

ANGUS COUNCIL

SCRUTINY AND AUDIT COMMITTEE - 5 MARCH 2019

PETITION – REPOSITION TRAFFIC LIGHTS OR USE ALTERNATIVE TRAFFIC CALMING MEASURES IN KEPTIE STREET

REPORT BY HEAD OF FINANCE AND LEGAL

ABSTRACT

This Report advises members of a petition which was received in connection with traffic calming measures in Keptie Street, Arbroath.

1. RECOMMENDATIONS

In terms of Standing Order 14, it is open to the Committee to EITHER:

- (i) note receipt of the petition and take no further action;
- (ii) determine that appropriate action has already been taken or is planned and no further action is necessary;
- (iii) request a fuller report from the relevant officer;
- (iv) undertake a detailed scrutiny review, gather evidence and make recommendations to the relevant committee; or
- (v) refer the matter to Angus Council where in the view of the Committee, its significance requires a debate.

2. ALIGNMENT TO THE ANGUS LOCAL OUTCOMES IMPROVEMENT PLAN/CORPORATE PLAN

2.1 This report contributes to the following local outcome(s) contained within the Angus Local Outcomes Improvement Plan and Locality Plans:

- 1. *We have a sustainable economy and good employment opportunities*
- 2. *Angus is a good place to live in, work in and visit*
- 3. *Our children and young people are confident individuals, effective contributors, successful learners and responsible citizens*

3. CURRENT POSITION

3.1 Members are advised that a petition was submitted to the Council on 23 January 2019 in respect of repositioning traffic lights or use alternative traffic calming measures in Keptie Street, Arbroath. It is understood that the petition was initiated circa August 2018. The petition contains 186 signatures and calls for the plans to be put on hold whilst the implications are reconsidered, the local residents and business owners listened to and other traffic calming options or the relocation of the traffic lights explored.

3.2 Standing Order 14 of the Council's Standing Orders provides that petitions will only be accepted where the name and address has been provided with all signatories requiring to be resident in Angus. These petitions do not meet the requirements of the Standing Order in this regard. Signatories have indicated their location but not their addresses. Four of the signatories do not reside in Angus. Given the public and media interest in this matter, it is considered appropriate to follow the procedure as contained in Standing Order 14.

3.3 The Communities Committee, at its meeting on 25 September 2018, considered a report by the Head of Infrastructure Services regarding pedestrian crossing at Keptie Street (Report (Report No 291/18 refers). In respect of that report, the Committee agreed to:-

- (i) to note the contents of the Report;
- (ii) to consult further on the proposals and to delay the installation of the crossing pending the outcome of the further consultation;
- (iii) to note that a further Report would be brought back to the Committee following completion of the proposed consultation in due course, reporting on the results of that consultation; including costings of the options proposed;
- (iv) that officers also consult with Northeast Sensory Services and the Guide Dogs for the Blind Association;
- (v) that all members be invited to attend a further site visit; and
- (vi) that businesses on Keptie Street be made aware of the site visit in order that they too could have their views taken into account.

3.4 On 15 January 2019 the Communities Committee noted the outcome of the consultation as set out in Report No. 9/19, and the Committee agreed to:

- (i) note the results of the consultation process regarding the proposed pedestrian crossing installation on Keptie Street, Arbroath;
- (ii) note the previously agreed proposal to arrange a further site visit in regard to the provision of a "puffin" style signal controlled pedestrian crossing on Keptie Street, Arbroath; and
- (iii) instruct the Head of Infrastructure to arrange the site visit along with a further report to Committee on the outcome of the site visit.

3.5 The site visit was established for 7 February 2019, with a subsequent report being prepared for Communities Committee.

3.6 Committee is asked to note, for completeness that Standing Order 26 of the Council's Standing Orders provides:-

"26. Alteration or Revocation of Previous Decision

- (1) Subject to (2) below, a decision shall not be altered or revoked within a period of 6 months from the date of such decision being taken.
- (2) Where the Provost rules that a material change of circumstances has occurred to such extent that it is appropriate for the issue to be reconsidered, a decision may be altered or revoked within 6 months by a subsequent decision arising from:-
 - (i) a recommendation to that effect, by an officer in a formal Report; or
 - (ii) a motion to that effect, of which prior notice has been given in terms of Standing Order 25.
- (3) This Standing Order shall not apply to the ongoing progression or development of an issue on which a decision is required."

4. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

4.1 There are no direct financial implications arising from this report.

NOTE: The background papers, as defined by Section 50D of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973 (other than any containing confidential or exempt information) which were relied on to any material extent in preparing the above report are:

Report No 291/18 - Keptie Street, Arbroath – Pedestrian Crossing – Update - Communities Committee - 25 September 2018

Report No 9/19 - Proposed Pedestrian Crossing, Keptie Street, Arbroath: Response to Public Consultation - Communities Committee - 15 January 2019

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List of Appendices: 1 - Petition correspondence.