### Purpose

To comment on the outcomes of the recent School Crossing (SCP) Patrol Review and the recommendations for this Neighbourhood.

### Recommendations

The review proposes that the current School Crossing sites in Kingston Town Neighbourhood continue in operation and that a Patrol Officer is recruited for the SCP site at Park Road/Princes Road. The committee is requested to make comments.

### Key Points

A. Following the transfer of the School Crossing Patrol (SCP) service from the Metropolitan Police Service on 1 April 2000 17 SCP sites were adopted. Since then the number of sites has increased to 19. The role of the service is generally to help children cross the road on their way to and from school although School Crossing Patrols now have the additional authority to assist adult pedestrians. The responsibility for ensuring the safety of children making journeys to and from school remains a parental one whether or not a local authority is able to provide safer routes to school or safer crossing facilities.

B. There was a review of these sites in 2000/01 following the transfer of the service to the Royal Borough of Kingston and again in 2004, 2006, 2008, and 2010. The Local Authority Road Safety Officers’ Association (LARSOA) suggests in its guidelines for the running of the School Crossing Patrol Service that School Crossing Patrol sites should be reviewed periodically, every two years. The Review is undertaken in order to ensure the sites are correctly located and effective use of resources. As 12 of the 19 SCP sites are currently vacant, this review has also sought to prioritise the importance of recruitment on a “low”, “moderate”, “high” basis.

C. On 4 March 2004 the Road Safety Advisory Committee agreed the following criteria for a review.

### The Criteria for a Review

1. The following factors should be taken into account:
   - Safer Routes to School work and other engineering work that has happened on or near the crossing point since the most recent review
   - Any additional comment made by the Neighbourhood Engineers and Head Teachers
   - A pedestrian count taken in the morning and the afternoon for each school crossing site which would:
     - take account of all pedestrians crossing within 50 metres of the crossing point where appropriate
     - include the number of pedestrians in the busiest consecutive period of 6 x5 minute slots making ½ hour
     - represent all pedestrians
iv) A review of accident data since 2009 (5 years prior)

v) Consideration of a number of other relevant factors: carriageway/footpath width, restricted visibility/sight lines, proximity to road junctions, reports of problems with speeding, reports of red light jumping, street lighting, complicated road markings, weight of traffic, age profile of pedestrians

vi) The length of time that a site has been vacant

vii) Most roads in Kingston have sufficiently heavy traffic levels to make traffic counts unnecessary when reviewing a school crossing patrol site. However, if traffic flow levels appear to be light a traffic count will be undertaken

viii) Sites at crossings with pelican/puffin crossing or a traffic light ‘all red’ pedestrian facility to be scrutinised to consider whether a School Crossing Patrol is needed as well as a pelican/puffin crossing or a light controlled crossing.

Note: As a matter of policy some boroughs do not employ School Crossing Patrols at sites where there are light controlled crossings or pelican/puffin crossings and some only do so where there are special factors such as reports of red light jumping.

The Review Process

2. The data has been collected on the basis described above. School Crossing Patrols in post were informed that a review would take place and their opinions and views were sought.

3. All Head Teachers were not consulted on their views on specific SCP sites both in operation and vacant for this biennial review. This decision was based on the assumption most would support a school crossing facility nearby their schools, as per previous years.

4. Neighbourhood Committees are now being invited to comment on the proposed changes to the existing establishment. Officers will then proceed to implement the changes using delegated authority.

Establishment of new Sites

5. It was also agreed that the above criteria be used when considering establishing new sites with the inclusion of an additional factor, namely, the difficulty experienced in recruiting School Crossing Patrol.

The results of the review

6. A summary of the outcomes of the review is presented in the table below and fuller details are set out in Annex 1. A map showing the locations of the sites in this Neighbourhood is at Annex 2.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Map Ref</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>School Served</th>
<th>SCP operational or vacant</th>
<th>Recommendation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Kingston Town Neighbourhood</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Park Rd/Princes Rd, Kingston</td>
<td>St Paul’s CE Junior School, Alexandra Infants’ School, Park Hill School</td>
<td>Vacant</td>
<td>High Priority</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Queens Rd, Kingston</td>
<td>St Paul’s CE Junior School, Alexandra Infants’ School, Park Hill School</td>
<td>Vacant</td>
<td>Moderate Priority</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Portland Rd, Kingston</td>
<td>St John’s CE Primary School</td>
<td>Vacant</td>
<td>Low Priority</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Dickerage Lane, New Malden</td>
<td>The Mount Primary School</td>
<td>Vacant</td>
<td>Low Priority</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Villiers Rd, Kingston</td>
<td>King Athelstan Primary School</td>
<td>In operation</td>
<td>Keep</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Kings Rd, Kingston</td>
<td>St Agatha’s Catholic Primary School, Latchmere Primary School</td>
<td>Vacant</td>
<td>Low Priority</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Timescale**

7. **Not applicable**

**Resource Implications**

The current budget for School Crossing Patrols does not cover all vacant posts. Although the current budget allows for ten staff posts this would be addressed in the event of an increase in staff recruitment. The annual cost of employing a SCP is approximately £4000. There are currently seven staff in post and if all the recommendations resulting from this review are agreed there would be a total of seventeen posts.

**Legal Implications**

8. **None.** This is a statutory service, thus the service is governed in accordance with best practice guidelines as administered and reviewed periodically by Road Safety GB. General Health & Safety and Employment legislation is adhered to as per standard Council protocol and procedure.

**Environmental Implications**

9. **nil**

**Background papers – held by the author** Alex Jones (Sustainable Transport, Traffic Management & Design) 020 8547 6866

None other than those referred to in this report
Neighbourhood: Kingston Town

Park Road: map reference 1
Schools served: Alexandra Infants’ School, St Paul’s C of E Junior School, Park Hill School

Pedestrian count for busiest half hour periods (am+pm), figures in brackets are 2010 pedestrian counts (under 11 data not available)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Total pedestrians:</th>
<th>Total Children:</th>
<th>Total children under 11 years:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>758(759)</td>
<td>455(417)</td>
<td>442</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Other factors:

- SCP post vacant pre 2000.
- Raised zebra crossing (with another zebra crossing approximately 100m towards Kings. Road) with a 20mph speed limit segment for approx. 100 metres.
- Busy road.
- High pedestrian numbers and high children under 11 numbers.
- No relevant accidents since 2009.

Recommendation: KEEP and high priority to fill post

Queens Road: map reference 2
Schools served: Alexandra Infants’ School, St Paul’s C of E Junior School, Park Hill School

Pedestrian count for busiest half hour periods (am+pm)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Total pedestrians:</th>
<th>Total Children:</th>
<th>Total children under 11:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>440(530)</td>
<td>234 (244)</td>
<td>233</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Other factors:

- SCP post vacant pre 2000.
- Raised zebra crossing close to awkward junction with Crescent Road and Alexandra Road.
- Moderate pedestrian numbers and moderate children under 11 numbers.
- No relevant accidents since 2009.

Recommendation: KEEP but moderate priority to fill post
Portland Road: map reference 3
School served: St John’s C of E Primary School

Pedestrian count for busiest half hour periods (am+pm)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Total pedestrians</th>
<th>Total Children</th>
<th>Total children under 11years</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>314(305)</td>
<td>90(53)</td>
<td>89</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Other factors:

- SCP site vacant since August 2011
- Narrowed road and 20mph zone.
- Close to mini-roundabout with 3 roads entering.
- The road is very narrow with single alternate traffic. This may make crossing more difficult as gaps reduced.
- Moderate pedestrian numbers and low children under 11 numbers.
- No relevant accidents since 2009.

Recommendation: KEEP but low priority to fill post

Dickerage Lane, near The Mount School: map reference 4
School served: The Mount Primary School

Pedestrian count for busiest half hour periods (am+pm)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Total pedestrians</th>
<th>Total Children</th>
<th>Total children under 11years</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>238(174)</td>
<td>102(74)</td>
<td>102</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- SCP post vacant pre 2000.
- Zebra crossing on raised table outside school.
- Road layout made more complicated by the proximity on Dickerage Lane of the railway bridge that has traffic light controls.
- Moderately low pedestrian numbers and moderately low children under 11 numbers.
- No relevant accidents since 2009.

Recommendation: KEEP but low priority to fill post
**Villiers Road: map reference 5**
School served: King Athelstan Primary School

Pedestrian count for busiest half hour periods (am+pm)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Total pedestrians:</th>
<th>Total Children:</th>
<th>Total children under 11 years:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>338(*544)</td>
<td>185(*284)</td>
<td>177</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Unusual high pedestrian count due to a run event.

Other factors:

- Mr Garside has operated this SCP site since October 2013.
- Busy road with heavy lorries going to the Civic Amenity Site.
- Frequent occasions when one carriageway is stationary but the other free-flowing.
- Moderate pedestrian numbers and moderately low children under 11 numbers.
- 3 Relevant accidents since 2009: Oncoming traffic stopped to allow car to turn right, which hit a cyclist travelling on inside of stationary vehicles 08:10 on 26/11/2009; Car turned left across Path of cyclist causing collision 08:45 on 27/06/2013; Pedestrian ran out into nearside of bus as it was crossing zebra crossing 08:45 on 07/07/2014.
- 1 accident involving pedestrian child under 11 years.
- All 3 accidents occurred between 08:10am-08:45am.

Recommendation: KEEP

**Kings Road: map reference 6**
Schools served: Latchmere Primary School, St Agatha’s Catholic Primary School

Pedestrian count for busiest half hour periods (am+pm)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Total pedestrians:</th>
<th>Total Children:</th>
<th>Total children under 11 years:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>411(466)</td>
<td>244(263)</td>
<td>229</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Other factors

- SCP site vacant since.
- Raised zebra crossing and 20mph zone.
- Moderate pedestrian numbers and moderate children under 11 numbers.
- No relevant accidents since 2009.

Recommendation: KEEP but low priority to fill post