

# ITEM 8



DERBY CITY COUNCIL

## AREA PANEL 5

4 July 2007

Report of Head of Stronger and Safer Communities Unit

### Area Panel 5 Community Issues Update Report

Item No	Issue title	Recommended panel action
<b>Allestree ward</b>		
1.1	<u>Petition – Crossing on Park Lane and Cornhill</u>	Note and Close
<b>Darley ward</b>		
1.2	<u>Petition - Street lighting on Nottingham Road</u>	Note and close
1.3	<u>Five Lamps Traffic Lights, Darley</u>	Note
1.4	<u>Petition – Well repairs and installation of hand rail, Well Street</u>	Note
1.5	<u>Yellow Advertising Signs, Darley</u>	Note and close
1.6	<u>Parking Restrictions &amp; Enforcement, Darley</u>	Note and close
1.7	<u>10 St Helen's Street, Darley</u>	Note and close
1.8	<u>Environment Agency emergency flood defences– Displaced rodents, Darley</u>	Note and close
<b>Allestree and Darley</b>		
1.9	<u>University Parking</u>	Note
<b>Allestree and Mackworth</b>		
1.10	<u>Pedestrian crossing, Markeaton Park</u>	note
<b>Mackworth ward</b>		
1.11	<u>Cheviot Street Recreation Ground Brook</u>	Note and close
1.12	<u>Anti social behaviour at Humbleton Drive Shopping Parade</u>	Note
<b>All Wards</b>		
1.13	<u>Council Tax Booklet</u>	Note and close
1.14	<u>Bus Lanes</u>	Note
1.15	<u>Conservation Areas</u>	Note and close
1.16	<u>Future of Area Panels</u>	Note and close
1.17	<b>Outstanding issues</b>	

#### For more information contact:

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#### Background papers:

None.

#### List of appendices:

Appendix 1 - Area Panel 5 community issues update report, background information

**1.1 Ref: 505014 – Crossing on Park Lane and Cornhill, Allestree - raised 06.04.05**

**Issue:** A petition signed by 57 residents was submitted which asked for a risk assessment and action relating to the hazard of crossing the road at the junction of Park Lane and Cornhill, Allestree.

**Action:** Provide an update when the work has been completed or at July 2007 Area Panel 5 meeting.

**Update:** The footway has been completed. **Note and close.**

**Further information:** Tony Gascoigne, Traffic Control Engineer, Regeneration and Community, ☎715019

**1.2 Ref 506020 – Petition - Street lighting on Nottingham Road, Darley – raised 05.04.06**

**Issue:** A petition signed by 57 residents was submitted which asked for street lights to be installed on part of Nottingham Road near to the city centre.

**Action:** The panel agreed to receive an update on the PFI scheme when more details were available.

**Update:** The contractor, Balfour Beatty, will commence the street lighting PFI service on 25 June 2007. The PFI will run for 25 years. During the first 5 years the core investment programme will be delivered which will result in 2/3 of the city's street lights and most of the lighted bollards and street signs being replaced. Due to the consultation period, the first column is planned to go in the ground on 11 July in the Derwent area of the city.

Derwent Community Team has contributed funding towards the Street Lighting PFI in order to enhance the type of lighting in the Derwent area. Due of the provisions surrounding the time limits for spending the additional funding, the Derwent area has been given an advancement in the contractor's programme. It is expected that the works in Derwent will run from 11 July and be completed by Christmas 2007.

During the first 12 months of the PFI contract, a full survey will be carried out of the lighting stock in the city and this information will bring the database up to date. At the same time, a structural assessment will be carried out to determine the contractor's priorities for years 2, 3, 4 and 5 of the core investment programme period. Lighting columns will be replaced based on the structural integrity of the stock.

In addition, Derby Homes have also made a contribution to the PFI funding. As a result, the contractor also plans to tie in Derby Homes areas all over the city with replacing the oldest lighting columns and those not structurally sound. This will mean that most areas of the city will see some work carried out as part of the replacement of those lighting columns falling into this category. However, the majority of the work on the 5-year core investment programme will take place in years 2, 3, 4 and 5.

There is a new website which can be found at [www.lightingderby.com](http://www.lightingderby.com) which

provides information on the street lighting PFI contract and will also detail a full month's rolling programme of the works to be carried out. There is also a hotline number for street lighting – Derby (01332) 715002. **Note and close.**

**Further information:** Alan Jaques, Street Lighting Manager, Regeneration and Community ☎ 715014

### 1.3 507005 – Five Lamps Traffic Lights, Darley - raised 31.01.07

**Issue:** Ever since the traffic lights have been installed at Five Lamps, the traffic situation has been worse. Since their introduction, Five Lamps has become an Air Quality Management Area. In correspondence, Derby City Council has confirmed that there has been an increase in road traffic accidents. DCC has also stated that if Connecting Derby goes ahead there will be no improvement of their quality at five lamps and DCC's own figures show an increase of up to 350%, adding to rather than reducing the problem.

Considering that DCC has an obligation to improve this situation and state in their local transport plan (2006-2011 - page 4E) that one of their over-arching objectives is to improve Air Quality and road safety, the resident is seeking clarification on what DCC is proposing to do about this. The resident suggested that these issues make it a fair argument that the Connecting Derby proposals for Five Lamps are abandoned.

**Action:** The panel agreed to note the update and asked for reports back from officers on the points raised regarding Air quality; the left turn from Garden Street into Kedleston Road; continuous monitoring of benzene and the signalised pedestrian crossing from Garden Street to Kedleston Road.

**Update:** Although there is a large increase in the number of vehicles turning right into Duffield Road heading south the overall increase of traffic through the junction is approximately 3%.

The proposed Five Lamps junction has sufficient length within the right hand lane of Garden Street to accommodate queuing traffic. With a cycle time of 90 seconds the model shows an average queue length of 8.6 pcus\*\*. Equating this to distance on the ground using an approximation of 5m per pcu gives a required queuing space of 43m. The design allows for a queuing length of approximately 44m with a lane width in excess of 3m with a further 7m where the lane width is in excess of 2m (sufficient for a private car). It is therefore considered that adequate allowance has been made for the modelled queue of u-turning vehicles.

The type of signal provision for the Garden Street left lane had been investigated previously. While there were pros and cons for both arrangements it was recognised that the Connecting Derby proposal gave the most satisfactory solution and that any changes to the existing layout could prove confusing and potentially dangerous for pedestrians if one lane of traffic came to a halt while a second lane alongside remained on green. It was recommended therefore that the current arrangement be maintained until the Connecting Derby scheme has been completed.

The Group Leader - Pollution Section (EH&TS) reports that benzene emissions from the new petrol station at Five Lamps are anticipated to be so low as to be undetectable at the nearest dwelling. The need for any form of benzene monitoring in the vicinity is therefore considered unnecessary.

The incorporation of this crossing on the drawing was a mistake, and this was explained at the recent Public Inquiry. There is no controlled crossing at this location at present and the Connecting Derby proposal is for this crossing to remain as it is.

**\*\* A car is 1.0 pcu, a van approximately 1.4 and lorries scaled up according to car size. Note.**

**Further information:** Dave Powner, Project Manager, Regeneration and Community, ☎715130

#### **1.4 Ref: 505039 – Petition – Well repairs and installation of hand rail, Well Street, Darley - received 12.10.05**

**Issue:** A petition containing 80 signatures, had been received from residents of Strutt's Park and Rivermead House requesting the repair of the well at the bottom of Well Street and the installation of a handrail on Well Street, as they were concerned about the general state of Well Street, in particular the slippery surface and the difficulties faced by everyone who use the route to negotiating the steep hill.

**Action:** Update on progress of landscaping works.

**Update:** Delays have been experienced in the design of the works. **Note.**

**Further information:** Peter Matthews, Local Manager, Derby Homes, ☎717831

#### **1.5 Ref: 507009 – Yellow Advertising Signs, Darley - received 04.04.2007**

**Issue:** A resident on behalf of Broadway Action Group stated that a number of yellow advertising signs were fixed to lampposts. The Bryant's signs advertised Highfield housing development. The number and positioning of the signs made them very visually intrusive. The resident asked if action could be taken to remove the signs and to prevent more being erected.

**Action:** The panel agreed to refer the issue to the relevant officer and asked for a robust response and action.

**Update:** We can and do authorise yellow/black direction signs relating to development sites. If unapproved signs are erected within the highway, our Highway Inspectors can take action to get them removed. This would generally take the form of a request to the developer to remove them, followed by actual removal by our contractors and trying to recover the costs of doing so, if they do not respond.

However, on 25 June a street lighting PFI contract starts. The contractor, Balfour Beatty will be responsible for removing any unauthorised signs attached to street lighting columns/illuminated signposts. It is possible that at present, some developers, knowing that some yellow / black signs are approved, are erecting similar signs without seeking approval. **Note and close.**

**Further information:** Neil Palfreyman, Highways and Transport, Regeneration and Community, ☎716090

#### **1.6 Ref: 507010 – Parking Restrictions & Enforcement, Darley - received**

**04.04.2007**

**Issue:** A resident on behalf of Broadway Action Group stated that drivers were regularly driving their vehicles over the footpath to park during evenings Thursday to Saturday avoiding the double yellow lines. When she had enquired about parking enforcement officers she had been told that they were not available after 8.00 pm. The resident went on to ask if bollards could be installed to prevent the inappropriate parking.

A second resident asked a similar question about enforcement in the Edward Street area during the evening / at night.

Several other residents mentioned parking problems that occurred during evenings (including the Strutts Park area) and that when they had rung the Council they had been told that parking enforcement officers she had been told that they were not available after 8.00 pm.

**Action:** The panel agreed to refer the issue to the relevant officer and asked for a robust response and appropriate action at the Broadway site.

**Update:** During May, Parking Enforcement staff patrolled the areas around the Broadway Public House and Belper Road between the hours of 7pm and 9pm on 5 separate occasions. No vehicles were found to be illegally parked during any of these visits. These areas will continue to receive attention in keeping with the normal enforcement regime. **Note and close.**

**Further information:** Neil Palfreyman, Highways and Transport, Regeneration and Community, ☎ 716090

**1.7 Ref: 507013 – 10 St Helen's Street, Darley received 04.04.2007**

**Issue:** A resident stated that following the fire approximately 3 months ago; he believed that the property had changed hands. The resident asked if the Council could do anything to protect the fabric of the building which is on the Local List, e.g. does the Council have the power to enter the property and enforce conservation of important features.

**Action:** Report back to the next meeting.

**Update:** 10 St. Helen's Street is not statutorily listed or located within a conservation area therefore the Council isn't able to use powers from the Planning (Listed Building and Conservation Areas) Act 1990 to serve an urgent works notice. However, planning permission was granted in February 2007 for redevelopment of the site, which includes the repair and conversion of Nos. 10 to 14 into apartments.

Since the fire, the Senior Planning Officer who was the case officer for the planning application has been in contact with Metropolitan Housing Trust through the architect for the scheme, Franklin Ellis Architects. A repair scheme for the damaged building has been submitted for our team's approval. In the meantime, we have requested that the building is made weather tight as far as is possible to prevent further damage. This hasn't yet been carried out and we will be following it up. **Note and close.**

**Further information:** Harry Hopkinson, Team Leader - Built Environment, Environmental Sustainability. ☎ 25 5061

**1.8 Ref: 507015 – Environment Agency emergency flood defences – Displaced rodents, Darley. received 04.04.2007**

**Issue:** A resident stated that a notice dated 16/3/2007 informs of works at Derwent House and Duke Street, Darley. Environmental works along the riverbanks have already disturbed mice and rats. The resident asked how the city would be defended from further displacement.

**Action:** Report back to the next meeting.

**Update:** The Environment Agency works, to date, have been the clearance of a 3 x 40m metre strip of vegetation in the vicinity of Derwent House (SK 352375). At the second site, Duke Street, Darley Abbey no works have yet been undertaken. The works at the Derwent House site entailed the clearance of hawthorn, bramble scrub and two sycamore trees. The works are 40 metres from the River Derwent. The Environment Agency does not envisage that these works have 'displaced' mice and rats. There may have been an element of disturbance, however, the actual area cleared is relatively small and the surrounding land is of a similar nature, hence adequate habitat for any displaced individuals. Operatives on site were not aware of any mice or rat infestation within this site or that the works affected any populations.

The works to be undertaken within April / May are to temporarily improve a flood defence structure until the larger Derby Flood alleviation scheme is agreed and implemented.

Owing to the distance of our forthcoming works from the riverbank, the Environment Agency does not envisage any problems arising regarding rats. As mice and rats are a constant problem within this area and the council have a rolling programme to control such, the Environment Agency will make their workforce aware should any problems arise during their future works. **Note and close.**

**Further information:** Richard Ziemacki, Specialist Technical Officer, Environmental Services. ☎ 715293  
Ros Kaye, Biodiversity Officer, Environment Agency ☎ 0115 846 3662

**1.9 Ref: 505040 – University Parking, Allestree and Darley - raised 12.10.05**

**Issue:** Over the past two years residents have raised a number of issues, concerns and petitions about student parking and traffic around the University of Derby. These include complaints about student parking on Oakover Drive and Amber Road in Allestree, Broadway and Penny Long Lane and around Markeaton Street. Complaints had also been raised about the amount of litter generated on Broadway due to flyers and posters being placed on the car windscreens.

**Action:** The panel agreed to send a strong recommendation that liaison meetings be established between the Council, University, residents, Councillors and the Police to tackle the issues being raised.

**Update:** We have been working with the Cabinet Member for Transportation and Planning to organise a meeting to involve the University, Ward Members and action groups. The date has been agreed for 19<sup>th</sup> July 2007 to be held at the University. Further information may be obtained from Steve Alcock, Parking Development Engineer, on 01332 715128 or email [steve.alcock@derby.gov.uk](mailto:steve.alcock@derby.gov.uk)

**Note**

**Further information:** David Gartside, Head of Traffic, Regeneration and Community, ☎715025

Inspector Rachel Walker, Derbyshire Police, ☎613131

Neville Wells, University of Derby, ☎591962

**1.10 Ref 506029 – Pedestrian crossing, Markeaton Park, Mackworth/Allestree – raised 12.07.06**

**Issue:** A local resident considered that the new skateboard park at Markeaton Park now meant even more residents from Mackworth were going to Markeaton Park. He considered this was more evidence for the need for a pedestrian crossing by the Prince Charles Avenue junction and he asked the panel to consider the request.

**Action:** Agreed to leave open with a robust request to reconsider the request for a controlled crossing

**Update:** The Panel's request for a controlled crossing is noted. However, a signal controlled crossing is not considered an appropriate use of public funds for the relatively low pedestrian flows here, and would not be consistent with pedestrian provision nearby along the same length of road. Council Cabinet approved a pedestrian refuge at this location in February 2007. The pedestrian refuge will be installed during the current financial year 2007/08.

As stated previously, it may be possible to develop additional traffic light controlled crossing facilities as part of the major works that are planned by the Highways Agency at the Markeaton roundabout. However, the detailed design of work at this location is not yet known. **Note.**

**Further information:** Tony Gascoigne, Traffic Control Engineer, Regeneration and Community, ☎715019

**1.11 Ref 506029 – Cheviot Street Recreation Ground Brook, Mackworth – raised 01.02.06**

**Issue:** A resident reported that the brook that runs alongside Cheviot Street recreation ground is very smelly and asked that action is taken.

**Action:** Provide a report on options.

**Update:** As previously reported, there is a consented overflow, which allows sewage to enter the brook from the sewerage system in Mickleover at times of heavy rain. Where officers have visited the location at other times the brook appears to be running clear and as previously stated misconnected sewers/drains allowing foul water to enter the brook do not appear to be a problem. Surveys of the Mickleover area have been carried out in relation to pollution issues in other water courses in the area, but no persistent pollution of the brook running through Cheviot Street park has been identified and no further action is required at the present time.

**Further information:** Ian Donnelly, Group Leader – Public Health, Environmental Services, ☎715219

**1.12 Ref 507003 — Anti social behaviour at Humbleton Drive Shopping Parade, Mackworth - raised 31.01.07**

**Issue:** A resident reported problems with anti social behaviour in the shopping parade. Young people are congregating in the archway and at the rear of the shops. The resident has asked for clarification on the forthcoming planning application to build nine flats to insist that the developers provide gates on Leytonstone Drive at the entrance to the proposed flats. To assist with the erection of gates at the archway on Humbleton Drive, DCC uses money from the proceeds of the sale of the former scout hut land on Leytonstone Drive.

**Action:** Leave open to report progress

**Update:** Section 106 funding is not available to fund this project. However, the Anti Social Behaviour team with Derby Community Safety Partnership will provide the majority of the necessary funding for the installation of the security gates and these should be installed by the end of June. Derby Homes have had the area litter picked. **Note.**

**Further information:** Pete Matthews, Housing Manager, Derby Homes 📞717831

Craig Keen, Anti-social behaviour Team Leader. 📞256840

Rosie Watson, Senior Planning Officer, 📞255073

#### 1.13 Ref 507008 — Council Tax Booklet, All Wards - received 04.04.2007

**Issue:** A resident quoted from the introduction provided by Councillor Williamson in the Council Tax leaflet for 2007 /2008 received by all residents with their Council Tax bills. The passage quoted read “By working effectively in neighbourhoods, we intend to narrow the wealth gap between different parts of the city. “

The resident asked if Councillor Williamson could be invited to the next Area Panel 5 meeting to explain what he meant by the statement.

**Action:** The panel agreed to invite Councillor Williamson to address the next Area Panel 5 meeting

**Update:** Cllr. Williamson had hoped to attend to respond to the specific query. However he has a prior engagement to attend the Local Government Association Annual Conference and will unfortunately be unable to attend the meeting. Cllr Williamson is happy to provide a full response to the resident's query and has written a letter in response. **Note and close.**

**Further information:** Councillor Williamson, 📞255106

#### 1.14 Ref 507011 – Bus Lanes, All Wards received 04.04.2007

**Issue:** A resident stated that the introduction of the Bus Lane on Duffield Road was at the expense of considerable cost to the resident and his family. The Bus Lane meant that he would need to alter his drive at a cost of £8-10000 to avoid the risks of entering / leaving his drive and colliding with traffic on the road. The resident asked if the council would contribute towards meeting these costs.

A second questioner asked if the panel would support the introduction of a bus lane on the A52 – Ashbourne Road from the outskirts of the city into the centre, adding that she thought the panel should support such a proposal, as it was likely to improve traffic flow considerably.

**Action:** The panel agreed to refer the issues to the relevant officers for



responses.

**Update:** We have met with Mr Bucknell and his protest group to discuss the merits of the trial transport scheme. We have agreed to bring forward our review of the scheme by three months and are aiming to report our findings in early June before any final decision is made.

Cabinet has set the Council's work programme for this year. It does not include any plans to investigate bus lanes on Ashbourne Road but consideration could be given for this work in future years. **Note.**

**Further information:** Tony Gascoigne, Traffic Control Engineer, Regeneration and Community, ☎ 715019

Peter Price, Transport Policy Manager, Regeneration and Community, ☎ 715034

#### **1.15 Ref 507014 – Conservation Areas, All wards - received 04.04.2007**

**Issue:** A resident asked if there were any standards that applied when street furniture is installed. The resident gave an example where standard were required as waste bins attached to lampposts had been installed in her local area that she considered to be "visual pollution".

**Action:** Appropriate officer to respond directly to the resident.

**Update:** The resident has been emailed with the following response. The resident is able to follow up with further communication with the responsible officer direct.

In response to the query raised the Area Panel 5 meeting on the 4th April this year, regarding street furniture in Conservation Areas. The Built Environment Team are often contacted by teams in the Highways and Transport Division about new street furniture in conservation areas, and these sometimes go to Conservation Area Advisory Committee for informal comment. The team has just recently been more formally made a consultee for traffic schemes to ensure that we are aware of any works in conservation areas. Reducing street clutter is now seen as good practice in conservation areas, and installing bins on existing columns is one way of doing this. **Note and close.**

**Further information:** Harry Hopkinson, Team Leader - Built Environment, Environmental Sustainability. ☎ 25 5061

#### **1.16 Ref 507012 – Future of Area Panels, All Wards received 04.04.2007**

**Issue:** A resident stated that he had heard that Area Panels were being replaced by neighbourhood meetings and asked if the public would be consulted on this matter.

A further question was asked about what would happen to the Area Panel budget if Area Panels ceased to function..

**Action:** Appropriate A report to be provided to the next Area Panel 5 meeting.

**Update:** report and presentation is provided as an agenda item at the meeting.  
**Note and close.**

**Further information:** Andy Thomas, Community Safety Partnership, ☎ 256910

### 1.17 Outstanding issues

Issue	Outstanding action	Date to report back
None	N/A	N/A

### PROPOSED ACTION

2.1 To consider and note the report.