisions being withdrawn by the Director of Resources the Call-In meeting was cancelled as there was no decision to discuss.
- 2.5 The Chief Highways Officers is currently consulting with Ward Councillors regarding proposals for this scheme.
- 3.0 Recommendation**
- 3.1 Members are asked to consider and determine what, if any, further information or scrutiny Members wish to undertake on this matter.

Background Papers

None Used

Extract from the Minutes of the North West (Inner) Area Committee Meeting of the 18th December 2008

Minute No 66

RESOLVED –

- (a) That the contents of the report and appendices be noted.
- (b) That in respect of the Design and Cost Report dated 24th November 2008 submitted by the Chief Highways Officer and Director of Resources for the detailed design and public consultation on the A660 Woodhouse Lane/Clarendon Road, Woodhouse Proposed Inbound Bus/Cycle Lane and Junction Improvement Measures, this report be referred to the Scrutiny Board (City Development) for discussion, together with addressing the rationale behind a decision by officers to cancel the Scrutiny Board (Central and Corporate) Call-In meeting on 22nd December 2008 to consider the officer delegated decision on this scheme from the Director of Resources.
- (c) That in respect of the former officer delegated decision of the Chief Highways Officer in relation to the A660 Woodhouse Lane/Clarendon Road, Woodhouse Proposed Inbound Bus/Cycle Lane and Junction Improvement Measures, this Committee requests that this decision be withdrawn by the Chief Highways Officer.
- (d) That this Committee unanimously opposes the first phase of the design proposals of works to be undertaken along the A660 corridor and requests the Chief Highways Officer to cancel this scheme.
- (e) That this Committee supports the principle of improvements to the A660 corridor within the North West Inner area and requests full consultation to be undertaken on the proposals.
- (f) That this Committee supports the proposal for a Inner North West Transport Strategy being developed, with specific reference to parking provision, cycle and bus use to reduce unnecessary car journeys along the A660 and that this issue be debated at the Transport Sub Group.