

6. NEW BRIGHTON ROAD - SCHOOL PATROL AT BURWOOD SCHOOL

General Manager responsible:	General Manager City Environment, DDI 941-8656
Officer responsible:	Transport and Greenspace Manager
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PURPOSE OF REPORT

1. The purpose of this report is to seek the Board's approval to recommend that a school patrol on New Brighton Road at Burwood School be approved by the Council, and that the Council legalise operation of this school patrol.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

2. In 1998, the Council completed traffic management work on New Brighton Road between Bassett Street and Locksley Avenue (**plan attached**). This work included cycling and pedestrian facilities on a section of arterial road with a high number of non vehicular road users. A crossing facility (kerb extension and central island) was installed west of the Bassett Street roundabout and outside the school frontage. This crossing facility linked to a new footpath which extends from the island to the roundabout, on the riverbank side of the roadway.
3. Since installation of the crossing facility the combination of increasing traffic volumes and school roll has created difficulties for school staff to safely supervise children across the road. Two school staff are required. This is due to the need to ensure children cross in one or two stages, depending on whether traffic stops in either direction. A staff member stands on the school side while a staff member stands in the central island, to guide children. The situation is compounded by some motorists, but not all motorists, stopping to allow children cross. Motorists are not legally obliged to stop and the varying behaviour of motorists contributes to the confusion.
4. School officials and the Police Education Officer have formally requested a school patrol at this site.
5. Installation of a school patrol at the island crossing facility: The school patrol would be a Kea crossing and this would be very similar to school patrols operating on Ferry Road at St Annes and Bamford Schools. The safety for children will be improved by ensuring all traffic is stopped prior to the children crossing. Delay to traffic on New Brighton Road has the potential to be reduced with the school patrol operating. This is due to removing the confusion of whether to proceed or not for some motorists at the crossing, which can result in long queues at the crossing.
6. Kerbside parking is not affected due to the existing kerb extension (for visibility) and the existing broken yellow lines on the riverside. No residents are affected as the crossing point is outside the school frontage and the river is opposite the school.

FINANCIAL AND LEGAL CONSIDERATIONS

7. The cost for this work (signs and road markings) is within operational budgets.
8. The crossing site meets the Land Transport Warrant for a school patrol.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended the Board recommend to Council that in pursuance of the powers vested in it by Section 8.3(1) of the Land Transport Rule-Traffic Control Devices 2004 (Rule 54002) and pursuant to the powers vested in it by the Local Government Act 2002, the Council hereby authorises the head teacher of Burwood School to appoint appropriately trained persons to act as School Patrols at the school crossing point as specified at New Brighton Road, located at a point, more or less 144 metres westerly generally of Bassett Street.