

EAST RENFREWSHIRE COUNCIL

22 April 2015

Report by Director of Environment

THE EAST RENFREWSHIRE COUNCIL
(A726 GLASGOW SOUTHERN ORBITAL)
(DESIGNATION OF PROTECTED ROADS) DESIGNATION 2015**]

PURPOSE OF REPORT

1. The purpose of the report is to ask the Council to approve and authorise the making of the East Renfrewshire Council (A726 Glasgow Southern Orbital) (Designation of Protected Roads) Designation 2015. This designation is in exercise of the powers conferred on the Council by Sections 1 and 7 of the Roads Scotland Act 1984, Section 120 and 121 of the New Roads and Street Works Act 1991 (NRSWA) and all other enabling powers.

RECOMMENDATIONS

2. It is recommended that the Council approve and authorise the making of the East Renfrewshire Council (A726 Glasgow Southern Orbital) (Designation of Protected Roads) Designation 2015 and delegate to the Director of Environment to implement the designation in accordance with the associated statutory procedures.

BACKGROUND

3. Statutory undertakers (utility companies) such as Scottish Power or Scottish Water have a legal right to install, inspect, maintain, repair, or replace apparatus in or under roads. Under normal circumstances they do not require the consent of the Council to carry out works but must register them on the Scottish Road Works Register.

4. Where a road is designated a Protected Road, statutory undertakers require the consent of the Council before they can place any of their apparatus in the road and the Council can attach conditions to any consent concerning how the work is carried out and the location of the apparatus. For example, the Council may specify that apparatus can only be placed along the length of the carriageway and not across the carriageway.

REPORT

5. The Glasgow Southern Orbital was constructed in partnership with the Scottish Executive and South Lanarkshire Council. The form of road contract was a Design Build Fund & Operate (DBFO). East Renfrewshire Council continues to be the lead local authority liaising with the concessionaire, Connect Balfour Beatty, which is responsible for the operation and maintenance of the road for the next 21 years.

6. The Councils and the concessionaire have agreed that the designation of the A726 Glasgow Southern Orbital is required to protect the road as it serves a specific strategic traffic function. It is part of a strategic route connecting the M8 at Shawhead Interchange via the M725 at Raith Interchange to the M77 at Maidenhill Interchange. It is subject to such high and constant traffic flows that no other designation under the NRSWA 1991 would be sufficient to avoid serious disruption to traffic caused by road works.

FINANCE AND EFFICIENCY

7. There will be limited financial implications of implementing the designation but, if required, these will be met from the Roads Services' existing budgets.

CONSULTATION

8. The Road Works (Scottish Road Works Register, Notices, Directions and Designations) (Scotland) Regulations 2008 sets out the statutory requirements for consultation. Each Council has carried out the required consultation on the draft designation within its own boundary. In East Renfrewshire this included publication of a Notice advising of the proposals in the 'Glasgow South & Eastwood Extra' and the 'Barrhead News' and placing the necessary papers in the libraries and on the Council's website for inspection.

9. The Council has met the procedural requirements and no maintained objections to the proposed designation have been received. For information only, no maintained objections have been received by South Lanarkshire Council and they are proposing to make a similar Order.

PARTNERSHIP WORKING

10. The Council has worked in partnership with South Lanarkshire Council and the Glasgow Southern Orbital Concessionaire to bring forward the proposed Protected Road designation.

IMPLICATIONS OF THE PROPOSALS

11. There will be no property, IT, equality or sustainability implications arising from the proposals.

CONCLUSIONS

12. To ensure the integrity of the traffic flow and to avoid disruption on the A726 GSO, it is concluded that the Council should approve and authorise the East Renfrewshire Council (A726 Glasgow Southern Orbital) (Designation of Protected Roads) Designation 2015.

RECOMMENDATIONS

13. It is recommended that the Council approve and authorise the making of the East Renfrewshire Council (A726 Glasgow Southern Orbital) (Designation of Protected Roads) Designation 2015 and delegate to the Director of Environment the implementation of the designation in accordance with the associated statutory procedures.

Director of Environment

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BACKGROUND PAPERS

The East Renfrewshire Council (A726 Glasgow Southern Orbital) (Designation of Protected
Roads) Designation 20^[**],
Statement of Reasons
Advert (Notice)

KEY WORDS

Glasgow Southern Orbital
Protected Road
New Roads & Street Works Act