

BELMORE PRIMARY SCHOOL - PETITION REQUESTING ROAD SAFETY MEASURES ON OWEN ROAD, HAYES

Cabinet Member(s)	Councillor Keith Burrows
Cabinet Portfolio(s)	Planning, Transportation and Recycling
Officer Contact(s)	Catherine Freeman Planning, Environment, Education and Community Services
Papers with report	Appendix A

1. HEADLINE INFORMATION

Summary	To inform the Cabinet Member that a petition with 315 signatures has been received from Belmore Primary School and local residents requesting road safety measures on Owen Road
Contribution to our plans and strategies	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Transport Strategy• Local Implementation Plan• Community Plan
Financial Cost	There are no financial implications to this report
Relevant Policy Overview Committee	Residents' & Environmental Services Policy Overview Committee
Ward(s) affected	Barnhill

2. RECOMMENDATION

That the Cabinet Member:

1. Notes the petitioners' request and meets with pupils to discuss in greater detail their particular safety concerns for the school community on their journey to and from school;
2. Subject to (1) asks officers from the Road Safety and School Travel Team to undertake feasibility studies on options to address road safety concerns and report back to him on possible options;
3. Subject to (1) instructs officers to liaise with the Police and local Safer Neighbourhoods teams to investigate and if appropriate undertake some local enforcement;

Reasons for recommendation

Discussions between the Cabinet Member and the School will allow options to be developed that will improve safety for pupils attending Belmore Primary School and the investigation of feasible measures that could then be explored in further detail by officers including the estimated costs involved.

Alternative options considered / risk management

These can be identified following discussions with petitioners

Policy Overview Committee comments

None at this stage

3. INFORMATION

Supporting Information

1. A petition with 315 signatures, over 20 of which are valid, has been submitted to the Council under the following heading *"The undersigned parents, staff and children of Belmore Primary School and residents of Owen Road request that the council takes the necessary measures to alleviate the parking and dangerous driving issues in Owen Road at the start and end of the school day before a serious incident occurs. Parents, Staff, Police, local Councillors and Road Safety Officers have witnessed and collected evidence of dangerous driving, thoughtless and illegal parking over the last few months and this is attached to the petition"*.
2. The petition also includes letters from school pupils highlighting their concerns with road safety in the vicinity of the School and suggested remedial measures, including speed bumps, additional signage and guard railing.
3. Owen Road lies parallel to Kingshill Avenue west of Yeading Lane and is located close to the Borough boundary with Ealing. The northern side of Owen Road consists of residential properties and the southern side consists of two schools and one nursery. A location plan is attached as Appendix A to this report.
4. The Cabinet Member will recall hearing a separate petition in February 2005 from local residents requesting "sleeping policemen" to deter speeding traffic on Owen Road. The petition was considered by the Cabinet Member for Planning, Transportation and Recycling who after discussing the petitioner's concerns, asked that residents be consulted on options to deter through traffic. Residents, emergency services and local Ward Councillors were consulted in June 2006 and the majority indicated their support for waiting restrictions on the south side of Owen Road which were subsequently installed.
5. With regards to the recent petition, the Cabinet Member will be aware of the Transport for London (TfL) funded 'School Travel Plan' programme which is a road safety based initiative that draws upon school concerns to develop measures of benefit to pupils, in their journey to and from school. The schools participating in the 'School Travel Plan' programme generate their own Action Plans with support from the Council, and these are then used as the basis for bids to TfL in order to secure funding for relevant traffic schemes and works. The need for speeding and parking restrictions on Owen Road are key elements of Belmore Primary School's Travel Plan.

6. It is recommended that the Cabinet Member meets with the pupils of Belmore Primary School and listens to their concerns about road safety. This will assist officers in developing proposals that could promote safety in the roads close to the School.

7. The Cabinet Member will also be aware that officers often liaise with the Safer Neighbourhood Teams (Metropolitan Police Service) and it is therefore suggested that input be sought from the Safer Neighbourhood Team responsible for the Barnhill Ward who have signed this petition.

Financial Implications

There are none associated with the recommendations in this report as a feasibility study can be carried out using in-house resources. However, if the Council subsequently approves the introduction of waiting restrictions or traffic calming measures in the area, a suitable funding source will need to be identified.

4. EFFECT ON RESIDENTS, SERVICE USERS & COMMUNITIES

What will be the effect of the recommendation?

To allow the Cabinet Member to discuss in detail with pupils their concerns with road safety in the roads surrounding Belmore Primary School and to identify possible options for investigation.

Consultation Carried Out or Required

None at this stage but, if the Council subsequently approves the introduction of waiting restrictions or traffic calming measures in the area, statutory consultation will be required to allow members of the public to comment.

5. CORPORATE IMPLICATIONS

Corporate Finance

Corporate Finance has reviewed this report and concurs with the financial implications as stated.

Legal

There are no special legal implications for the proposal, which amounts to an informal consultation. 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.

Should there be a decision that further measures are to be considered then the relevant statutory provisions will have to be identified and considered.

In considering any informal consultation responses, decision makers must ensure there is a full consideration of all representations arising including those which do not accord with the officer recommendation. The decision maker must be satisfied that responses from the public are conscientiously taken into account.

6. BACKGROUND PAPERS

- Petition from Belmore Primary School and local residents requesting road safety measures on Owen Road, Hayes, received December 2011
- Petition requesting “sleeping policeman” to deter speeding on Owen Road, Hayes, received September 2004