

# NOBEL DRIVE, HARLINGTON - PETITION REQUESTING THE INTRODUCTION OF “SPEED BUMPS”

<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

<b>Summary</b>	To inform the Cabinet Member that a petition has been received from residents of Nobel Drive, Harlington near Hayes requesting the introduction of “speed bumps”.
<b>Putting our Residents First</b>  <b>Delivering on the Council Strategy 2022-2026</b>	This report supports our ambition for residents / the Council of: Live in good quality, affordable homes in connected communities.  This report supports our commitments to residents of: 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>	Heathrow Villages 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 bumps” on Nobel Drive, Harlington.
- 2) Subject to the above, asks officers to commission independent 24/7 traffic and speed surveys on Nobel Drive 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 21 valid signatures has been submitted to the Council signed under the following heading:

*“We the undersigned petition Hillingdon Council to install speed bumps in Nobel Drive, Harlington)”*

In an accompanying statement, petitioners have helpfully provided the following additional information:

*“In Nobel Drive we are seeing cars speeding everyday between the two mini roundabouts which is dangerous for children playing on the street and for cars getting out of Circa Apartment car park, Ibis Hotel car park, and the Airport Bowl car park, especially on evenings and weekends some people come to enjoy car drifting and speeding with loud car exhausts. Therefore, we need speed bumps in the street, I hope the Council will consider this matter and take action.”*

- 2) Nobel Drive is a mixture of residential modern developments, hotels, Airport Bowling, and serviced offices all within close proximity to London Heathrow Airport. The width of the carriageway of Nobel Drive measures approximately 7.5 metres, bounded on both sides by footways measuring approximately 1.6 metres. The road benefits from some on-street permit holder or pay and display parking. A plan of the area is attached as Appendix A.
- 3) In context with the understandable concerns about speeding and dangerous driving in the area generally, the Cabinet Member may wish to point out that the principal body involved in enforcing speed limits and irresponsible driving remains, as it always has been, is 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 has been one recorded incident in the last five years on Nobel Drive and its severity was classified as ‘slight’.
- 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) Although the Council does not recommend the installation of 'speed humps', there may be other options the Council can explore to reduce traffic speeds and dangerous driving. However, the Cabinet Member may wish to point out to petitioners that recent experience has shown that some residents become unhappy about the noise and disturbance they associate with new traffic calming. The fact remains that possible vehicle-induced noise from raised speed tables and cushions is something that residents may wish to consider before any measures could be introduced. Should raised traffic calming featured form part of any future recommendation, formal public consultation by notice and letter would be necessary.
- 8) 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 and dangerous driving on Nobel Drive, Hayes.

### **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