

SLOUGH BOROUGH COUNCIL

REPORT TO: Cabinet **DATE:** 16th July, 2012
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PORTFOLIO: All

PART I **NON-KEY DECISION**

REFERENCES FROM OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY

1. Purpose of Report

The purpose of this report is to advise Cabinet of the recommendations of the joint meeting of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee and the Neighbourhoods and Community Services Scrutiny Panel regarding Highway Changes in Chalvey.

2. Recommendations

The Cabinet is requested to resolve that the following recommendations of the joint meeting of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee and the Neighbourhoods and Community Services Scrutiny Panel be endorsed:

- (a) That the traffic system in Ragstone Road remain one-way and that conditions 25 to 30 set out in paragraph 2 of the report be implemented, with the addition of improved signage.
- (b) That the traffic system in Ledgers Road remain one-way and that conditions 16 to 21 set out in paragraph 2 of the report be implemented.
- (c) That the traffic system in Chalvey Road East remain one-way, that conditions 12 to 13 set out in paragraph 2 of the report be implemented, and that the Council explore subsidy options and other measures to improve the provision of bus services in the road.
- (d) That the Council undertake a further study of the impact of Chalvey Road West returning to two-way operation (in conjunction with the other roads remaining one-way) before making a final decision on the future of Chalvey Road West.
- (e) That the Council undertake conditions 1 to 5 set out in paragraph 2 of the report in implementing any final solutions.

3. Sustainable Community Strategy Priorities

- **Health and Wellbeing**
- **Safer Communities**
- **Regeneration and Environment**
- **Economy and Skills**

4. Other Implications

(a) Financial

None directly arising from this administrative reference report.

(b) Human Rights Act and Other Legal Implications

There are no direct Human Rights Act implications arising from this report.

5. Supporting Information

5.1 Members of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee and the Neighbourhoods and Community Services Scrutiny Panel jointly considered a report detailing the results of the recent public consultation on the experimental highway changes in Chalvey that were completed in February 2012.

5.2 In November 2009 residents of Chalvey were consulted to identify the most important priorities for the Council to address in the context of the Chalvey Regeneration Project and the following top three priorities identified by respondents to the consultation:

1. Better parking for residents and local shoppers
2. Improvements to the look of streets and open places
3. Changes to roads to deter rat running and reduce accidents.

At its meeting on 18th July 2011, Cabinet approved the implementation of experimental measures which were completed by the end of February 2012. The Council then implemented a wide scale public consultation in Chalvey to obtain feedback. Due to the range of responses received it was not possible to identify an undisputed preferred outcome, for any of the roads involved and Officers had not therefore recommended which roads should remain one-way, and which should return to two way operation. It was considered that these were political decisions, rather than technical decisions and Cabinet should take into account all the evidence gathered during the public consultation in making their decisions in respect of each of the roads involved.

The key decisions to be made were as follows:

- Should Chalvey Road West remain one-way or return to two-way operation
- Should Chalvey Road East remain one-way or return to two-way operation
- Should Ledgers Road remain one-way or return to two-way operation
- Should Ragstone Road remain one-way or return to two-way operation.

5.3 Members considered the report that would be submitted to Cabinet and debated the options and conditions. There was a consensus that although a recommendation would be made in respect of individual roads, regard should be had to the outcome for the road systems collectively.

5.4 Two Members addressed the Committee under Rule 30 and the three Chalvey Ward Members also addressed the Committee, together with the Commissioner for Neighbourhoods and Renewal.

5.5 Members voted by a majority to endorse one way traffic systems in Ragstone Road, Ledgers Road and Chalvey Road East. It was moved by Councillor Bains and seconded by Councillor Smith that the Council undertake a further study of the impact of Chalvey Road West returning to two-way operation before Cabinet made a final decision on the future of Chalvey Road West. An equal number of Members voted for and against the proposal and the Chair used his casting vote in support of the recommendation.

6. **Conclusion**

Cabinet is requested to consider the recommendations from the joint meeting of the Overview and Scrutiny Community and the Neighbourhoods and Community Services Scrutiny Panel and endorse its proposals.

7. **Background Documents**

Agenda and reports considered by the Overview and Scrutiny Community and the Neighbourhoods and Community Services Panel held on 10th July, 2012.