

ANGUS COUNCIL

COMMUNITIES COMMITTEE – 15 AUGUST 2023

WARDDYKES PRIMARY SCHOOL, BRECHIN ROAD, ARBROATH – PROPOSED TRAFFIC CALMING: RESPONSE TO PUBLIC CONSULTATION

REPORT BY DIRECTOR OF INFRASTRUCTURE AND ENVIRONMENT

ABSTRACT

This report presents the results of the public consultation process regarding the proposed introduction of traffic calming measures in the vicinity of Warddykes Primary School, Brechin Road, Arbroath.

1. RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that the Committee:

- (i) gives due regard and consideration to the results of the public consultation exercise and comments received during the consultation process regarding the proposed installation of traffic calming measures in the vicinity of Warddykes Primary School, Brechin Road, Arbroath; and
- (ii) agrees to proceed with the installation of the traffic calming measures in the vicinity of Warddykes Primary School, Brechin Road, Arbroath (as detailed in Appendix 1).

2. ALIGNMENT TO THE COUNCIL PLAN

This report contributes to the following priorities contained within the Angus Council Plan 2023-2028:

Caring for our People:

- Support children, young people and adults to access appropriate opportunities which allow them to progress in their learning

Caring for our place:

- We will maintain our roads, pavements, lighting, and other infrastructure efficiently and will focus on our priority routes and infrastructure.

3. BACKGROUND

- 3.1 Report number [97/23](#) considered by the Communities Committee on 18 April 2023, detailed the format and timescale for public consultation regarding the proposal to install traffic calming measures in the vicinity of Warddykes Primary School, Brechin Road, Arbroath. The location of the proposed traffic calming measures (**Appendix 1**) is presented on a plan appended to this report.
- 3.2 As detailed in Report number [97/23](#), following completion of a speed survey on Brechin Road in the vicinity of Warddykes Primary School, the issue was raised at a meeting of the Angus Area Traffic Co-ordination Group and the Group agreed that the introduction of additional traffic calming measure outside the school on the approaches to the school crossing patrol location was appropriate.

4. CURRENT POSITION

- 4.1 The consultation documents (**Appendix 2**) associated with these proposals were issued on Thursday 1 June 2023 to approximately 280 residential addresses within the surrounding area of the proposed traffic calming measures (**Appendix 3**). Consultation documents were also sent to all affected groups listed in the list of consultees (**Appendix 4**) and were made available at Arbroath Access Office for any member of the public who wished to comment on the proposals.
- 4.2 The consultation questionnaire was also available for completion online via the council's website and was publicised on the council's Facebook page.
- 4.3 The number of responses to the consultation were relatively modest as set out below.

21 completed responses were received from households within the consultation catchment area by the closing date of Friday 16 June 2023. Of these responses 19 (90%) agreed and 2 (10%) disagreed with the proposed installation of traffic calming measures in the vicinity of Warddykes Primary School, Brechin Road, Arbroath. The comments which were provided through the returned questionnaires (**Appendix 5**) are presented on a list appended to this report.

7 completed responses were received from members of the public who reside out with the consultation catchment area, all of whom (100%) were in favour of the proposal to install traffic calming measures in the vicinity of Warddykes Primary School, Brechin Road, Arbroath.

18 additional responses were received from members of the public who wished to remain anonymous. Of these responses, 11 (61%) agreed and 7 (39%) disagreed with the proposal to install traffic calming measures in the vicinity of Warddykes Primary School, Brechin Road, Arbroath.

The following completed response was received from the Scottish Fire & Rescue Service:

"The SFRS has no concerns over this traffic calming proposal."

5. PROPOSALS

- 5.1 Members are asked to give due regard and consideration to the results of the public consultation and the full range of opinions expressed and determine if the traffic calming measures should be installed.
- 5.2 It is highlighted that 19 (90%) of the responses received from the households within the public consultation catchment area and 38 (81%) of the overall responses received agreed with the proposal to install traffic calming measures in the vicinity of Warddykes Primary School, Brechin Road, Arbroath.
- 5.3 Given the results of the consultation process indicate that the significant majority of those within and out with the catchment area support the proposals, it is proposed that the installation of the traffic calming measures, as detailed in Appendix 1, is undertaken,
- 5.4 Should the Committee agree to proceed with the installation of the traffic calming measures in the vicinity of Warddykes Primary School, Brechin Road, Arbroath, it is proposed that the installation will be undertaken within this financial year 2023/24.

6. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 6.1 The installation of the traffic calming measures in the vicinity of Warddykes Primary School on Brechin Road, Arbroath is estimated to cost approximately £19,000 which can be funded from the Road Safety/Traffic Calming provision within the 2023/24 Roads (Traffic) Capital Budget.

7. EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT

- 7.1 Reference is made to the Equality Impact Assessment completed for Report number [97/23](#). This has been reviewed and no further update is required. The Assessment concludes that there are either neutral or positive impacts on protected characteristic groups for the proposals.

8. CONSULTATION

8.1 The Chief Executive, Depute Chief Executive, Director of Finance, Director of Legal and Democratic Services, Director of Education & Lifelong Learning have been consulted in the preparation of this report.

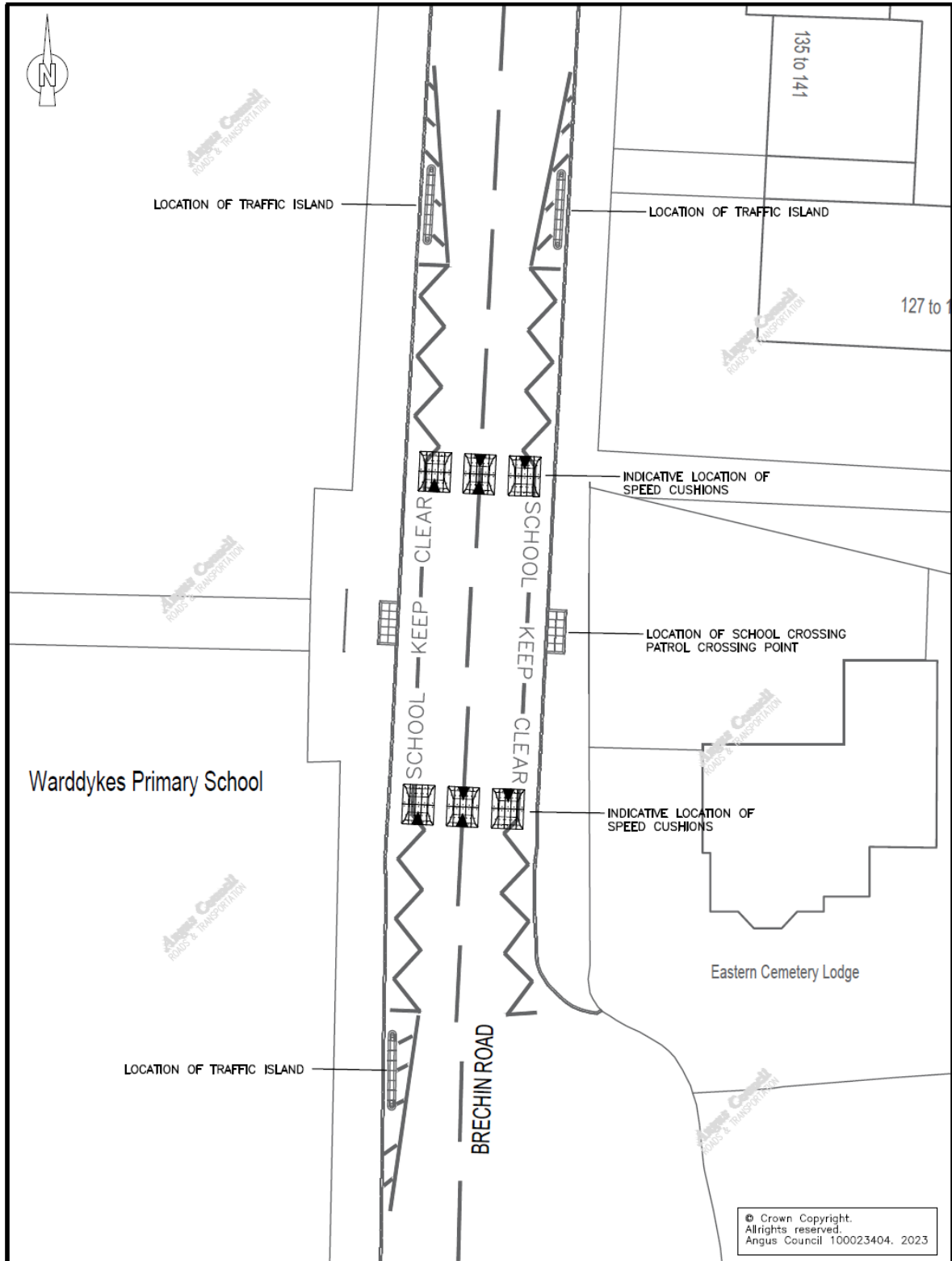
NOTE: The background papers, as detailed by Section 50D of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973 (other than any containing confidential or exempt information) which were relied on to any material extent in preparing the above report are:

- Report No. 97/23 Warddykes Primary School, Arbroath – Traffic Calming

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EMAIL DETAILS: Communities@angus.gov.uk

List of Appendices: Appendix 1 – Traffic Calming Layout Plan
Appendix 2 – Public Consultation Questionnaire
Appendix 3 – Public Consultation Catchment Area Plan
Appendix 4 – List of Consultees
Appendix 5 – Public Consultation Comments



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Drawing Size: A4	Plotting Scale: 1=1	Status: Final	 Angus Council TECHNICAL & PROPERTY SERVICES Engineer-Head of Tech & Property Services	Drawing Title: GENERAL SITE LAYOUT	
Drawn by: AS	Checked By:	Approved By:		Project Title: WARDDYKES PS, ARBROATH TRAFFIC CALMING	
Date: 07/02/23	Date:	Date:	TRAFFIC Section County Buildings Market Street Forfar DD8 3WR Tel: 01307 461460 Fax: 01307 473388		
Issue: INFORMATION	Path & Filename: S:\Traffic\Traffic Management\Projects 2022-23\Feasibility\AS\Warddykes PS - Speed Cushions\Drawings\WPS_BR_A02.dwg		Project No: 105040000	Drawing No: APPENDIX B	Revision: -



PUBLIC CONSULTATION

ANGUS COUNCIL
INFRASTRUCTURE SERVICES
TRAFFIC & TRANSPORT

PROPOSED TRAFFIC CALMING INSTALLATION BRECHIN ROAD, ARBROATH

Last year concerns were raised by a local elected member from the Arbroath East and Lunan ward regarding the speed of vehicles travelling along Brechin Road, parking issues and visibility issues, particularly in the vicinity of Warddykes Primary School.

The dropped kerb crossing point outside the school was relocated, additional school keep clear markings were installed and traffic islands were introduced to try and resolve the speeding, parking and visibility issues.

Officers from Police Scotland's Roads Policing Unit have visited the location and taken targeted enforcement action at the school start and finish times.

Further concerns have been raised since the installation of the traffic islands, by the local elected member, regarding the speed of vehicles travelling passed the school, particularly at the school start and finish times.

Angus Council now proposes to install 2 sets of 75mm high speed cushions on Brechin Road in the vicinity of the school. It is envisaged that the proposed speed cushions will reduce the speed of approaching traffic at an area where pedestrians are crossing the carriageway to and from the school.

Angus Council's Communities Committee, on 18 April 2023, granted permission for a formal public consultation on the proposals to be carried out (Report No.97/23).

Your opinion is now being sought on whether or not you are in agreement with the attached traffic calming measures.

Whatever your opinion, Angus Council would be obliged if you would take the time to look at the attached proposal, respond to the questions below and return it to the Council by **Friday 16 June 2023** so that your views can be taken into consideration.

Please complete the questionnaire and return it to:

Traffic & Transport Manager or ROADS@angus.gov.uk
Angus House
Orchardbank Business Park
FORFAR
DD8 1AN

No decision will be taken regarding this proposal until the feedback from the consultation has been considered by the council's Communities Committee.

Thank you for your participation.

Question: Do you agree with the proposal to install 2 sets of 75mm high speed cushions on Brechin Road in the vicinity of Warddykes Primary School?

Yes

No

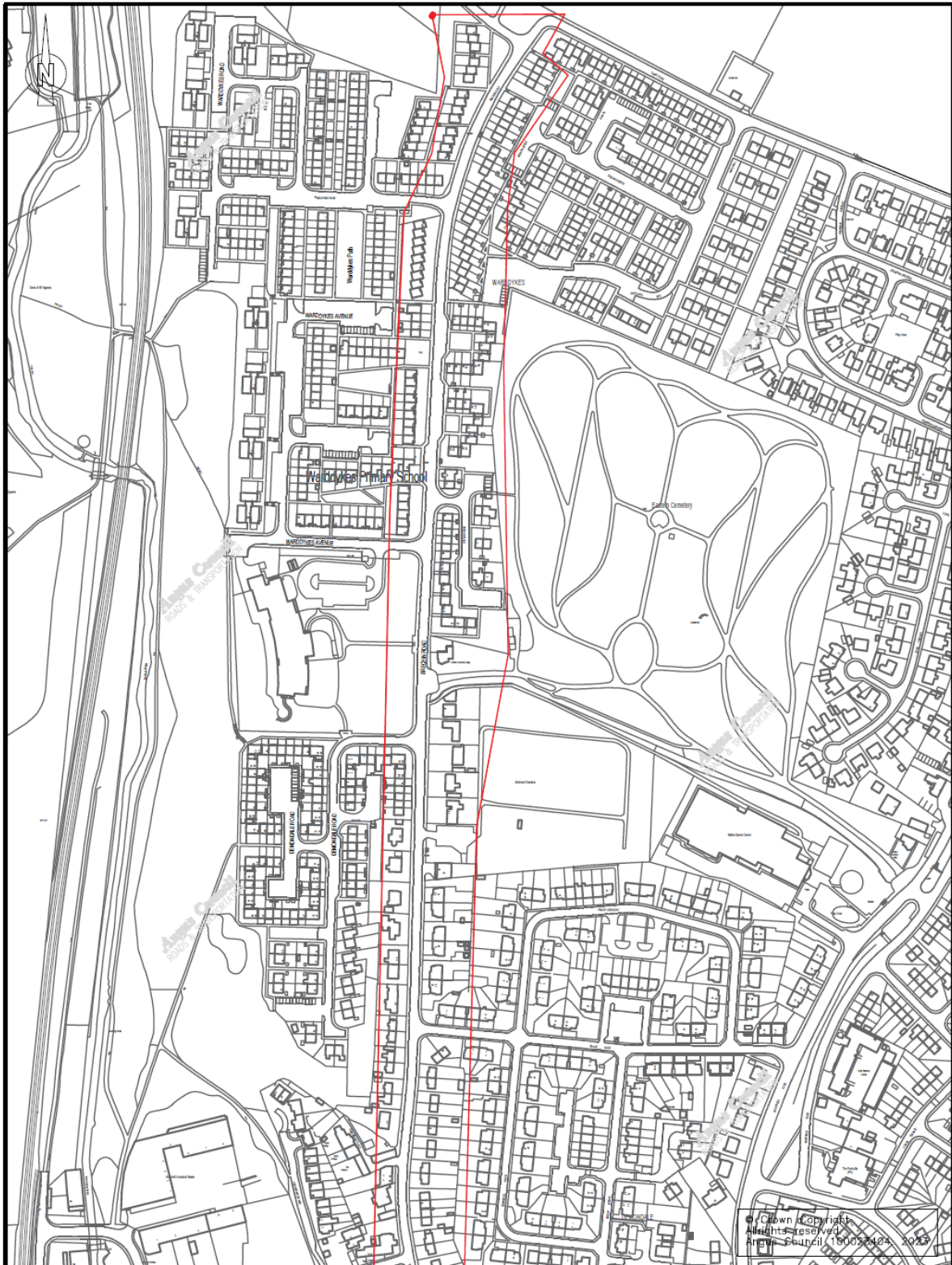
Comments:

Name:

Name of Business (if applicable):

Address:

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Drawing Size: A4	Plotting Scale: 1:1	Status: Final	 <p>Angus Council TECHNICAL & PROPERTY SERVICES Engineer-Head of Tech & Property Services</p> <p>TRAFFIC Section County Buildings Market Street Forfar DD8 3WR</p> <p>Tel: 01307 461460 Fax: 01307 473388</p>	Drawing Title: PUBLIC CONSULTATION LOCATION PLAN		
Drawn by: AS	Checked By:	Approved By:		Project Title: WARDYKES PS, ARBROATH TRAFFIC CALMING		
Date: 07/02/23	Date:	Date:		Project No: 105040000	Drawing No: APPENDIX D	Revision: -
Issue: INFORMATION			Path & Filename: S:\Traffic\Traffic Management\Projects 2022-23\Feasibility VAS\Warddykes PS - Speed Cushions\Drawings\WPS_BF_A02.dwg			

**PUBLIC CONSULTATION – WARDDYKES PS, BRECHIN ROAD, ARBROATH – TRAFFIC CALMING
LIST OF CONSULTEES**

1. Arbroath East & Lunan Local Ward Members
2. Royal Burgh of Arbroath Community Council
3. Traffic & Transport Manager
4. Director of Infrastructure
5. Director of Legal & Democratic Services
6. Director of Education & Lifelong Learning
7. Director of Finance
8. Depute Chief Executive
9. Chief Executive
10. Local Divisional Police Commander for Tayside
11. Scottish Fire & Rescue Service Area Manager
12. Scottish Ambulance Service Regional Officer
13. Angus Access Panel
14. North-East Sensory Services
15. The Guide Dogs for the Blind Association

Additionally, each resident within the area indicated on the attached plan (Appendix C) was provided with an individual copy of the consultation pack.

The consultation was included on the Angus Council website and that consultation packs were made available at the Arbroath Access Office for the general public who wished to comment on the proposed option.

A notification was also released on the council's Facebook page issued informing the public of the public consultation and the consultation period.

PUBLIC CONSULTATION – WARDDYKES PS, BRECHIN ROAD, ARBROATH – TRAFFIC CALMING

PUBLIC CONSULTATION COMMENTS

COMMENTS FROM BRECHIN ROAD, ARBROATH RESIDENTS

1. To whom it may concern,
I received your leaflet on the proposed traffic calming installation on Brechin Road, Arbroath. Firstly, I agree with the proposal of the high-speed cushions in the vicinity of Warddykes primary school. Secondly, I would like to address the situation with the rest of Brechin Road. [REDACTED] lately the traffic speeding and forcing their way through down in the vicinity of the flats are absolutely ridiculous, I obviously use the road a lot [REDACTED] and the amount of times in this area that I have been forced over the road and even onto the pavement to avoid an accident is terrible, something needs to be done. In my opinion there are a few options which I'd like to put to you.
 - shorten the width of the footpaths to allow the parked cars to be further in allowing more room for moving cars and install more speed cushions to slow the traffic making it easier and safer to pass each other.
 - make Brechin Road one way either up to Bruce Road or down from Bruce Road which would certainly make it a lot safer, the junction for people coming out of Mcgregors Walk onto Brechin Road is also dangerous.

These have been a topic of discussion lately on Arbroath online, the majority of people agreeing that action needs to be taken before a serious accident occurs. Since the installation of the traffic lights at the bottom of Brechin Road, when Brechin Road drivers have to wait at a red light you can see numerous impatient drivers driving down the wrong side of the road passing cars waiting at the lights so they can cut the junction at Pie Bobs and get down Grant Road quicker, this is also an accident waiting to happen, I've seen a few near misses there already and think something needs done. My opinion would be to make Grant Road up to Pie Bobs junction one way, uphill, then one way up Brechin Road to Bruce Road, this will cut out anyone from being able to cut that corner at Pie Bobs and also safer with one way traffic up Brechin Road too. As I stated [REDACTED] and the traffic situation is just getting worse, I feel that more needs to be done than just at the school, the bottom half is a serious accident waiting to happen.

Thank you for taking the time to read this.
2. I would also like to see some others installed up Brechin Road as drivers seem to think that as it's a straight bit of road after coming off the corner at Tarry Road that they can then speed up.
3. [REDACTED], and I support traffic calming measures [REDACTED] and use Brechin Road regularly; parking build up at school times has improved but is still very congested and the 20mph speed limit when applied is rarely obeyed by road users.
4. I agree with the proposal but would like to ask the question if this would also slow motorbikes down. (Note, in my experience people try to straddle the cushions thus taking their attention away from their surroundings).
5. I agree with the proposal to install 2 high speed cushions. [REDACTED] [REDACTED], over the years the traffic has got busier. The amount of traffic has gotten more because of the houses being built at the Meadow Bank scheme. Some of the drivers go at high speed with no regards for pedestrians. My fear is there could be a bad accident if something is not done.
6. I personally think we could do with speed cushions on the whole of Brechin Road. It is a nightmare seeing traffic speed down this road.
7. I totally support this scheme [REDACTED] and on many occasions have heard and seen boy racers passing my home at terrifying speeds in excess of 70mph with powerful cars, I strongly think that the speed humps should be every 100 yards the full length of Brechin Road.
8. This is an area of a lot of children. I think the whole road would benefit from having these installed in this area, or up the whole road to stop traffic speeding up in a built-up area where many families live, where one child has already been hit this year.

9. The whole of Brechin Road requires traffic calming measures. 'Slow' + 20mph zone. Long overdue.
10. Also, between Spar shop and McGregor Walk as traffic travels grossly over 30mph, traffic calming required here.
11. Excellent idea! But could do with more further up Brechin Road.
12. A very busy road. I agree with the proposal to keep children and parents safe to cross road.
13. Instead of installing the speed cushions, doing the following may be an easier option.
 - Extend the yellow lines from Warddykes Avenue and Demondale Road all the way up to the existing traffic Islands, and zigzags. This would give a clear line of sight for those waiting to cross.
 - Post signs to restrict drop off times on the yellow lines. i.e. no drop off during school hours.
 - Stop people parking at the entrance to the Eastern cemetery. Those who access the cemetery normally drive in anyway. In addition, those parked here sometimes park close to the road. This can force people to walk out onto the carriageway. Kids are normally busy talking to their pals, and probably don't see the risk.

As for the speeding, I've yet to see someone speed here during school drop off times. The elected official may have perceived it as speeding. That perception obviously extends to me as well, as I don't have a speed detector. Without empirical evidence, it's hard to say whether someone was.

14. To declare my interests: I have no children, I drive a small car [REDACTED]. Speed bumps as shown in the traffic calming drawing do not work on vans or 4x4s. Van/delivery drivers are some of the most dangerous drivers on the road, in my experience. Perhaps if the speed bumps instead of being 2 lines of 3 parts were 2 lines of single part speed bumps they might work better and would also be easier for smaller more environmentally friendly cars to go up and over without the risk of damaging the exhaust system. Also, in my opinion, the new traffic lights at the bottom of the Brechin Road are a mistake. A larger roundabout that forced people to slow and not drive straight across would have been better. The old circle was so small people coming from the Montrose Road didn't slow down at all.
15. I agree with the installation, but I also think and recommend that the speed limit for the entirety of Brechin Road should be reconsidered to 20mph as the speeding up to the school starts from McGregors Walk. This is putting children and pets at risk from speeding cars all the way up to the school. The speeding has become increasingly worse with some in excess of 40mph up the road. [REDACTED] have CCTV footage of the racing cars going up and down the road. We are also happy for the council to allow speed checks from or property to monitor speed. There are also plenty of mirrors getting bumped off from excess speed as well as passing issues further down the road at the bend.
16. I agree with the installation of high-speed cushions near the school. Would it be possible to look at further measures nearer the top of Brechin Road to slow down speeding drivers heading down towards the school.

COMMENTS FROM RESIDENTS WHO LIVE OUTWITH THE CATCHMENT AREA

1. I pick my [REDACTED] [child] up from Warddykes school daily and to this day majority of folk fly past the school. They also continue to park on double yellows on the corner of the junctions causing obstruction to the drivers coming out from Demondale Road and Warddykes Avenue. A pupil was hit by a taxi a few weeks ago. The speed cushions would definitely stop the speeding at the school.
2. In the absence of other measures they will have some effect on speeding traffic but would be better if the entire area had no parking and cameras placed to catch anyone speeding. Extend the no parking in both directions. Crossing patroller fitted with body camera and given powers to report drivers for anything that compromises safety.
3. Think it is a good idea to stop speeding traffic at school area. I believe you also need to address the amount of cars that park at the school on the main road and definitely need to stop the cars parking in the cemetery opening total danger.

4. Anything that slows traffic in any area of Arbroath is a good thing.
5. I think all schools and playparks should have big speed bumps outside them. The speed bump outside Arbroath Academy on Seaton Road is very effective. Please put similar outside all schools and playparks.
6. The whole of Brechin Road would benefit from “calming measures”. Cars frequently break the speed limit.
7. As is the norm with any Council Survey, there is no facility to submit a drawing showing an alternative arrangement, which might just be an improvement upon the one presented. Instead of two sets of speed cushions, I think one raised area, similar to that installed on Seaton Road, outside Arbroath Academy would be preferable. Pedestrian traffic could then negotiate their way across the road with no need of any change in levels. This would considerably assist those with mobility difficulties, poor eyesight etc. simply by removing the associated tripping/slipping hazards associated with drop-kerbs. I appreciate that this would involve un-doing some recent work. Perhaps the recent works would have benefitted from prior discussion.

COMMENTS FROM ANONYMOUS RESPONDERS

1. I live in the Warddykes area, and I do not think the issue is speed. The volume of traffic in this area is a concern and forces myself and others to slow down to overtake/pass parked cars that are waiting to collect their children. The condition of the road and tarmac on the entire road is more of a concern. [REDACTED] potholes and cracked tarmac [cause damage] and the thought of placing speed bumps will put further strain and damage on my suspension when passing multiple times a day. Again, I do not believe that speed is an issue on this road.
2. Anything that slows the racers on Brechin Road would be welcome. Would like to see additional traffic calming past the school as cars just speed up after passing it. It is such a straight road that seems to appeal to “racers”.
3. Stop parents parking near the school, there is no issue other than mornings, after school or when they have events on. Stopping the parents parking would stop the problem. I think it's unnecessary.
4. Absolutely shocking the speed of cars. There should be more speed bumps around the town. If not then automatic speed cameras.
5. How many accidents have taken place there. None to my knowledge. Putting these measures in place impacts all of Warddykes residents doing more harm than good. Have there been any surveys done to show why these extra measures are needed. As a resident in the area I have never seen any car speeding during school hours.
6. Will further improve children's well-being.
7. I would also recommend similar action to be taken on Brechin Road between Bruce Road and the new lights at the bottom of Brechin Road.
8. There should have been speed bumps years ago, the amount of kids hit by cars from Warddykes Primary is disgusting. [REDACTED] [a child] was hit by a car last month and another child the week after. Drivers need fined the way they speed up Brechin Road.
9. Honestly there needs to be more than two sets. Other primary schools have full sets of speed bumps (e.g., right along Hospitalfield Road for Muirfield). [REDACTED] the racers fly along [REDACTED] [Noran Avenue] and Brechin Road, using it like a rat run. A child was knocked down in Noran Avenue last year and I don't want it to take a child death before something is done. [REDACTED], the whole area needs something done.
10. In addition to existing traffic calming measures there is a 20mph speed limit in place when the lights are flashing which motorists should observe. Enforcement of the 20mph speed limit might

help. I don't see need for further measures. Perhaps stopping all parking in this area at school start and finish times would also be a good idea.

11. Absolute terrible idea.

COMMENTS FROM ADDITIONAL CONSULTEES

Scottish Fire & Rescue Service

The SFRS has no concerns over this traffic calming proposal.