

INDIVIDUAL EXECUTIVE DECISION MAKING MEETING

EXECUTIVE MEMBER - THE MAYOR

RECORD OF DECISION

An Individual Executive Decision Making meeting was held on 18 January 2013.

PRESENT: Councillors Mr R Mallon (Mayor)

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE: Members of Hackney Carriage Taxi Trade

OFFICIALS: Kevin Parkes, Sam Gilmore, Derek Gittins and Sharron Brown

13/2 TEESSIDE UNIVERSITY DEVELOPMENT - SOUTHFIELD ROAD

The Executive Director of Neighbourhoods and Communities submitted a report to present options for potential improvements to the Southfield Road area, as part of the future development aspirations for Teesside University.

The Executive approved a report in July 2011 - Teesside University Future Vision and Development, which highlighted the potential treatment of Southfield Road and closure to traffic subject to community consultation.

Since the Executive report, talks had been held with University and community representatives, to determine the aspirations of the University, understand resident concerns and outline a number of options for future improvement.

The report outlines in further detail within the report information on:

- University Contribution
- Evidence of Need
- Community Considerations

The report outlined that there were 5 options available, which are outlined in further detail within the report:

1. **Option 1 - No Closure** - This option retained full vehicle access with a shared surface treatment / improvements.
2. **Option 2 - Daytime Closure of Southfield Road (8.30am - 5.30pm)** - This option was based on a daytime closure of a length of Southfield Road, with a shared surface treatment and vehicle carriageway maintained.
3. **Option 3 - Daytime Closure (8.30am - 5.30pm) and One Way Traffic** - This option was based on a daytime closure of a length of Southfield Road, with single-carriageway, one-way traffic in the evenings.
4. **Option 4 - Full Traffic Closure of Southfield Road (University Frontage)** - This option was based on the full traffic closure and associated pedestrianisation of a length of Southfield Road.
5. **Option 5 - Weekday Traffic Closure of Southfield Road (University Frontage) and weekend vehicle access** - This option was based on the weekday traffic closure of Southfield Road with weekend access for vehicles.

The following consultation process was proposed on the preferred option(s):

- the consultation coverage would include a press release, information boards, consultation forms in community facilities and information on the internet. In addition, council officers would regularly attend a local facility (to be determined) to answer questions, during the consultation period;
- four week public consultation, on the five options tabled in the report, including any

- preferred options if that was agreed;
- report findings (with summary of details) back for Mayoral direction on identifying preferred option(s);
- consult on the preferred option(s) for a period of three weeks; and,
- report findings back for Mayoral decision.

The Mayor added at the meeting a few recommendations, which are outlined in the decisions below.

ORDERED

1. **the options presented for the vehicular access arrangements / improvements for Southfield Road be considered;**
2. **that the consultation should be held 'Town Wide' and not just as a University Ward Consultation;**
3. **that the Taxi fraternity be brought into the consultation;**
4. **a formal position from the University themselves on what they would want; and**
5. **a process for the public consultation of the options be agreed.**

REASONS

The decisions were supported by the following reason:

The recommendations are made on the basis that the Council is seeking to look at ways to work with the University for the benefit of the town overall.

The decision will come into force after five working days following the day the decision was published unless the decision becomes subject to the call in procedures.