

WEST END LANE AND FIELD CLOSE, HARLINGTON - PETITION REQUESTING TRAFFIC CALMING MEASURES

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

1. HEADLINE INFORMATION

Summary	To inform the Cabinet Member that the Council has received a petition from residents requesting traffic calming measures for West End Lane and Field Close, Harlington.
Contribution to our plans and strategies	The request can be considered as part of the Council's annual programme of road safety initiatives.
Financial Cost	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 and can be funded from existing budgets within the Transportation Service.
Relevant Policy Overview Committee	Residents' and Environmental Services.
Ward(s) affected	Heathrow Villages.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

Meeting with the Petitioners, the Cabinet Member for Planning, Transportation and Recycling:

1. Listens to their request for traffic calming measures in West End Lane and Field Close, Harlington; and
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 39 signatures has been received by the Council, signed by residents who either live on West End Lane, Harlington or in roads close by.

2. In an accompanying statement the petitioners helpfully provide the following information: *"We are all suffering from the daily blight of speeding cars and motorcycles and have been for a long time now; there are both regular offenders that do it day in and day out (even despite being cautioned by the Heathrow Safer Neighbourhoods policing team), and also customers from the Pheasant Public House who think its great fun to turn up and race their cars up and down the street, from the junction of New Road to Field Close at the end of West End Lane.*

Cars mount the footpaths and swerve in and out of legally parked cars in residents bays at very high speeds and its causing increasing concern and distress to us all. Almost every other house on this stretch of the road is a family residence with young children both crossing the road and using the footpaths.

Everyone we have approached has agreed that its time to do something, we've spoken to PC Eagles as you know, but his hands are tied unless he catches an actual offence being committed.

West End Lane IS a terrible accident waiting to happen, please do not allow this to happen"

3. West End Lane, Field Close and surrounding area is predominantly residential. On West End Lane there are some light industrial units and the popular Pheasant Inn Public House. The local roads benefit from a Parking Management Scheme and on West End Lane between the junction of High Street and The Crescent the parking places are mostly marked partly on the footway due to the narrowness of the carriageway. A location plan of the area is attached as Appendix A.

4. Analysis of the police recorded collision data for the last 36 months to 31st December 2017 (which is the latest data available), revealed there has been one incident on West End Lane close to the junction of New Road in May 2017. As the Cabinet Member is aware this only covers the police recorded incidents and does not include collisions where details are exchanged between the parties involved and the emergency services do not become involved.

5. It is clear from the petition that residents are concerned with road safety on their road, so it is therefore recommended that the Cabinet Member meets with petitioners and listens to their concerns directly. Subject to the outcome of these discussions, the Cabinet Member could agree to commission independent speed and traffic surveys in West End Lane at locations to be agreed with the petitioners, in order to help inform any possible solutions.

6. The Cabinet Member will note that the petitioner made reference to input from the Heathrow SNT and he may wish to encourage the officers within that team to discuss their findings with the Council and their colleagues within the Metropolitan Police Traffic Team.

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 the recommendations to this report and concurs with the financial implications as set out.

Legal

There are no special legal implications for the proposal to discuss with petitioners their request for traffic calming measures in West End Lane and Field Close, 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 or statutory consultation.

In considering the residents' 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 at that time.

Corporate Property and Construction

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

6. BACKGROUND PAPERS

Petition received .



West End Lane and Field Close, Harlington

Appendix A

Date October 2018

Scale 1:4,000