

INTRODUCTION

As part of the Council's objective to reduce congestion, pollution, risk of collisions and provide a safe environment within the vicinity of schools, the Council has a rolling road safety and accessibility programme. Measures that are often implemented include 'school keep clear' zig-zag road markings to prevent drivers parking close to the school gates and to improve sightlines; 20mph speed limit and road safety education. Although these measures have been successful in ensuring access and safety, the level of congestion, risk and air quality outside schools remain a concern. The contributing factor is the high localised volume of vehicular traffic within the vicinity of schools often generated by parents / carers of pupils attending the school.

PROPOSAL

To improve safety, active travel and air quality, in September 2020 the Council implemented a school street which restricts motorised access in to Recreation Way Mon-Fri 8.00 - 9.15 & 2.15-3.30 term time only. Exit remains unaffected. You have probably seen the signs. During these periods, the road is predominately a 'pedestrian and cycle only' zone. Residents who live in the affected roads are allowed access as are school staff; those with special needs children who need to be driven to school are also exempt, subject to registering with the Council. Regrettably, due to an oversight the residents of Huntingdon Close were not included within the initial newsletter drop and we are attempting to put this right.

It is appreciated that this may cause some inconvenience and where possible the Council will endeavour to accommodate residents; however, for the scheme to be a success, the Council would require your cooperation. We ask that you support our proposals and rearrange certain activities such as deliveries and receiving visitors outside the identified hours during each school term.

Consultation process

The scheme has been introduced under an Experimental Traffic Management Order which allows the Council to implement the restrictions during the consultation period. It allows the Council to assess and monitor the restriction and its impact. It also enables you to experience the restrictions prior to making an informed comment.

The restrictions and the Order will be in place for a maximum of 18 months. Anyone can object and make representations within the first six months (the statutory/formal consultation period) of the experimental Order coming into force and the implementation of the scheme. In this instance, the consultation started in September 2020, however, due to lack of complete engagement, this consultation is being extended until October 2021. All available information including updates will be posted on the website. [Introducing new school streets \(merton.gov.uk\)](https://www.merton.gov.uk)

All representations must be made on line using the above link. A response **will not** be made until the consultation is concluded and a final decision is made. The Council will monitor the situation and will make the appropriate adjustments if and when necessary. All representations will be considered prior to making a final decision which could include its removal, making some modifications or making it permanent.

To apply for an exemption

Residents MUST register with the Council to qualify for an exemption. Please see the accompanying letter for details. Carers visiting residents will also be exempt if their registration is logged with the Council. However, we respectfully request that, if possible, visitors including carers rearrange their visits outside the restricted hours.

ENFORCEMENT

During the restrictions, enforcement will be carried out using cameras. However, please note that enforcement will not be carried out until residents are given the opportunity to apply for exemptions.

We do apologise for the short notification and the oversight during the initial notification process.

This measure is introduced to protect children and we would appreciate your assistance and support.

Pollards Hill Ward Councillors (contact details of Ward Councillors are provided for information purposes only)

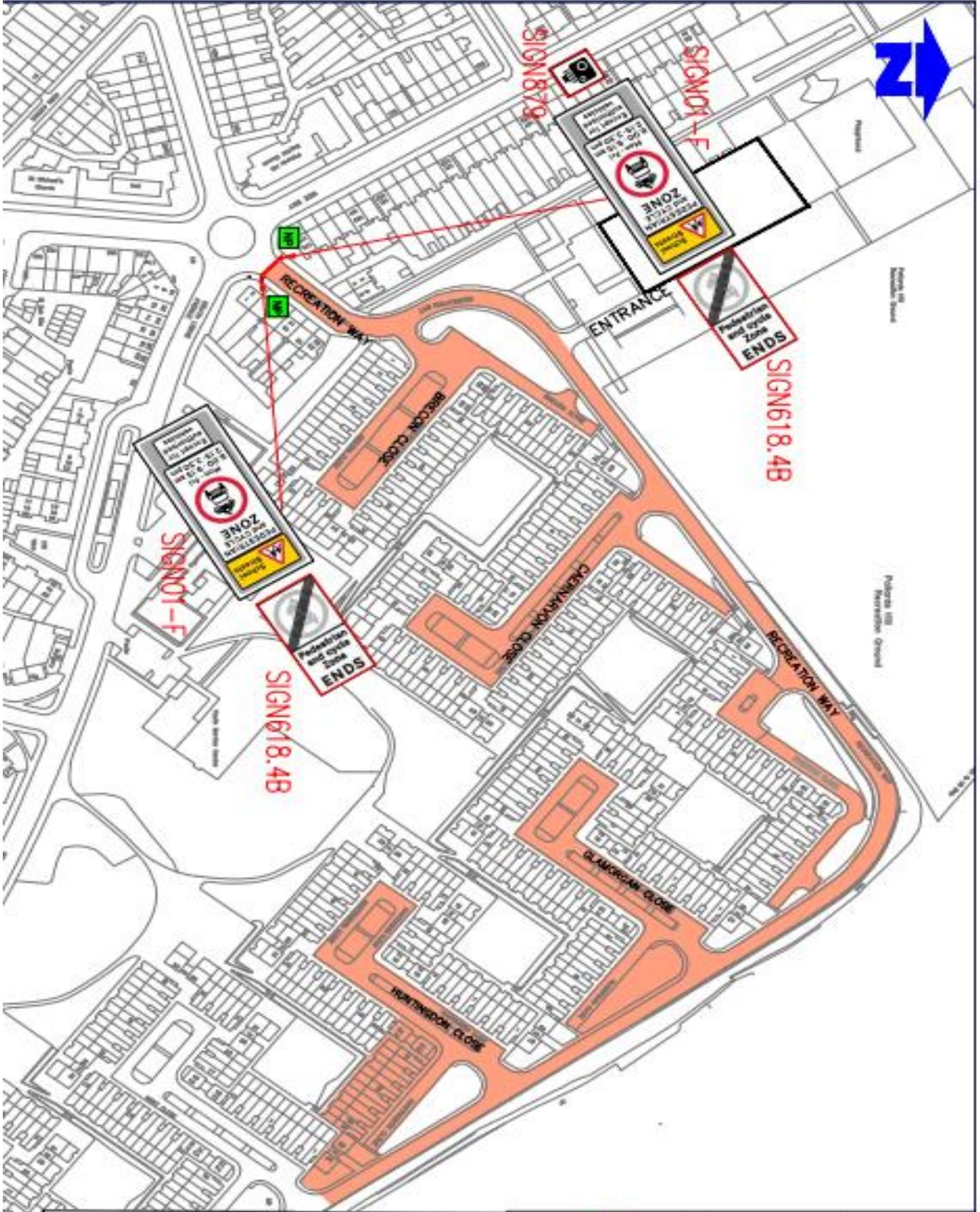
Cllr Martin Whelton also Cabinet Member for Housing, Regeneration & the Climate Emergency.

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Cllr Joan Henry joan.henry@merton.gov.uk

Cllr Councillor Aidan Mundy aidan.mundy@merton.gov.uk

Cllr Rebecca Lanning - Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care and Public Health. rebecca.lanning@merton.gov.uk



NOTES

1. ALL POSTS FOR SIGN 618.4B SHOULD BE 900MM DIA. GALVANISED, 4MM THK. 5.0M LONG, C/W BASE PLATE & CAPS.
2. ALL POSTS FOR SIGN 618.4B SHOULD BE 75MM DIA. GALVANISED, 3.0MM THK. 3.0M LONG, C/W BASE PLATE & CAPS.
3. ALL ZONE ENTRY SIGNS TO BE NOTICED/TWICED AS INDICATED.

KEY

- EX LAMP COLUMN
- EX SIGN POST
- NEW SIGN POST
- NEW SIGN
- EX TREE

School Streets

PEDESTRIAN and CYCLE ZONE

Mon - Fri
8.00 - 9.15 am
2.15 - 3.30 pm

Except for authorised vehicles