
Report To:	Environment and Regeneration Committee	Date:	08 March 2018
Report By:	Corporate Director Environment, Regeneration & Resources	Report No:	ENV010/18/SA
Contact Officer:	Scott Allan	Contact No:	01475 712762
Subject:	A78 Trunk Road, Inverkip, Road Safety		

1.0 PURPOSE

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to advise Members of discussions with Transport Scotland in respect of road safety on the A78.

2.0 SUMMARY

- 2.1 Officers and Members met with officials from Transport Scotland on 31 January 2018 to discuss road safety on the A78 at Inverkip. The meeting followed the request at the Environment and Regeneration Committee of 26 October 2017. Transport Scotland officials advised that whilst they fully recognise road safety concerns at the entrance to Inverkip from the A78 at the northern end of the village they considered that the roundabout being progressed through the City Deal Inverkip former power station project, will address road safety concerns. The roundabout will cater for all movements into and out of the village and remove the need for right turns as is presently the case. Scottish Power anticipate being on site with roundabout works in autumn. In view of this timescale, Transport Scotland do not propose any works on an interim basis.

3.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 3.1 That the Committee note the outcome of discussions with officials from Transport Scotland in respect of road safety on the A78 at Inverkip.

Scott Allan
Corporate Director
Environment, Regeneration & Resources

4.0 BACKGROUND

- 4.1 At the Environment and Regeneration Committee on 26 October 2017 the Corporate Director Environment, Regeneration & Resources was remitted to arrange a meeting with Transport Scotland to address road safety concerns on the A78 Trunk Road at Inverkip. The A78 is under the control of the Scottish Government as a Trunk Road and managed through Transport Scotland and their contractual operating company Transerv.
- 4.2 Transport Scotland officials met with officials and Elected Members of Inverclyde Council on 31 January 2018. Transport Scotland agreed that road safety was a concern at the northern access to Inverkip from the A78 and this was demonstrated by historical accidents. Works have been carried out at this location in previous years including a deceleration lane into the village heading southbound and enhanced signage and road markings.
- 4.3 Options to improve road safety at this location were discussed including the introduction of traffic signals on the A78 and a reduced speed limit.
- 4.4 It is Transport Scotland's view that the roundabout proposed to be constructed at the northern access to Inverkip from the A78 as part of the City Deal project for the redevelopment of the former Inverkip Power Station site, will address all current road safety concerns. Transport Scotland advised that the timescale for commencement of the new roundabout, anticipated by Scottish Power who will be procuring the works to be around late spring/early summer 2018, to be sufficiently close that any interim road safety improvements could not be delivered in this timescale. Once the roundabout is complete, Transport Scotland that there will be no further need for further works either at the entrance to the village or the adjacent entrance to Inverkip Marina.
- 4.5 There was discussion around the current speed limit which is 60mph, in line with the national speed limit on a single carriageway. Transport Scotland consider that there is no case to reduce the current speed limit. The characteristics of the road, which has no frontal access, is consistent with the national speed limit on a single carriageway. It is also the case that speed measurement previously carried out indicates average speeds much lower than 60mph.
- 4.6 Transport Scotland are fully prepared to monitor the road after the new roundabout has been constructed and review road safety at this time.

5.0 IMPLICATIONS

Finance

- 5.1 One off Costs:- Nil

Cost Centre	Budget Heading	Budget Years	Proposed Spend this Report £000	Virement From	Other Comments

Annually Recurring Costs/ (Savings):- Nil

Cost Centre	Budget Heading	With Effect from	Annual Net Impact £000	Virement From (If Applicable)	Other Comments

Legal

- 5.2 There are no legal implications arising from this report.

Human Resources

5.3 There are no human resources implications arising from this report.

Equalities

5.4 Has an Equality Impact Assessment been carried out?

Yes See attached appendix

No

This report does not introduce a new policy, function or strategy or recommend a change to an existing policy, function or strategy. Therefore, no Equality Impact Assessment is required.

Repopulation

5.5 There are no repopulation implications arising from this report.

6.0 CONSULTATIONS

6.1 None.

7.0 BACKGROUND PAPERS

7.1 None.