

LONG DRIVE, SOUTH RUISLIP - PETITION REQUESTING TRAFFIC CALMING MEASURES

Cabinet Member(s)	Councillor Keith Burrows
Cabinet Portfolio(s)	Cabinet Member for Planning, Transportation and Recycling
Officer Contact(s)	Sophie Wilmot, Residents Services
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 along Long Drive, South Ruislip.
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 £85 per location and can be funded from within existing revenue budgets for the Transportation service.
Relevant Policy Overview Committee	Residents, Education and Environmental Services
Ward(s) affected	South Ruislip

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

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

- 1. listens to their request for traffic calming measures in Long Drive, South Ruislip.**
- 2. notes the petitions which have been submitted and heard requesting traffic calming on The Fairway and Queens Walk in South Ruislip, details of which are set out in the body of this report.**
- 3. notes the traffic calming scheme which has already been provided on the section of Long Drive between Queens Walk and Field End Road.**
- 4. subject to the outcome of the above, considers asking officers to undertake further traffic surveys, at locations agreed by the petitioners, and to then report back to the**

PART I - MEMBERS, PUBLIC AND PRESS

Cabinet Member.

5. subject to the outcome of the surveys, instructs officers to include the study of potential traffic calming on Long Drive as part of the considerations to be undertaken on The Fairway and Queens Walk, to produce a package of measures to report back.

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 has been received with 95 valid signatures requesting speed restrictions on Long Drive between Queens Walk and Victoria Road. The petition outlines the following:

“The residents most affected by the menace of speeding vehicles are those between Fairview (The Fairway) and Queen's Walk. For that reason, I have concentrated on the approximately 100 homes located between these two junctions. I have now spoken to occupants of over half of those homes and have accumulated 95 signatures. Only three people objected: two said 'they don't believe in them' and one because he thought that they'd put one outside his own house and didn't want to back his car out onto it.

“Very few residents who were in favour want the tall, almost hemispherical section type of bumps: by far the most popular would be the gentler sloping variety as installed on the south section of Long Drive at the junction of Queens Walk: this is due to fears of discomfort for sensible drivers and motorcycle riders, plus their passengers, and a concern that the sudden 'sleeping policeman' type humps would be likely to damage their vehicles. Gentler humps would also allow easy movement for emergency vehicles.”

2. The petition goes on to suggest other ideas for traffic calming measures along Long Drive, these are summarised below:

- A '20 is plenty' campaign;
- Chicanes;
- Width Restrictions; and
- A speed camera which flashes and fines speeders.

3. Long Drive, South Ruislip is a mainly residential road running between The Fairway and Field End Road. It is intersected by Queens Walk and has a fewer small no through residential

roads accessed from it. A location plan is provided in Appendix A. There is already traffic calming, in the form of a series of speed tables, on Long Drive between Field End Road and Queens Walk. This section of Long Drive has no formal parking controls. Long Drive, between The Fairway and Queens Walk, is part of the South Ruislip Parking Management Scheme which operates between 9am and 5pm from Monday to Friday. The formal parking spaces are on both sides of the road, effectively acting as virtual traffic calming measures by providing informal chicanes.

4. The most recent traffic surveys undertaken along the section of Long Drive between The Fairway and Queens Walk were in September 2016, following concerns from local residents about the high speed of vehicles in the area. From these results, the 85th percentile speeds were calculated. The Cabinet Member will be aware that the so-called 85th percentile speed is the speed at or below which 85% of traffic is travelling, and is the standard robust statistical tool used by traffic and road safety professionals when analysing speed trends.

5. In September 2016, the average 85th percentile speed calculated was 31mph which is not statically deemed an issue within a 30mph limit but this speed is above the 20mph speed, desired within the petition. In 2016, a comparison was made to similar data collected in 2012 which showed that the speeds had actually reduced by a couple of miles per hour in 2016. Following the analysis of the 2016 data, no further action was taken at that time.

6. As the Cabinet Member will be aware, two further petitions requesting traffic calming on roads in this area have recently been heard. These are detailed, briefly, below:

The Fairway, South Ruislip

A petition with a total of 88 signatures from residents of The Fairway and nearby local roads had been received by the Council under the following heading: *"The undersigned residents request a proposal to be considered to install speed bumps as a traffic calming measure to alleviate speeding of cars and motor bikes that cause a potential hazard to other road users and pedestrians in The Fairway between Long Drive and Queen's Walk"*.

Queens Walk, South Ruislip

A petition had been received by the Council with 25 signatures from residents of Queens Walk, Ruislip requesting consideration of reducing the speed of vehicles along Queens Walk, South Ruislip. The petition to the Council was entitled as follows: *"A petition to Hillingdon Council to review and take action to reduce speeding up and down Queens Walk, South Ruislip, specifically from the junction with Torcross Road and along down to the Methodist's Church / Down Barns Road."*

7. At both of the Petition Hearings, Councillor Burrows instructed the undertaking of traffic surveys. The surveys for The Fairway have been completed and those on Queens Walk are due to be undertaken in January 2019. The results for The Fairway showed an average 85th percentile speed of 30-31mph. The results of the survey indicate that the majority of cars are travelling at, or very slightly above, the 30mph speed limit on The Fairway, although not statically a speeding issue, this surveyed speeds are much higher than the 20mph speeds desired by residents in the area.

8. As the Cabinet Member will be aware, the petitions for both The Fairway and Queens Walk have been followed up by officers and discussed at the regular officer meetings held with him. As a result of these discussions, it was agreed that, following the traffic surveys on Queens Walk, traffic calming measures will potentially be considered together for these roads due to them

PART I - MEMBERS, PUBLIC AND PRESS

intersecting each other and petitioners being keen for a traffic calming measure at the junction The Fairway and Queens Walk, itself.

9. As a result of the commentary above, the Cabinet Member may be minded to instruct officers to commission a set of 24/7 Automated Traffic Counts on the section of Long Drive between Queens Walk and The Fairway to collect speed and vehicle classification information. In addition, the Cabinet Member may consider instructing officers to review potential traffic calming measures on Long Drive alongside considerations to be undertaken for measures on The Fairway and Queens Walk and report back to him. The Petition Hearing will provide an excellent opportunity to hear the testimony of petitioners which may helpfully inform such investigations.

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 be identified from Revenue Budgets 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 above.

Legal

There are no special legal implications for the proposal to discuss with petitioners their request for traffic calming measures in Long Drive and at the junction The Fairway and Queens Walk, 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

NIL.