

# HARMONDSWORTH ROAD, WEST DRAYTON - PETITION REQUESTING THE INTRODUCTION OF SPEED REDUCING MEASURES.

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| <b>Cabinet Member(s)</b>    | Councillor Jonathan Bianco                          |
| <b>Cabinet Portfolio(s)</b> | Cabinet Member for Property, Highways and Transport |
| <b>Officer Contact(s)</b>   | Steven Austin – Place Directorate                   |
| <b>Papers with report</b>   | Appendix A – Location Plan                          |

## HEADLINES

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| <b>Summary</b>  | To inform the Cabinet Member that a petition has been received from residents of Harmondsworth Road, West Drayton requesting the introduction of speed reduction measures.  |
| <b>Putting our Residents First</b><br><br><b>Delivering on the Council Strategy 2022-2026</b> | This report supports our ambition for residents / the Council of:<br>Live in good quality, affordable homes in connected communities.<br><br>This report supports our commitments to residents of:<br>Safe and Strong Communities.  |
| <b>Financial Cost</b>   | Subject to the outcome of discussions with petitioners, the Cabinet Member may be minded to commission speed and traffic surveys at a cost of c.£85 per location, to be funded from revenue budgets for the Transportation Service. |
| <b>Relevant Select Committee</b>  | Property, Highways and Transport Select Committee.  |
| <b>Relevant Ward(s)</b>   | West Drayton Ward.  |

## RECOMMENDATIONS

That the Cabinet Member for Property, Highways and Transport:

- 1) **Meets with petitioners and listens to their request for the Council to introduce speed reducing measures on Harmondsworth Road, West Drayton.**
- 2) **Subject to the above, asks officers to commission independent 24/7 traffic and speed surveys on Harmondsworth Road at locations agreed with petitioners and Ward Councillors.**

**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.

### **Select Committee comments**

None at this stage.

## **SUPPORTING INFORMATION**

- 1) A petition with 52 valid signatures has been submitted to the Council signed under the following heading:

*“Please introduce speed reducing measures to Harmondsworth Road, West Drayton (both main and residential road)”*

- 2) Harmondsworth Road is a main north-south thoroughfare that connects West Drayton Station and town centre to the north, and Simpson and Harmondsworth Villages to the south. Harmondsworth Road forms part of the U3 and 350 bus routes. Adjacent to the main carriageway there is a service road on either side which the petition refers to. A plan of the area is attached as Appendix A.
- 3) In context with the understandable concerns about speeding in the area generally, the Cabinet Member may wish to point out that the principal body involved in enforcing speed limits remains, as it always has been, the Metropolitan Police. The Council has no comparable powers of enforcement and unless and until there are any changes in Primary (National Government) legislation, this situation is unlikely to change. Clearly the Council is not in a position to dictate resourcing priorities to the Police, who have many competing demands, but the simple fact remains that the Police have a fundamental role in governing traffic speeds through enforcement.
- 4) Officers have interrogated the Police Road Traffic Collision (RTC) Database, which contains reports by police officers who have attended the scene of an RTC, and from the latest available data, there have been four recorded incidents in the last three years on Harmondsworth Road.
- 5) As the petition is requesting measures to reduce traffic speeds and as result of testimonies made by petitioners, the Cabinet Member may be minded to instruct officers to commission independent 24/7 speed and traffic surveys at locations agreed with residents and ward councillors.
- 6) As the Cabinet Member will be aware, independent traffic surveys are a reliable and well-established means to help understand the real situation on the ground. The surveys generally use specialist equipment, including pneumatic tubes which are mounted temporarily on the road surface, fitted transversely across the whole width of the carriageway. These devices are installed for a period of at least a week to ten days and monitor traffic movements on a ‘24/7’ basis. The discreet equipment is sufficiently

sophisticated that, not only can it record speed at any given time, but also records the size and type of vehicle, from motorcycles to large multi-axled lorries.

- 7) It is therefore recommended that the Cabinet Member meets with petitioners and discusses their concerns and possible options to address their concerns over traffic speeds on Harmondsworth Road, West Drayton.

### **Financial Implications**

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 which can be contained within existing revenue budgets for the Transportation Service. If works are subsequently required, funding would need to be identified from a suitable source.

## **RESIDENT BENEFIT & CONSULTATION**

### **The benefit or impact upon Hillingdon residents, service users and communities**

To allow the Cabinet Member to consider the petitioners' request.

### **Consultation carried out or required**

None at this stage.

## **CORPORATE CONSIDERATIONS**

### **Corporate Finance**

Corporate Finance has reviewed the recommendations to this report and concurs with the financial implications as set out above.

### **Legal**

Legal Services confirm that there are no specific legal implications arising from this report.

## **BACKGROUND PAPERS**

Petition received.

## **TITLE OF ANY APPENDICES**

Appendix A - Location plan