

# DENE ROAD AND SANDY LODGE WAY, NORTHWOOD - PETITION CONCERNED WITH EXCESSIVE ROAD TRAFFIC SPEED

<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
<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 concerned with excessive traffic speeds in Dene Road and Sandy Lodge Way, Northwood.
<b>Contribution to our plans and strategies</b>	The request can be considered as part of the Council's annual programme of road safety initiatives.
<b>Financial Cost</b>	Subject to the outcome of discussions with petitioners the Cabinet Member may be minded to commission speed and traffic surveys. The current cost of these is in the region of £80 to £85.
<b>Relevant Policy Overview Committee</b>	Residents' and Environmental Services.
<b>Ward(s) affected</b>	Northwood

## **2. RECOMMENDATIONS**

**Meeting with the Petitioners, the Cabinet Member:**

- 1. Listens to their concerns with excessive traffic speed in Dene Road and Sandy Lodge Way.**
- 2. Subject to the outcome of the above, asks officers to undertake traffic surveys, at locations agreed by the petitioners and then report back to the Cabinet Member.**

### **Reasons for recommendations**

The Petition Hearing will provide a valuable opportunity to hear directly from the petitioners of their concerns and suggestions.

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

None at this stage.

## Policy Overview Committee comments

None at this stage.

### **3. INFORMATION**

#### **Supporting Information**

1. A petition with a total of 48 signatures from residents of Dene Road and Sandy Lodge Way has been received by the Council under the following heading *"Speeding traffic causes high levels of noise, adds to pollution and poses threat to safety. We are petitioning for speed reduction measures"*.

2. In a covering letter submitted with the petition the lead states:

*"Canvassing the residents for the enclosed petition I was given several accounts of near misses and accidents caused by excessive speed on this stretch of residential road. A resident of 3 Dene Road was struck fatally by a speeding vehicle when crossing the road in front of his house.*

*Residents, including myself, have made representations to the Borough and to the police, but our concerns have hitherto been set aside. We have therefore gathered these 48 signatures with the request that speed measures now be instituted"*.

3. Dene Road and Sandy Lodge Way are mainly residential roads close to Northwood Town Centre's shops, Underground Station and various other local amenities. Dene Road could be considered to be in two parts, the first straight section of road that leads directly off of Green Lane is adopted and leads into Sandy Lodge Way. The second section of Dene Road is privately maintained highway and connects to Rickmansworth Road at its western end. Hillingdon Council is the highway authority for the southern section of Sandy Lodge Way from where it meets Dene Road to just north of Grove Road; from here onwards, the road is the responsibility of Hertfordshire County Council. A plan of the area is attached as Appendix A to this report.

4. The petition is asking for traffic calming measures and mentions that a resident of Dene Road was fatally struck by a speeding vehicle when crossing the road. Police recorded collision data for the three years to October 2016 (the latest information available) provides details of a single incident in the area. This occurred on Sandy Lodge Way close to the junction of Trinity Close and it appears that a learner driver failed to look properly and turned in to the path of an on-coming vehicle. The information supplied to the Council by the Metropolitan Police concerning the tragic and distressing incident of the resident of Dene Road indicates that no vehicle was involved in this fatality.

5. It is clear from the petition that residents are concerned about vehicle speeds and have taken the opportunity to put these in a petition. It is therefore suggested that the Cabinet Member meets with petitioners and listens to their concerns in greater detail. Subject to the outcome of these discussions, the Cabinet Member could recommend undertaking independent speed and traffic surveys in Dene Road and Sandy Lodge Way, at locations to be agreed with the petitioners, in order to help inform any possible solutions.

## **Financial Implications**

If the Cabinet Member is minded to agree to undertake independent speed and traffic surveys the cost is usually in the region of £80 to £85 per location which could be funded through an allocation for the transportation and projects service. If works are subsequently required, suitable funding will need to be identified within the Road Safety programme.

## **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**

Corporate Finance has reviewed this report, noting that direct costs associated with recommended traffic surveys would be contained within existing service budgets.

### **Legal**

There are no special legal implications for the proposal to discuss with petitioners their concerns with excessive traffic speeds in Dene Road and Sandy Lodge Way, Northwood 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.

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.

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

### **Corporate Property and Construction**

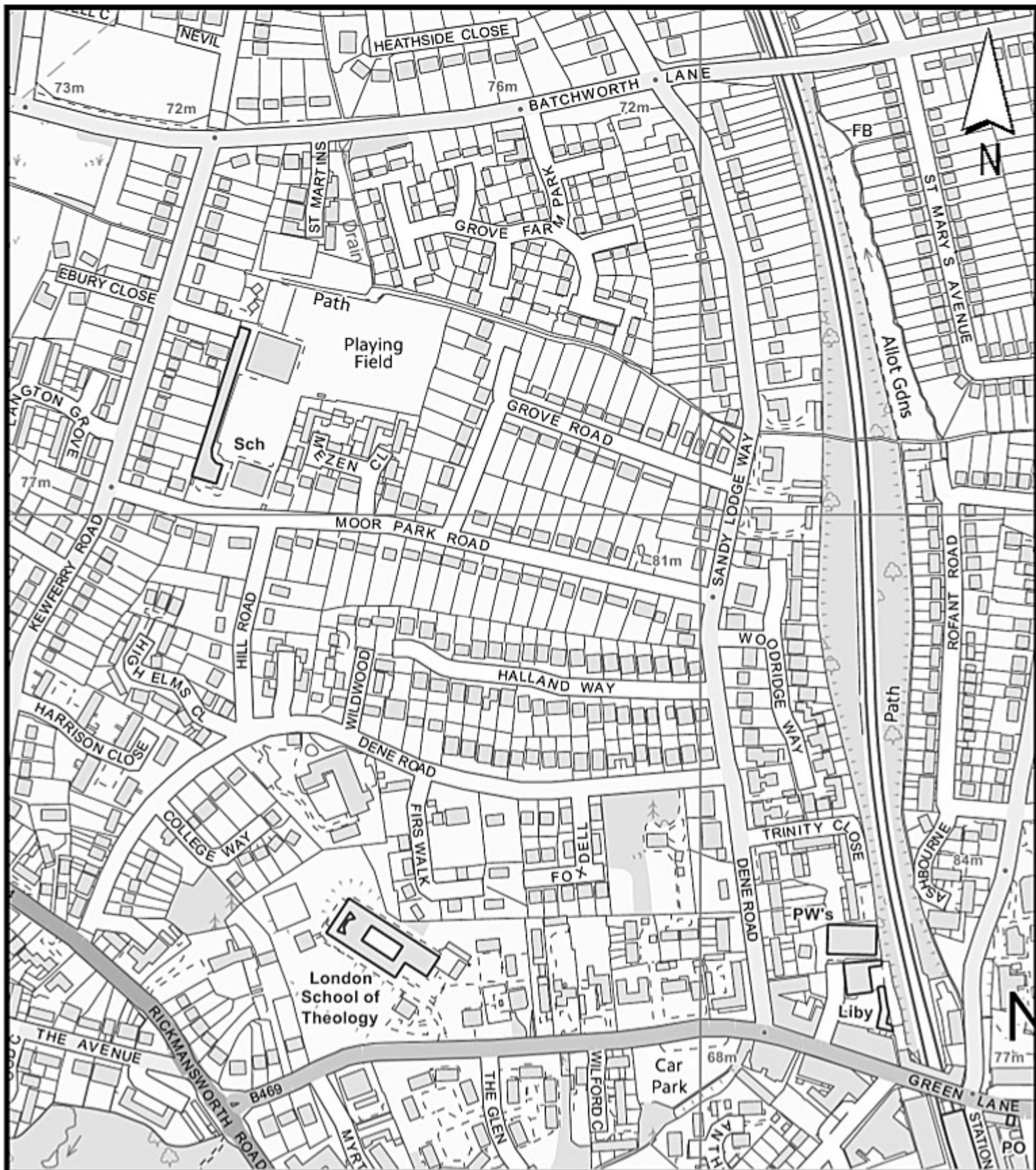
There are no corporate property and construction implications arising from the recommendations in this report.

### **Relevant Service Groups**

None at this stage.

## **6. BACKGROUND PAPERS**

None.



## Dene Road & Sandy Lodge Way, Northwood Area plan

## Appendix A

Date May 2017

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