

Decision making
level

Officer in Consultation

Date

20th June 2013

Title - Tanner Row Advisory Contra-Flow Cycle Lane

Decision Requested

To approve the making of the traffic regulation order advertised on the 18th January 2013 permitting cyclists to travel contra-flow (north east) on Tanner Row.

Reason

To put in place the necessary traffic regulation order (TRO) which will allow the contra-flow cycle lane approved in principle on 4th December 2012 to be implemented.

Background Information

Approval was given at the decision session on 4th December 2012 to advertise the TRO for a proposed contra-flow cycle lane on Tanner Row between Rougier Street and North Street, and consult with residents, local businesses and relevant road user organisations.

The contra-flow cycle lane would allow cyclists to travel against the one way flow of traffic on Tanner Row, between Rougier Street and North Street.

The proposed layout is shown in **Annex A**.

Consultation Process

Consultation was carried out with local residents, business and road user organisations, including bus operators and cycling organisations.

The TRO was formally advertised on the 18th January 2013 for three weeks. Notices were placed on site, advertised in the York Press and letters sent to local residents. Other statutory consultees, such as emergency services and councillors were consulted. This also included local cycling organisations.

One objection was received from a resident on Tanner Row raising a number of points:

- Danger for cyclists resulting from vehicles having to use most/all of Tanner Row's width to turn in from both Wellington Row and North Street, made worse by limited visibility at the junction.
- Speed of vehicles turning left from North Street is too high leaving not enough time to see oncoming cyclists.
- Vehicles would encroach onto cycle lane because of the lack of road width.

- Safer to use existing routes via Rougier Street and Tanner's Moat.

Officer Comments

The issues were discussed in the decision session report dated 4th December 2012. In response, the following points were made:

- The scheme would increase the safety overall for cyclists by removing them from busy roads and making right turn manoeuvres, existing route are very busy, including HGV's, busses and many cars.
- Tanner Row has excellent visibility for cyclists and motorists
- Vehicles can encroach onto cycle lane due to it being advisory
- New warning signs would warn drivers of potential for cyclists.

York Cycle Campaign – Supports the provision of this scheme, which they believe would provide a safer route for cyclists in the area.

Safety Audit

A safety audit was carried out on 12th March 2013, which raised concerns about the narrow width of Tanner Row and the potential conflict between cyclists and motor vehicles.

While this is an obvious concern, it is considered that the low speed and good visibility on the street means cyclists and motorists would see each other easily and be able to interact safely.

In addition to this excellent visibility, the advisory cycle lane and cycle symbols will highlight the possibility of cyclists in the area.

The scheme would also be closely monitored including another road safety audit soon after the scheme became operational.

Issues Since Decision Session

Since the TRO was advertised, the Lendal bridge temporary, trial closure has been announced. This is likely to result in an increase in traffic on Rougier Street/George Hudson Street, and the right turn manoeuvre cyclists must make from Rougier Street into Tanner Moat would be made less safe by this increase in traffic. This adds weight to the case for cyclists having the alternative choice of using Tanner Row.

Statutory Powers

The City of York Council, as Highways Authority of the area, has powers under the Highways Act 1980 and associated Road Traffic Regulations Act 1984 to implement the measures proposed.

Ward Members and Political Party Views

Ward councillors –

Councillor D. Merrett – No comments at this stage.

Councillor J. Gunnell – No comments.

Councillor S. Fraser – No comments.

Other Relevant Councillors

Councillor A. D'Agorne – Supports the proposals.

Financial Programme Implications

The scheme would cost approximately £5,000 to implement. The funding has been allocated from the priority cycle schemes budget for 2013/14.

Options

Option A - Approve the TRO to be made with no changes to the proposed design, as shown in annex A.

Option B – Amend the TRO and approve the revised order.

Option C – Do not implement the TRO.

Analysis

Introducing the advisory contra-flow cycle lane would provide an option for cyclists travelling from West Offices towards the river routes which will avoid the busy junctions they would currently have to negotiate. The facility is intended as a means of encouraging employees and the public to cycle to and from West Offices, which this facility could help encourage as a safer route.

Not installing the cycle link would force cyclists continue to use the existing highway junctions or illegally use Tanner Row in convention of the one-way order. The lack of a safe route option for their return journey might discourage cyclists from cycling to West Offices.

Advertising the TRO and a road safety audit have not raised any new issues. Therefore, it is considered reasonable to proceed with the proposed scheme, but with close, early monitoring to check that it is working safely for all road users.

Therefore, Option A is recommended.

Level of Risk

1-3 Acceptable		16-20 Action Plan	
4-8 Regular Monitoring	x	21-25 Registered as a corporate risk	
9-15 Constant Monitoring			

Implementation Status

Consultation to commence Work in progress Work completed	Construction to commence on site once approved and TRO can come into force.
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Recommendations

The Cabinet Member is asked to

- 1) Approve the making of the TRO at Tanner Row and the installation of the required signs and road markings as shown in Annex A.

Reason: To provide a convenient, alternative route for cyclists.

Contact Details

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Manager Responsible for the Report:
Mike Durkin

Report Date: Date
Approved

Wards Affected: Micklegate

All

For further information please contact the author of the report