

Supporting Information and Impact Assessment

Service / Policy:	Road Safety and School Crossing Patrols
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Director / Assistant Director:	Fran Hughes

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Section 1: Background Information	
1.	<p>What is the proposal / issue?</p> <p>The proposal is to reduce Road Safety Education and School Crossing Patrols budget by £57k for 2016/17 by charging academy schools for school crossing patrol services at full cost recovery.</p>
2.	<p>What is the current situation?</p> <p>The current Road Safety Service provides a road safety education service in partnership with other stakeholders and the management of 23 school crossing patrol sites. Of these 23 sites 15 are academies.</p> <p>The total budget for Road Safety is £85k (which includes non-recurrent grant income of £25k) plus £29,400 School Crossing Patrols.</p> <p>The school crossing patrol sites are currently part funded by Academy Schools where the crossing patrol serves their particular school.</p> <p>The Road Safety team undertakes a number of campaigns with partner organisations and attends a number of relevant public events.</p>
3.	<p>What options have been considered?</p> <p>A) School crossing patrols to Academy schools will be required to be funded at full cost recovery by the relevant Academy or Patrol. If the school chose not to fund the service then it would be removed. Reduction in the levels of attendance to Road Safety Campaigns and relevant events.</p> <p>B) Road Safety assistance to Academy Schools to be provided on a “fee only” basis.</p>

	<p>A combination of these options will be needed to achieve the savings.</p> <p>Reduction in high level Road Safety Education campaigns and events may potentially result in increased road collisions and casualties in the future.</p>
4.	<p>How does this proposal support the ambitions and principles of the Corporate Plan 2015-19?</p> <p>To continue the provision of Road Safety Education and School Crossing Patrols to Academy Schools by means of funding will assist in protecting children from road traffic collisions.</p> <p>The continuation of a statutory road safety service may assist in reducing road traffic collisions and casualties in the future.</p>
5.	<p>Who will be affected by this proposal and who do you need to consult with?</p> <p>Emergency Services may lose assistance with road safety enforcement campaigns, reducing the level of advice that can be provided to the public.</p> <p>If Academy Schools are not able/prepared to fund their associated crossing patrol sites then the service may be removed, affecting the ability of children and parents to use a safe route to school.</p>
6.	<p>How will you propose to consult?</p> <p>Members of the public have been consulted upon as part of the budget setting process.</p> <p>All schools who have a school crossing patrol have been written to regarding the budget reduction process as were all our statutory partners e.g. Devon and Cornwall Police; Devon and Somerset Fire and Rescue.</p>

Section 2: Implications and Impact Assessment

7. What are the financial and legal implications?

School Crossing Patrols are not a statutory service.

The authority has a "statutory duty" to undertake studies into road traffic collisions, and to take steps both to reduce and prevent them.

School Crossing Patrols can only be provided by the Highway Authority and this responsibility cannot be legally passed to the Academies to 'self manage'.

8. What are the risks?

There is a risk that the reduction in road safety education may result in an increase in road traffic collisions and casualties in Torbay.

There is a risk that Academies may not fund School Crossing Patrols at their locations resulting in an increased level of public dissatisfaction and a potential increase in collisions at school locations.

9. Public Services Value (Social Value) Act 2012

N/A

10. What evidence / data / research have you gathered in relation to this proposal?

Current costs of providing the service (please see section 2) and the councils Road Safety Strategy 2013-2020 which can be found here:

<http://www.torbay.gov.uk/roadsafetystategy2013-2020.pdf>

11.

What are key findings from the consultation you have carried out?

Public consultation on the budget proposals started on 6th November 2015 and closed on the 4th January 2016. The proposals were communicated to the Torbay community via local newspaper (Herald Express & Western Morning News), local radio, Twitter and Facebook and were detailed on the Torbay Council website. Emails were sent to key stakeholders and a range of opportunities were provided for people to contribute to the consultation, including a Budget Event held in Paignton. People were also able to send representations via email and post to Torbay Council.

Responses for this proposal were as follows:

Q) Road Safety Education and School Crossing Patrols:

To increase income by charging Academy Schools for School Crossing Patrol services to fully recover the Council's costs.

This proposal is expected to generate £25,000 additional income.

Academy Schools currently provide some funding to the Council towards the School Crossing Patrol service. This proposal means that Academy Schools will pay the whole cost for school crossing patrols at their schools.

Do you support this proposal?	Number	Percent
Yes	538	75.7%
No	151	21.3%
No answer	22	3.0%
Total	711	100%

One Academy school responded to the consultation – this representation will be forwarded to the Mayor and Councillors to be considered as part of the consultation feedback.

12.

Amendments to Proposal / Mitigating Actions

Currently the Council charges each academy £2,500 per year. This is to contribute to the salary costs. However the actual salary costs are £2,730 per year.

	<p>Each of the 19 sites incurs a proportion of other costs including management, equipment, training/medicals and infrastructure equates to a minimum of £2,600 per year. Therefore each site is estimated to cost £5,300 min per annum.</p> <p>In order to give us the proposed saving of £25,000 for next year we would need to increase the costs to a minimum of £3800 per site (an increase of £1300 per site) but this will leave the authority covering some of the costs and likely that we will have to look at this again in future years.</p> <p>In order to charge at full cost recovery then each site would be charged £5300 per site, an increase of £2800 per site.</p> <p>Note: the cost recovery is based on 19 academy schools, however there are 4 community schools with crossing patrols. If those schools changed their status then costs would be spread across a greater number of schools.</p> <p>Based on this assessment the proposal to charge the academy school should go ahead. The cost will be £3600 per site with an annual review of costs, and further increases over the next few years until full cost recovery is achieved. However, there are no planned changes to the principle of charging for the service.</p>
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Equality Impacts

13	Identify the potential positive and negative impacts on specific groups		
	Positive Impact	Negative Impact & Mitigating Actions	Neutral Impact
	Older or younger people	If Academy Schools do not fund their associated crossing patrol sites then the service may be removed, affecting the ability of children and parents to use a safe route to school.	
	People with caring Responsibilities	No differential impact	
	People with a disability	No differential impact	

Women or men	No differential impact
People who are black or from a minority ethnic background (BME) <i>(Please note Gypsies / Roma are within this community)</i>	No differential impact
Religion or belief (including lack of belief)	No differential impact
People who are lesbian, gay or bisexual	No differential impact
People who are transgendered	No differential impact
People who are in a marriage or civil partnership	No differential impact
Women who are pregnant / on maternity leave	No differential impact
Socio-economic impacts (Including impact on child poverty issues and deprivation)	No differential impact
Public Health impacts (How will your proposal impact on the general health of the population of Torbay)	No differential impact
14 Cumulative Impacts – Council wide (proposed changes	There are proposed reductions to the overall Community Safety budget and this has the potential to reduce the overall amount of early intervention and prevention work which is carried out across a range of community safety issues.

	elsewhere which might worsen the impacts identified above)	
15	Cumulative Impacts – Other public services (proposed changes elsewhere which might worsen the impacts identified above)	Reductions in budgets to the Police and other Emergency services may reduce their attendance at Road Safety campaigns and events in addition.