

# LONGMEAD ROAD, HAYES - PETITION REQUESTING ACTION TO "SLOW TRAFFIC DOWN"

<b>Cabinet Member(s)</b>	Councillor Keith Burrows
<b>Cabinet Portfolio(s)</b>	Cabinet Member for Planning, Transportation and Recycling
<b>Officer Contact(s)</b>	Steven Austin, Residents Services Directorate
<b>Papers with report</b>	Appendix A

## **1. HEADLINE INFORMATION**

<b>Summary</b>	To inform the Cabinet Member that the Council has received a petition from residents of Longmead Road, Hayes requesting measures to reduce traffic speeds.
<b>Contribution to our plans and strategies</b>	The request can be considered in relation to the Council's strategy for road safety.
<b>Financial Cost</b>	There are no financial implications associated with the recommendations to this report.
<b>Relevant Policy Overview Committee</b>	Residents' and Environmental Services.
<b>Ward(s) affected</b>	Townfield

## **2. RECOMMENDATION**

**That the Cabinet Member:**

- 1. Meets and discusses with petitioners their concerns in detail and explores possible options to address the issues that would be acceptable to local residents.**
- 2. Subject to the outcome of the above, asks officers to undertake traffic surveys to establish the volumes and speeds of traffic in Longmead Road.**
- 3. Instructs officers to liaise with Townfield Safer Neighbourhood Team.**

### **Reasons for recommendation**

Traffic calming measures are largely successful if they are acceptable to local residents and businesses. Possible options can be identified with petitioners for further investigation by officers.

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## **Alternative options considered / risk management**

These can be discussed with petitioners.

## **Policy Overview Committee comments**

None at this stage

## **3. INFORMATION**

### **Supporting Information**

1. A petition with 23 signatures has been submitted to the Council under the following heading:-

*“Petition for action to be taken concerning Longmead Road. Action to be taken to slow traffic down*

- i) Speed humps*
- ii) Width restrictions*
- iii) One way system “*

2. In an accompanying letter with the petition the lead petitioner mentions a recent accident involving a close family relative and a speeding van which was no doubt the catalyst for local residents submitting this petition.

3. Longmead Road is a predominantly residential road that connects Church Road to the west with Central Avenue and then with East Avenue in the east. The width of the carriageway is approximately 5.5 metres and the footways are approximately 2 metres wide. Due to the limited width of the carriageway in March 1999, parking was allowed partly on the footway in Longmead Road. The location is indicated on the plan attached as Appendix A.

4. The Cabinet Member will be aware that traffic calming measures can be considered in a variety of forms, most of which include the construction of some kind of physical measures such as chicanes, raised table and similar measures. Residents have suggested measures such as “speed humps” commonly known as “sleeping policeman” but the emergency services are not generally supportive of this type of physical measure. However, the Council does implement other kinds of traffic calming where there is both strong evidence of a need (based on surveys) and a majority of local support. A 24/7 survey would be of assistance in this process.

5. The Cabinet Member will also be aware that officers are in regular communication with colleagues within the Police “Safer Neighbourhoods Team” (SNT) who are able to investigate issues of community concern. Subject to the discussions with residents, it is suggested that officers liaise with Townfield SNT so they can carry out any enforcement action they feel is appropriate.

### **Financial Implications**

There are none associated with the recommendations to this report. However, if the Cabinet Member approves the recommendations to this report funding would need to be identified from a suitable source.

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#### **4. EFFECT ON RESIDENTS, SERVICE USERS & COMMUNITIES**

##### **What will be the effect of the recommendation?**

To allow the Cabinet Member an opportunity to discuss in detail with petitioners their concerns.

##### **Consultation Carried Out or Required**

None at this stage.

#### **5. CORPORATE IMPLICATIONS**

##### **Corporate Finance**

None at this stage

##### **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 and factual 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.

Accordingly, the Council must balance the concerns of the objectors with its statutory duty to secure the expeditious, convenient and safe movement of vehicular and other traffic. The decision maker must be satisfied that responses from the public are conscientiously taken into account.

Should the outcome of the informal discussions with petitioners require that officers include the Petitioners request in a subsequent review of possible options under the Council's Road Safety Programme and a consultation be carried out when resources permit there will need to be consideration of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, the Traffic Signs Regulations and General Directions 2002, which govern road traffic orders, traffic signs and road markings. If specific advice is required in relation to the exercise of individual powers Legal Services should be instructed.

##### **Corporate Property and Construction**

None at this stage.

#### **6. BACKGROUND PAPERS**

Petition received requesting measures to reduce traffic speeds in Longmead Road,



## Longmead Road, Hayes - Location plan

## Appendix A

Date May 2013

Scale 1:5,000



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