

## PERTH AND KINROSS COUNCIL

## Enterprise and Infrastructure Committee

28 August 2013

**PROPOSED ONE WAY TRAFFIC SYSTEM IN  
WELLMEADOW, BLAIRGOWRIE**

Report by Depute Director (Environment)

**PURPOSE OF REPORT**

This report summarises an objection received during the advertising of the proposed introduction of a short section of one-way system in Wellmeadow, Blairgowrie. The report recommends that the objection be set aside and the Order be made as advertised.

**1. BACKGROUND/MAIN ISSUES**

- 1.1 At its meeting on 20 March 2013 this Committee agreed to the promotion of a variation to the Traffic Regulation Order (TRO) for Blairgowrie to introduce a one-way system on a short section of road in Wellmeadow, Blairgowrie. The proposals are shown on the drawing at Appendix 1.
- 1.2 The proposals are part of major improvement works at the bus stance area in Wellmeadow which includes the installation of traffic signals. The project is aimed at improving the utilisation of the bus stance area and in particular the operation of buses to make it more efficient and user friendly. Additionally the project is intended to increase pedestrian safety and improve access for those with mobility impairments.
- 1.3 An objection to the proposal to introduce a short section of one-way system on Wellmeadow has been received from Transolutions consultants on behalf of the Co-Operative Group.
- 1.4 At present, this section of Wellmeadow provides access to the Co-Operative store's car park and allows for traffic movements in both directions. The proposed one-way system will mean that drivers exiting the store's car park will only be able to turn left and drive via Terminus Street to reach Commercial Street, a detour of around 300 metres.
- 1.5 The objector claims that this route is less attractive for customers and will threaten the long term viability of the store. They also claim that the road could remain two-way and that there are potential safety hazards in the traffic signal design.

## 2. PROPOSALS

- 2.1 The proposal to introduce a one-way system on a short section of road at Wellmeadow is integral to the improvements proposed at the bus stance area as it will allow the proposed traffic signals to operate effectively. The traffic signals could not operate efficiently or safely if the road remained two-way. The traffic signals have been carefully designed and are considered to provide significant benefits to all road users in this area. They will ensure that drivers are able to easily exit the bus stance area and Commercial Street and will include facilities for pedestrians.
- 2.2 It is highlighted that at the public consultation events which took place for the project very few comments were made about the proposed one-way system.
- 2.3 The contract for the improvements at Wellmeadow has been awarded and works are due to start on site in early September 2013. The Committee is therefore asked to set aside the objection to enable the TRO to be made.

## 3. CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATION(S)

- 3.1 It is recommended that the Committee agree to set aside the objection and proceed with promoting the TRO to introduce the short section of one-way as advertised.

### Author(s)

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### Approved

Name	Designation	Date
Barbara Renton	Depute Director (Environment)	24.7.13

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## 1. IMPLICATIONS, ASSESSMENTS, CONSULTATION AND COMMUNICATION

<b>Strategic Implications</b>	<b>Yes/No</b>
Community Plan / Single Outcome Agreement	<b>Yes</b>
Corporate Plan	<b>Yes</b>
<b>Resource Implications</b>	
Financial	<b>Yes</b>
Workforce	<b>None</b>
Asset Management (land, property, IST)	<b>None</b>
<b>Assessments</b>	
Equality Impact Assessment	<b>None</b>
Strategic Environmental Assessment	<b>None</b>
Sustainability (community, economic, environmental)	<b>Yes</b>
Legal and Governance	<b>Yes</b>
Risk	<b>None</b>
<b>Consultation</b>	
Internal	<b>Yes</b>
External	<b>Yes</b>
<b>Communication</b>	
Communications Plan	<b>Yes</b>

### 1. Strategic Implications

#### Community Plan / Single Outcome Agreement

- 1.1 The Perth and Kinross Community Planning Partnership (CPP) brings together organisations to plan and deliver services for the people of Perth and Kinross. Together the CPP has developed the Perth and Kinross Community Plan which outlines the key things we think are important for Perth and Kinross.

- i) Giving every child the best start in life
- ii) Developing educated, responsible and informed citizens
- iii) Promoting a prosperous, inclusive and sustainable economy
- iv) Supporting people to lead independent, healthy and active lives
- v) Creating a safe and sustainable place for future generations

- 1.2 It is considered that the actions contained within this report contribute to objectives ii) to v) above.

#### Corporate Plan

- 1.3 The Council's Corporate Plan 2013-2018 outlines the same five objectives as those detailed above in the Community Plan. These objectives provide a clear strategic direction, inform decisions at a corporate and service level and shape resource allocation.

- 1.4 It is considered that the actions contained in the report contribute to the objectives as outlined in paragraph 1.2 above. These objectives are met by implementing schemes which encourage sustainable travel, improve and enhance the natural and built heritage, reduce congestion and promote road safety.

## **2. Resource Implications**

### Financial

#### Capital

- 2.1 The funding of £821,000 for the Blairgowrie Town Centre Regeneration project is detailed in the Committee report of 20 March 2013 and are included within the council's approved Capital Budget. The costs associated with the one-way proposal are included in the budget for the project.

#### Revenue

- 2.2 There are no revenue financial implications associated with the recommendations in this report.

#### Workforce

- 2.3 There are no workforce implications arising from this report.

#### Asset Management (land, property, IT)

- 2.4 There are no land and property, or information technology implications arising from the contents of this report.

## **3. Assessments**

### Equality Impact Assessment

- 3.1 Under the Equality Act 2010, the Council is required to eliminate discrimination, advance equality of opportunity, and foster good relations between equality groups. Carrying out Equality Impact Assessments for plans and policies allows the Council to demonstrate that it is meeting these duties.
- 3.2 This section should reflect that the proposals have been considered under the Corporate Equalities Impact Assessment process (EqIA) with the following outcome:
- (i) Assessed as **not relevant** for the purposes of EqIA.

### Strategic Environmental Assessment

- 3.3 Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) is a legal requirement under the Environmental Assessment (Scotland) Act 2005 that applies to all qualifying plans, programmes and strategies, including policies (PPS). The proposals have been considered under the Act and no further action is required as it does not qualify as a PPS as defined by the Act and is therefore exempt.

### Sustainability

- 3.4 Under the provisions of the Local Government in Scotland Act 2003 the Council has to discharge its duties in a way which contributes to the achievement of sustainable development. In terms of the Climate Change Act, the Council has a general duty to demonstrate its commitment to sustainability and the community, environmental and economic impacts of its actions.
- 3.5 The proposals contained within the report are assessed to have a positive impact on sustainability, particularly with regard to encouraging sustainable modes of travel and the use of public transport.

### Legal and Governance

- 3.6 The Order has been promoted in accordance with The Local Authorities' Traffic Orders (Procedure) (Scotland) Regulations 1999.

### Risk

- 3.7 There are no significant risks associated with the implementation of this project.

## **4. Consultation**

- 4.1 The Head of Legal Services, the Head of Democratic Services and the Head of Finance have been consulted in the preparation of this report.
- 4.2 The Police and Elected Members for the area have also been consulted and support the proposals.

## **5. Communication**

- 5.1 The formal notice for the TRO will be published in the newspaper.

## **2. BACKGROUND PAPERS**

The following background papers, as defined by Section 50D of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973 (and not containing confidential or exempt information) were relied on to a material extent in preparing the above Report:

- Report to Enterprise and Infrastructure Committee – 20 March 2013, Blairgowrie Town Centre Regeneration (13/123)

### **3 APPENDICES**

The proposed one-way at Wellmeadow is shown on the drawing at Appendix 1.



