

MICAWBER AVENUE, HILLINGDON - 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
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 Micawber Avenue, Hillingdon.
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	Brunel

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

Meeting with the Petitioners, the Cabinet Member:

- 1. Listens to their request for traffic calming measures in Micawber Avenue, Hillingdon.**
- 2. 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 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 66 signatures has been submitted by residents living in Micawber Avenue signed under the following heading:

"The increasing incidents of vehicles racing in Micawber Avenue at all times of the day and night. The installation of Traffic Calming methods in Micawber Avenue. "

2. Micawber Avenue is a mainly residential road that is within close proximity to Hillingdon Hospital, bus services and other local amenities. Anecdotal evidence suggests that Micawber Avenue and St Margarets Avenue are sometimes used by drivers wanting to go between Pield Heath Road and Harlington Road thus avoiding any possible congestion at the roundabouts at the junction. A location plan is attached as Appendix A.

3. The width of Micawber Avenue is approximately 5.7 metres wide and is bounded on both sides by a footway measuring on average 3.1 metres on the east side of the road and 2.5 metres on the west side. Micawber Avenue already benefits from waiting restrictions that are enforced Monday to Friday, 8am - 6.30pm. The road and footway were both resurfaced in October 2016.

4. Police recorded collision data for the three year period to the end of December 2018 (the latest data available) indicates that there are no recorded incidents in Micawber Avenue but one on Pield Heath Road close to the junction. It should be noted that the collision data which the Council has access to is only police recorded incidents and does not include damage only crashes.

5. As a result of the concerns raised by residents, the Cabinet Member maybe minded to instruct officers to commission 24/7 Automatic Traffic Counts on Micawber Avenue at locations agreed with petitioners and ward councillors. The speed and vehicle traffic data captured and the testimony of petitioners will help inform the investigations into possible measures.

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 Micawber Avenue, 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.

Irrespective of councillor's support for the scheme, there must be no predetermination of a decision in advance of any wider non-statutory consultation if the process is to be fairness and just.

In considering the residents' responses, decision makers must ensure there is 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.

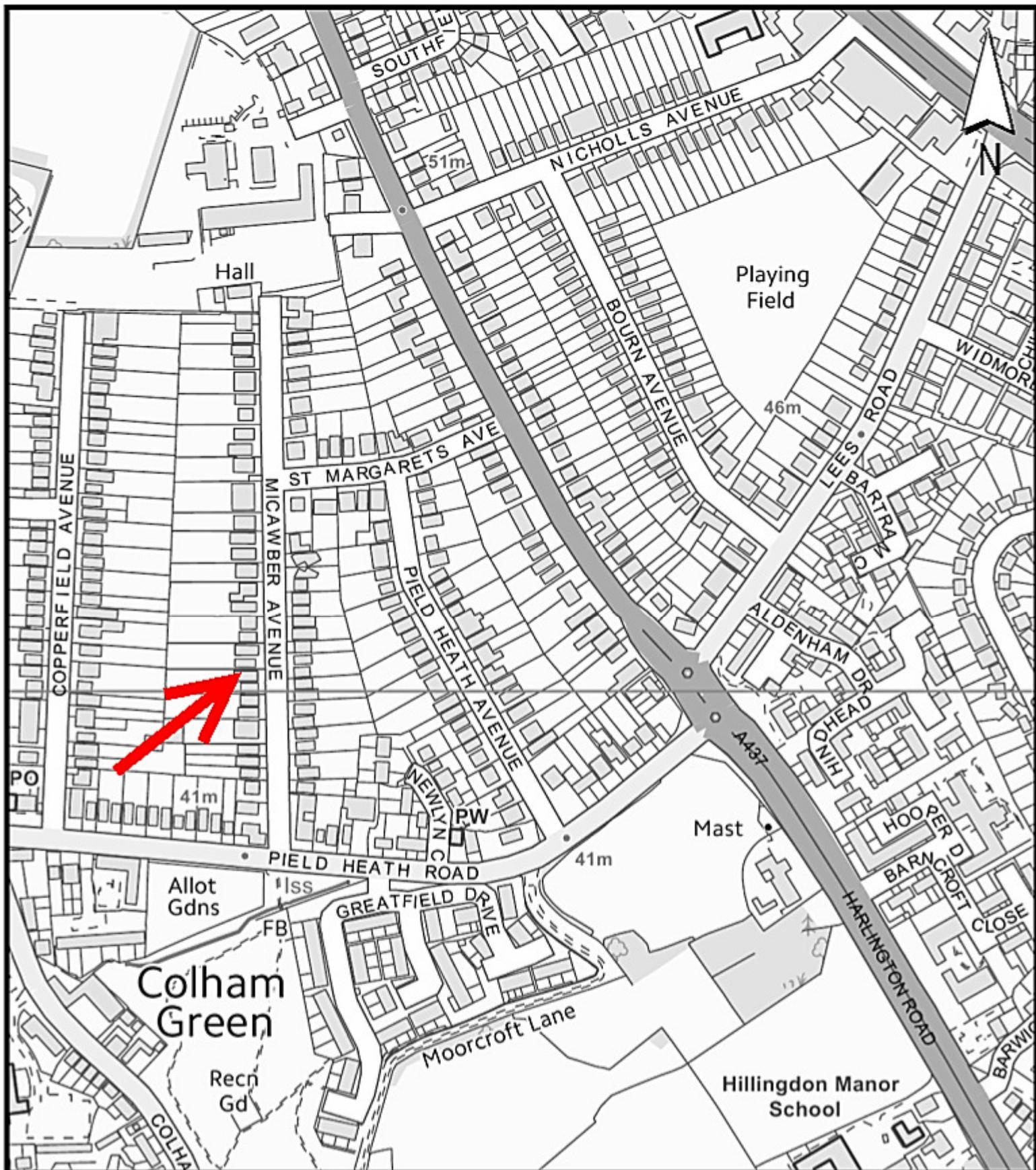
Should there be a decision that further measures are to be considered then the relevant statutory provisions will have to be identified and considered at that time.

Corporate Property and Construction

There are no Corporate Property and Construction implications arising from the recommendations in this report.

6. BACKGROUND PAPERS

Petition received



Micawber Avenue, Hillingdon
Location plan

Appendix A

Date August 2019

Scale 1:4,000