


3. SPEIGHT STREET ROAD STOPPING



The Board considered a report by Lee Kelly, Roading Projects Consultation Leader, seeking approval to commence the procedure to stop Speight Street at Aylesford Street. The report also sought approval to implement kerb and channel renewal in Speight Street, and the Board's decision relating to this latter request is referred to in clause 13 of the Board's report.

The Council is proposing to renew the old dish guttering in Speight Street in the 2004/2005 financial year. Speight Street is a local road and the existing carriageway is 14 metres wide.

An initial consultation letter was sent to residents in August/September 2003 outlining the Council's aims and objectives for the street. Submitters approved the Council's proposed work and a majority of submitters requested that the Council consider the stopping of Speight Street during the reconstruction.

A number of streets within the same area as Speight Street are due for reconstruction in the next 3–4 years and staff are working to ensure a coordinated outcome for all those streets in terms of traffic management, enhancement and construction. The streets include Carrick Street, Archer Street, Squire Street, Aylesford Street and Flockton Street.

The request from residents to 'stop' Speight Street was considered in its own right but also in terms of the 'flow on' effect to other streets in the area.

The primary reason residents have requested such a strong engineering treatment was their concern about the number of motorists using Speight Street as a short cut and the perception that many of these motorists were also speeding.

The primary function of a local road is to provide access to properties and to ensure access to facilities in the area. Consequently the project team supports the residents' request to stop the road. The stopping of Speight Street will also form the basis of the concept plans for Carrick Street, Archer Street and Squire Street as planning to stop these streets, albeit at alternative ends, is currently being considered. For instance, a future proposal may see a request to approve, for publicity, a plan to stop Squire Street at Aylesford Street, and both Archer Street and Carrick Street at Flockton Street. This would then provide opportunities to expand the 'green-space' areas at the ends of these streets into Aylesford Street and Flockton Street, thereby also providing traffic calming in these streets.

Board

Recommendation: That approval be granted for the commencement of the required procedure under the Local Government Act to stop Speight Street at Aylesford Street.