



FOR PUBLICATION

DERBYSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

CABINET MEMBER DECISION – HIGHWAYS ASSETS AND TRANSPORT

21 June 2022

Report of the Executive Director - Place

**Dedication of Land to Enable the Construction of a Passing Place,
Oldfield Lane, Darley Bridge**

1. Divisions Affected

1.1 Derwent Valley.

2. Key Decision

2.1 This is not a Key Decision.

3. Purpose

3.1 To seek the Cabinet Member's approval to enter into a legal agreement for the dedication of land to form part of the adopted highway to the County Council, from an adjacent landowner, to enable the construction of a passing place allowing HGVs to pass, which will facilitate the installation of a system of Vehicle Activated Signs (VAS) to help to manage Heavy Goods Vehicles (HGV) movements through Darley Bridge.

4. Information and Analysis

4.1 The land in question (see Appendix 2) forms part of the proposals to install a system of VAS to help to manage the movement of HGV traffic through the village of Darley Bridge.

- 4.2 This land is currently within private ownership, the owner being Ecobat Resources (formerly HJ Enthoven and Sons). It is currently disused and is occupied with low level vegetation.
- 4.3 Ecobat Resources has formally agreed to the dedication of the land. It is also making a £25,000 contribution towards the VAS system, so is an active partner in the scheme.

5. Consultation

- 5.1 A vote at a public meeting provided general support for the County Council to design a scheme to help manage HGV movements in the village.
- 5.2 Liaison with the local County Member, Councillor Hobson, and the Parish Council regarding the scheme confirms the local desire to see a scheme in place.

6. Alternative Options Considered

- 6.1 **Do something different** – Alternative proposals to manage HGVs have been considered, however, the crux of the problem is the restricted road width through the village and the lack of available highway to carry out any road widening. Therefore, a passing place would be the only solution.
- 6.2 **Do Nothing** – The issues with HGVs meeting and getting stuck has been on-going for many years with no other alternative routes available. An incident occurred in 2019 where a manoeuvring HGV in the village struck a pedestrian which resulted in fatal injuries. As a result of this, the County Coroner is insistent that remedial measures are considered.

7. Implications

- 7.1 Appendix 1 sets out the relevant implications considered in the preparation of the report.

8. Background Papers

- 8.1 Cabinet Member approval granted for the VAS scheme to be added to the Capital Programme, dated 13 February 2020 (Minute No. 13/20 refers).

9. Appendices

9.1 Appendix 1 – Implications.

9.2 Appendix 2 – Land to be dedicated.

10. Recommendation

That the Cabinet Member:

- a) Authorises the Director of Legal and Democratic Services to enter into a legal agreement for the dedication of land to form part of the adopted highway to the County Council from an adjacent landowner for the construction of a passing place which will facilitate the installation of a system of Vehicle Activated Signs (VAS) to help to manage HGV movements through Darley Bridge.

11. Reasons for Recommendation

11.1 Consultation with the local community and key stakeholders has demonstrated overall broad support for the proposals and funding has been secured for the project through available budgets along with a financial contribution from Ecobat Resources and the dedication of the land.

11.2 The proposals should address a long-standing issue of HGV congestion in the village and the disruption that this causes. Not only are there road safety implications, but regular damage is caused to the road bridge which is a scheduled ancient monument as well as to private property.

12. Is it necessary to waive the call in period?

12.1 No.

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Implications

Financial

- 1.1 The cost of the legal agreement will be met by the project budget. The cost for this work and associated legal fees are not yet known but it is expected to be a nominal expenditure.

Legal

- 2.1 The land in question will be dedicated to form part of the adopted highway by a means of a formal agreement between the County Council and the adjacent landowner under Section 72 of the Highways Act 1980.

Human Resources

- 3.1 None.

Information Technology

- 4.1 None.

Equalities Impact

- 5.1 It is considered that a better managed highway will result in a more pleasant environment for residents, as well as all other road users, including pedestrians and cyclists.

Corporate objectives and priorities for change

- 6.1 The scheme supports the Council's key priorities in contributing towards a resilient, healthier, and safer community by addressing a long-standing traffic issue.

Other (for example, Health and Safety, Environmental Sustainability, Property and Asset Management, Risk Management and Safeguarding)

- 7.1 None.