

Equality Impact Assessment

Name of project/proposal A27 The Avenue/Gudge Heath Lane, Fareham Transport Improvement Scheme
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Department Economy, Transport and Environment
Date of Assessment 17 Jul 2017

Description of Service / Policy

To remove the temporary Pelican crossing across the A27 at Fareham train station installed for the closure of the subway during the period of construction, and to maintain the existing pedestrian subway access provision. Due to the gradient of the subway ramps, the existing access provision is restrictive for manually assisted wheelchair users. However, the proposed scheme does not introduce any additional dis-benefit for this group over and above the current arrangement.

Geographical impact* Fareham

Description of proposed change

The subway meets design standards. There are significant construction, utility and land constraints associated with modifying the subway ramps to improve accessibility via this route. A viable alternative at-grade route is available via the A27/Redlands Lane/Gudge Heath signal junction. Forecast demand is insufficient to justify providing an at-grade controlled crossing parallel to the existing subway location. The use of traffic signals will negatively impact other road users.

Engagement and consultation

Has engagement or consultation been carried out? Yes

There is one known manual wheelchair user affected. Additional information on this group is limited, however the Fareham and Gosport Access Group advised that the majority of users now use powered wheelchairs. Local residents and commuters will benefit from the capacity and access improvements provided elsewhere within the scheme.

Impacts of the proposed change

This impact assessment covers Service users

Statutory considerations **Impact**

Age Neutral

Disability Neutral

Sexual Orientation Neutral

Race Neutral

Religion and Belief Neutral

Gender Reassignment Neutral

Gender Neutral

Marriage and civil partnership Neutral

Pregnancy and Maternity Neutral

Other policy considerations

Poverty Neutral

Rurality Neutral

Neutrality Statement This decision preserves the overall approach of the scheme to improve journey times for all road users, and in that respect has a neutral impact on people with disabilities. Although it is recommended that the temporary crossing be removed, an alternative at-grade crossing remains available as before, though at some further distance. As this decision will not alter the existing permanent crossing provision, it is not considered that the recommendation of this report will cause substantial disadvantage requiring reasonable adjustments to be made for the purposes of the Equality Act 2010. As appropriate, the County Council will work with affected parties to look at route planning, financial assistance for travel, and the availability of grant assistance for powered wheel chair provision. For an enlargement on the EIA Statement in the context of the relevant legislation please see the Exec Member Decision Day report for the meeting on 11 July 2017.

Additional Information