

TITLE: VICTORIA ROAD / SIDMOUTH DRIVE, RUISLIP – PETITION REQUESTING MEASURES TO IMPROVE ROAD SAFETY

Cabinet Portfolio	Planning and Transportation
Report Author	Steve Austin
Papers with report	Appendix A

HEADLINE INFORMATION

Purpose of report	To advise the Cabinet Member that a petition has been received from residents of Victoria Road requesting improvements to the safety of junctions with specific emphasis on Sidmouth Drive.
Contribution to our plans and strategies	A safer borough
Financial Cost	There is none associated with the recommendations to this report
Relevant Policy Overview Committee	Residents and Environmental Services
Ward(s) affected	Manor

RECOMMENDATION

That the Cabinet Member

- 1. Discusses with petitioners their concern with road safety on Victoria Road to identify suitable improvement options that could be considered for introduction.**
- 2. Following 1 above, asks officers to investigate the feasibility to introduce the identified measures and report back with the estimated costs.**

INFORMATION

Reasons for recommendation

To allow the Cabinet Member to discuss in detail with petitioners their concern with road safety to develop suitable options for further investigation to determine the feasibility to introduce measures including the associated costs.

Alternative options considered

These can be identified from the discussion with petitioners.

Comments of Policy Overview Committee(s)

None at this stage

Supporting Information

1. A petition has been presented to the Council under the following heading:

“The speed of traffic along Victoria Road is often excessive and the number of serious accidents is increasing.

We hereby call on Hillingdon Council to carry out a thorough and detailed review and consultation to improve the safety at junctions along Victoria Road particularly Sidmouth Drive”.

The petition contained 62 signatures and was also accompanied by 25 standard responses with the following heading.

“I/We the undersigned call on the Council to take urgent action to make the junction of Sidmouth Drive and Victoria road safer and so stop the regular accidents”.

The signatures came from households in the section of Victoria Road between the roundabout junction with Torrington Road/Filey Way and Yeading Brook. This road link is shown on Appendix A.

2. The petition and standard responses are predominately from addresses in the section of Victoria Road between the roundabout junction of Torrington Road/Filey Way and Yeading Brook. It would appear the petitioners are concerned with junctions in this section of Victoria Road with specific emphasis on that with Sidmouth Drive. In the three year period to November 2009, there have been six accidents in this section of Victoria Road which involved personal injury two were serious. Two occurred at the junction with Sidmouth Drive and one each at the junctions with Filey Way, Tiverton Road and Whitby Road. The sixth accident occurred in the link between Sidmouth Drive and Whitby Road. There does not appear to be a trend with these accidents and as residents have particularly pointed out their concerns with the junction of Sidmouth Drive, the two accidents that occurred, only one involved a turning movement.
3. The Cabinet Member will be aware that concerns of this nature are investigated as part of the Council’s Road Safety programme. It is suggested therefore that the Cabinet Member discusses with the petitioners their specific concern with road safety and if suitable improvement options can be identified, it is further suggested that officers are asked to determine the feasibility and estimated cost of suitable measures which can be reported back to the Cabinet Member for consideration as part of the Council’s Road Safety programme.

Financial Implications

There are none associated with the recommendations to this report as feasibility studies can be undertaken with in house resources. However, if the Cabinet Member subsequently considers the introduction of a scheme, it would require an allocation from the Council's Road Safety programme.

EFFECT ON RESIDENTS, SERVICE USERS & COMMUNITIES

What will be the effect of the recommendation?

To allow investigation of the road safety situation in this section of Victoria Road with a view to considering the introduction of improvement measures.

Consultation Carried Out or Required

Before proceeding with changes to residential road networks, it is common practice for the Council to consult residents before making a final decision on whether to introduce a scheme.

CORPORATE IMPLICATIONS

Legal

A meeting with the petitioners is perfectly legitimate as part of a listening exercise, especially where consideration of the policy, factual and engineering issues are still at a formative stage. Fairness and natural justice requires that there must be no predetermination of a decision in advance of any wider non-statutory consultation.

BACKGROUND PAPERS

Petition received 4th February 2010