

Agenda Item No. 4(b)

DERBYSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

**MEETING OF CABINET MEMBER – HIGHWAY, TRANSPORT AND
INFASTRUCTURE**

21 November 2019

Report of the Executive Director – Economy, Transport and Environment

**PETITION – HORNS BRIDGE ROUNDABOUT, CHESTERFIELD
CONCERNS REGARDING HIGHWAY SAFETY**

(1) **Purpose of Report** To inform the Cabinet Member of a petition reporting safety concerns and suggested improvements to highway signing at Horns Bridge roundabout, Chesterfield.

(2) **Information and Analysis**

Background

At the meeting on the 20 December 2018, the Cabinet Member acknowledged receipt of a petition (Minute No. 100/18 refers). It contained 26 signatures with a covering letter from a group of Advanced Driving Instructors requesting amendments be made to the destination wording on existing advanced direction signs situated on the A617 on the approach to the roundabout, together with new signage installed on the A617 further back from the roundabout. There was also a request for improvements to be made to advanced direction signs when approaching the roundabout from the A61 southbound. In addition, details of collision statistics at Horns Bridge roundabout were requested.

Officer Comment

The Horns Bridge roundabout is a busy signalised roundabout which serves as the gateway to Chesterfield from the M1 Motorway, connecting the A61 with the A617 to the east of the town centre. (Location Plan - Appendix 1). All four approaches serving the A61 and the A617 are signalised, with the fifth arm being the access from the Spire Walk Business Park, which has priority control. Approximately 75,000 vehicles pass through the roundabout on a typical weekday.

Whilst officers feel that the current destination signage and lane markings are adequate to allow a motorist to select the correct lane and negotiate the roundabout, additional place name information on the advanced direction signs on the A61 southbound and A617 westbound approaches would be

helpful in allowing a motorist to make an earlier decision over which is the correct lane to select prior to entering the roundabout.

As is alluded to by the petitioner, part of the issue is caused by drivers ignoring the information given to them over which is the correct lane to select depending on their chosen destination, resulting in a late change of lane. Unfortunately, it is common driver behaviour to try to beat queuing traffic by swapping lanes at the last possible moment.

The collision history over the three year period between 1 June 2016 and 31 May 2019 shows that there have been nine collisions, all with a slight severity. Given that approximately 75,000 vehicles use the roundabout on a daily basis, this is considered to be a good collision record when compared with similar junction layouts in other parts of the country that carry similar volumes of traffic. Three years is the standard test period when comparing the safety record of the highway and Derbyshire County Council's latest collision data is current up to 31 May 2019.

However, recognising that improvements to advanced direction signage could reduce collision numbers, it is recommended that these works be carried out.

Local Member Comment

Councillor Sharon Blank was consulted but did not have any comments to make.

(3) **Financial Considerations** The costs associated with the works are estimated to be £10,000 and can be met from the approved 2019-20 Local Transport Plan.

Other Considerations

In preparing this report the relevance of the following factors has been considered: legal, prevention of crime and disorder, equality and diversity, human resources, environmental, health, property, social value and transport considerations.

(4) **Key Decision** No.

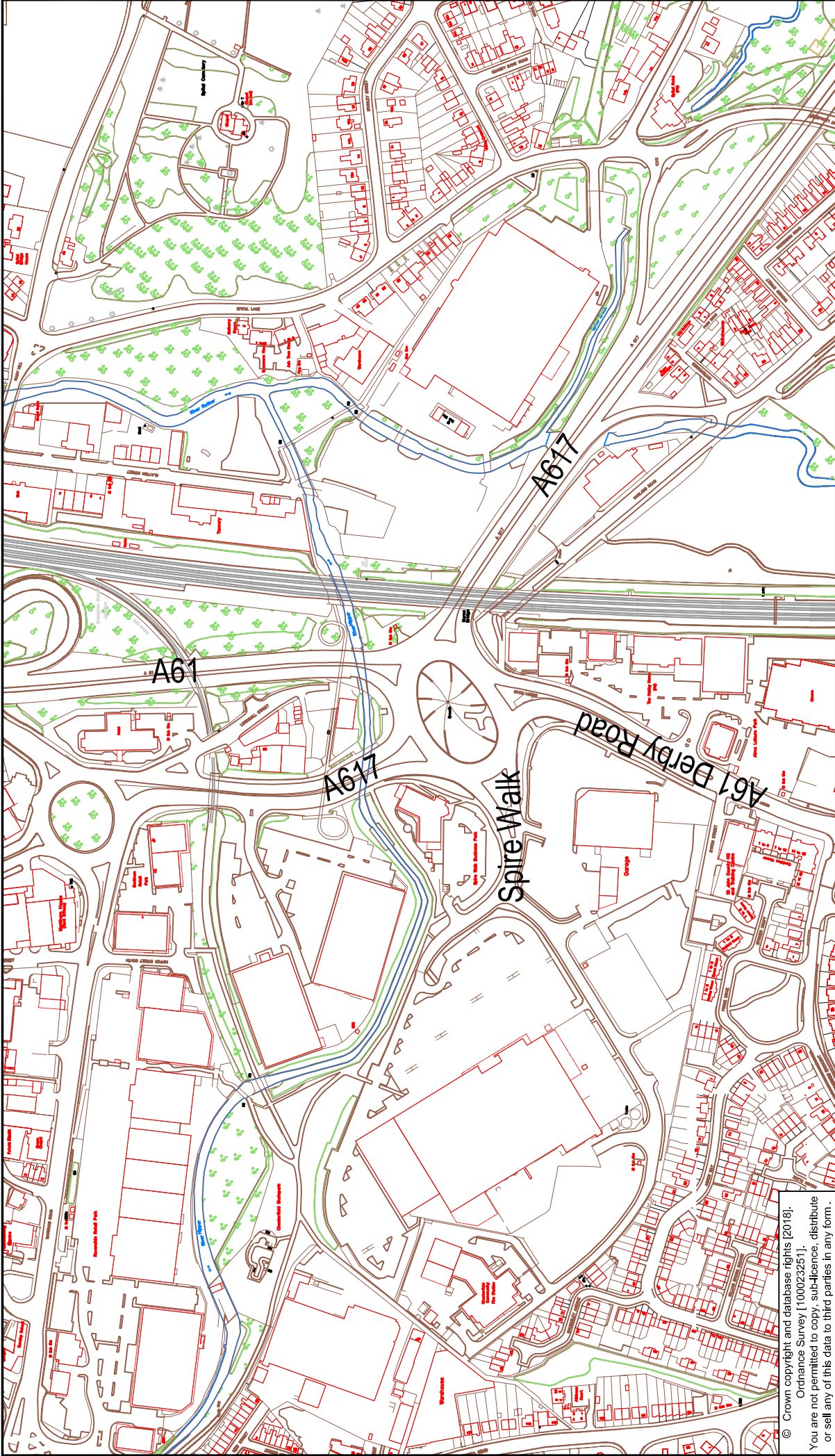
(5) **Call-In** Is it required that call-in be waived in respect of the decisions proposed in the report? No.

(6) **Background Papers** Held on file within the Economy, Transport and Environment Department.

(7) **OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATIONS** That:

- 7.1 The existing capital budget will be used to fund improvements to the advanced direction signage on both the A617 westbound and the A61 southbound approaches to the Horns Bridge roundabout, Chesterfield.
- 7.2 The Local Member and lead petitioner be informed accordingly.

Mike Ashworth
Executive Director – Economy, Transport and Environment



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MIKE ASHWORTH
Strategic Director
Economy, Transport and Environment



AMENDMENT DETAILS

BY	CHKD	APVD	DATE	NO.

PROJECT TITLE		HORNS BRIDGE ROUNDABOUT, CHESTERFIELD	
DRAWING TITLE		APPENDIX 1	

DRAWN PHIL BRAISBY	CHECKED STEVE DUNGWORTH	APPROVED STEVE DUNGWORTH
Date 15/01/19	Date 15/01/19	Date 15/01/19
Project / Confirm Reference No.		PROJECT/CONFIRM_REF
Drawing Number		HMT/PB/14/19
ORIGINAL DRAWING SIZE 297 x 210 (A4)		
SCALE		NTS