

## Bilston Urban Village

### Response to the Objection made by the Bilston East Neighbourhood Partnership on the proposed Stopping Up Order for Dudley Street, Bilston. FINAL AGREED COPY

#### 1.0 Background

- 1.1 The Council has made a Stopping Up Order under section 247 of the 1990 Town and Country Planning Act to enable the development of a new Leisure Centre for Bilston. This Order (if confirmed) allows for the stopping up of the northern end of Dudley Street and the realignment of the Dudley Street/Prosser Street junction to enable continued access to Linton Croft and Bilston High School. A new length of highway linking Dudley Street and Bankfield Road is proposed to maintain access to the Black Country Route.
- 1.2 The official Notices were displayed for a 28 day period on February 1 2007 and a presentation was given to the Bilston East Neighbourhood Partnership on 14<sup>th</sup> February. Members of the community felt that insufficient attention had been given to the potential impacts of increased traffic arising from the proposals and on that basis objected to the Order.
- 1.3 There were two other objections; one from the Fire Service and one from National Grid. Both of these objections have been resolved.

#### 2.0 Analysis

- 2.1 Waterman Civils Ltd, as retained consultants for the Bilston Urban Village development, were asked to undertake an analysis of the predicted effect on traffic of the proposed modifications to the road layout.
- 2.2 Their conclusion was that the only significant increase in traffic predicted to arise from the proposal would be a rise in north bound journeys along Dudley Street to access Morrisons supermarket.
- 2.3 This was on the basis that a percentage of drivers from the south who currently access Morrisons from the A41 or Broad Lanes/Coseley Road would divert along Dudley Street as this would offer a more direct route.
- 2.4 The south bound route along Dudley Street was already available (albeit via Bankfield Road and the BCR) and it was felt therefore that there would be no significant increase in southbound journeys resulting from this proposal.

### 3.0 Proposed Mitigation

- 3.1 Having identified the issue The Council now propose to make modifications to the new junction of Bankfield Road/Morrisons to prevent entry to the supermarket car park at this point. In practice this requires the installation of a non-standard junction which allows drivers approaching the junction from Dudley Street to turn left only (up to the BCR) and not to make a straight on manoeuvre into Morrisons car park. Given that this had been identified as the cause of the significant increase in journeys northbound along Dudley Street the proposals would now have a predicted neutral effect on traffic in the area.
- 3.2 At a special meeting of the Bilston East Neighbourhood Partnership Environment Group on 2<sup>nd</sup> July this approach was tabled and the principle accepted.

### 4.0 Other Issues

- 4.1 The issues of traffic impact in the Bilston area are acknowledged to be of significant concern for the local community. The following table is intended to identify key issues and give guidance and commitments as to key dates and/or trigger points related to new developments where the community will be able to get involved in the process.

<b>Issue</b>	<b>Trigger Point</b>	<b>Timescales</b>	<b>Comment</b>
Plot A Earthworks/ Infrastructure Contract	Award of contract	September 2007	Suggest a meeting between contractors and the BENP Environment Group to discuss phasing and impact on maintaining access to Bilston during works
Bilston Leisure Centre/Health Resource Centre	Completion of Traffic Impact Studies (pre-application)	November 2007	To discuss study and proposed mitigation measures prior to submission of detailed planning apps.

Bilston Leisure Centre/Health Resource Centre	Submission of Planning Applications	January 2008	Statutory Consultation period
New residential development on Cogent site (former Sankey Laminations & Sankey Vendcare)	Prior to construction		A signalised junction is required at the new junction on Dudley Street
Traffic counts on: A41/BCR Highfields Road/Dudley Street Highfields Road/Ash Street Station Road/Temple Street		Ongoing	Available reports to be submitted to the Group. Where recent counts are not available these will be commissioned.
Investigate Station Rd and Temple St One Way options.			
Weight Limit on new road		July-September	This issue will need to be looked at to see what the implications are for other roads. Would require the making of a Traffic Regulation Order that would be subject to consultation.
Highfields Road/Dudley Street junction signals	Construction of any phase of residential/commercial development which requires access off Dudley Street (Possibly dependent on the result of the Leisure/Health traffic impact study)		This is an identified requirement arising from the Urban Village development

Other measures along Highfields Road (including junction with Baldwin Street)	Construction of any phase of residential/ commercial development which requires access off Dudley Street (Possibly dependent on the result of the Leisure/Health traffic impact study)		The suggested approach is to “pool” resources from the Urban Village and other major developments and to devise a co-ordinated strategy for traffic management in the area in consultation with the Group.
Carder Crescent		April 2008 onwards	A programme of works to provide improved off-street car parking for residents of the estate.
Carder Crescent		December 2009 (or earlier if deemed necessary)	Implement scheme to monitor any “overspill” parking in Carder Crescent
Stakeholder Groups	Appointment of Lead Developer	January 2008 onwards	There is a requirement for the lead developer to engage with the local community in a variety of ways to be discussed and agreed when appointed
Review of Site Access	Appointment of Lead Developer	January 2008 onwards	Will be largely dependent on the lead developer’s view on the existing outline planning

			consent and on ways of minimising trips through Green Travel Plan obligations
--	--	--	---

[www.bilstononline.co.uk](http://www.bilstononline.co.uk)