

## TITLE: WEST END ROAD, RUISLIP – PETITION REQUESTING MEASURES TO IMPROVE VEHICLE MOVEMENTS

**Cabinet Portfolio**

Planning and Transportation

**Report Author**

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**Papers with report**

Appendix A

### HEADLINE INFORMATION

**Purpose of report**

To inform the Cabinet Member that a petition has been received from residents living in the section of West End Road between Nos. 205 to 223 (close to the Station Approach junction) requesting the Council to investigate measures that would improve vehicle turning movements onto West End Road.

**Contribution to our plans and strategies**

The request will be considered as part of the Council's programme for Road Safety Initiatives.

**Financial Cost**

There are none associated with recommendations to this report

**Relevant Policy Overview Committee**

Residents and Environmental Services

**Ward(s) affected**

South Ruislip

### RECOMMENDATION

That the Cabinet Member

1. Notes the petition request and discusses details with petitioners.
2. Asks Officers to investigate as a matter of urgency, the feasibility to install "Give Way" markings on the service roads between Nos. 205 and 223 West End Road at the entrance to an underground car park.
3. Asks Officers to investigate the feasibility to introduce yellow box junction markings on West End Road at the southern access of the service road between Nos. 205 and 223.

## **INFORMATION**

### **Reasons for recommendation**

The residents have pointed out an issue with vehicles emerging from the underground car park of the residential development at the junction of West End Road and Station Approach which could be improved with a priority control. A feasibility study will establish if a yellow box junction can be installed as requested to improve turning facilities for vehicles.

### **Alternative options considered**

None as the petitioners have made specific requests, however further options may arise during presentation of the petition.

### **Comments of Policy Overview Committee(s)**

None at this stage

### **Supporting Information**

- (1) A petition with 20 signatures has been organised by a resident living in the section of West End Road between Nos. 205 and 223 requesting measures to improve vehicle movements onto West End Road. The petition has been signed by all but one of the households between Nos. 205 and 223.
- (2) The location of these properties on West End Road is indicated on Appendix A. They are located on the north-eastern side of the road northwest of the junction with Station Approach. The junctions with RAF Northolt to the north of the properties and Station Approach to the south are both controlled by traffic signals. Previously on the north corner of this junction there was a Petrol Station which has recently been redeveloped into a flat development now called Astral Court. The parking provided for the residents of Astral Court is underground with access on its north-western frontage to the service road. As the car park is below ground, there is a significant gradient onto the service road and it would appear drivers exit the car park at speed to climb this gradient.
- (3) In a covering letter to the petition, the residents set out their concerns with the road layout. As can be seen from Appendix A, residents can only leave the service road at its southern end and this causes a number of problems.
  - (i) Residents can clash with motorists leaving the Astral Court car park as there is no established priority and as previously mentioned vehicles egress the underground car park at a disproportionate high speed to negotiate the gradient. The residents are requesting the introduction of "Give Way" markings to establish vehicle priority at this end of the service road.
  - (ii) As all vehicles must exit the service road at its southern end, turning right to travel north westbound on West End Road necessitates crossing two southbound streams of traffic. The residents also point out this southbound movement is

significant and at busy times queues extend back from the signals at the junction with Station Approach. The petitioners are asking the Council to consider the introduction of Traffic Signals or yellow box junction markings in order to provide a suitable facility for residents to turn right onto West End Road.

- (4) The suggestions put forward by residents are appreciated and can be investigated within the Council's Road Safety programme. However, the introduction of traffic signals would require a significant investment and need to be part of the nearby existing traffic signal junctions. Consequently, the introduction of yellow box markings may be more feasible but a detailed investigation would be required to establish if this measure can be installed.

### **Financial Implications**

There are none associated with the recommendations to this report as investigations can be undertaken with in-house resources. However, if carriageway markings are considered to be appropriate, funds will be required from a suitable budget such as, the Council's Road Safety programme.

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

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

To fully investigate the issues raised by the petitioners and the feasibility of the suggestions put forward.

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

Following the investigations, residents can be consulted for their views on the possible options to address their concerns.

### **CORPORATE IMPLICATIONS**

#### **Corporate Finance**

#### **Legal**

Section 122 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 means that the Council as traffic authority has a statutory duty to secure the expeditious, convenient and safe movement of vehicular and other traffic. The recommendations referred to in this report in response to the petition can properly be considered by the Cabinet Member as one of the range of potential measures available to the Council to ensure its discharge of that duty.

### **BACKGROUND PAPERS**

Petition received 12<sup>th</sup> August 2009