

# SIPSON ROAD, WEST DRAYTON - PETITION ASKING FOR TRAFFIC SPEED MITIGATION MEASURES.

<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>	Steve 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 asking that the Council undertake speed surveys with a view to implement speed mitigation measures for Sipson Road, West Drayton.
<b>Putting our Residents First</b>	This report supports the Council objective of Our People. The request can be considered as part of the Council's annual programme of road safety initiatives.
<b>Financial Cost</b>	If, subject to the outcome of discussions with petitioners, speed and traffic surveys are commissioned, the £90 cost per location will be funded via Transportation Service revenue budgets.
<b>Relevant Select Committee</b>	Property, Highways and Transport Select Committee.
<b>Relevant Ward(s)</b>	Heathrow Villages and West Drayton.

## RECOMMENDATIONS

That the Cabinet Member for Planning and Transportation:

1. Meets with petitioners and listens to their request for speed reduction measures.
2. Subject to the outcome of the above, asks officers to commission independent 24/7 traffic and speed surveys on Sipson Road at locations agreed with petitioners and ward councillors, and to report back to the Cabinet Member on the outcome.
3. Instructs officers to investigate possible improvements to the junction where the service road meets the main carriageway adjacent to No.64 Sipson Road, West Drayton.

## 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 60 valid signatures signed mainly by residents of Sipson Road has been submitted to the Council under the following heading:

*"Very serious accident on 18<sup>th</sup> May 2023.*

*Slow down Speed."*

2. In an accompanying statement later submitted by the lead petitioner, they helpfully provided the following additional information:

*"Want traffic calming measures installed from where Cheery Lane becomes Sipson Road up to where Sipson Road becomes Station Road."*

3. The section of Sipson Road referred to by the lead petitioner is a mainly residential road. For the most part, running parallel with the main carriageway, there are service roads that provide access to the residential properties. According to the Transport for London website, the road serves the 222 and 698 bus routes. A location plan is attached as Appendix A.
4. During a recent site visit, cars were observed to be parked in both of the service roads and at the northern end of Sipson Road on the main carriageway opposite to the local shopping parade where the houses here do not appear to benefit from off-street parking provision at the front of the properties. The rest of the main carriageway was relatively clear of parked vehicles.
5. It is clear from this well supported petition that residents are concerned with vehicle speeds. In light of the testimony made by residents, not only through the petition, but also during the meeting, the Cabinet Member may be minded to instruct officers to commission independent 24/7 speed and traffic surveys in both roads at locations agreed with petitioners and ward councillors.
6. As the Cabinet Member will be aware, independent traffic surveys are a reliable and well-established means to 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 equipment is sufficiently sophisticated that not only can it record traffic speeds at any given time, but it also records the size and type of vehicle, from motorcycles to large multi-axled lorries.

7. The Cabinet Member will be aware that the Council has a range of possible traffic calming measures it is prepared to consider when developing traffic speed mitigation measures but where appropriate these will need to be supported by the local community. Should measures become a future recommendation, arising from any survey work that the Cabinet Member may instruct officers to undertake, they would be subject to an appropriate public consultation.
8. In the meantime, as the Cabinet Member will be aware, it is vitally important for residents concerned about speeding in their road to approach the Metropolitan Police, which remains the only body able to actually enforce against excess speeds. This is because the offences concerned are enforceable, with possible penalty charges and points on a driver's licence; whilst the Council can explore the potential for physical measures on street as the petitioners have suggested, the Police are potential allies in the battle against inconsiderate driving.
9. In the meantime, officers have spoken to colleagues in the Police with regards to the incident, mentioned in the petition, that occurred on 18<sup>th</sup> May 2023 at 12:43. As this is an on-going Police investigation, at the time of writing, there is little information that can be made publicly available but what can be shared is that the collision occurred between a van and motorcycle.
10. Colleagues in the Police have helpfully provided the recorded collision data for Sipson Road for the last three years up to 31<sup>st</sup> January 2023, the latest data available at the time, and there have been a further five collisions. Of these, four were recorded as slight and one resulted in serious injury, although none specifically mention vehicle speeds as a contributory factor. One of the previous collisions occurred close to the incident mentioned by the petitioners so as a result, the Cabinet Member may want to ask officers to investigate this specific junction further in addition to any other possible measures for the wider area.
11. It should be noted, however, that the service road mentioned above can only be accessed from either Sipson Road or Harmondsworth Road and not only provides access to residential properties but also to local shops and businesses. Any possible measures to improve safety at these locations would be subject to local consultation.
12. In conclusion, therefore, the Cabinet Member may wish to meet the petitioners and hear their testimony, supported as appropriate by their local ward councillors, and to then consider the technical advice and recommendations set out in this report.

## **Financial Implications**

If the Cabinet Member agrees to undertake independent speed and traffic surveys, the cost is usually £90 per location, which would be managed within existing Transportation service revenue budgets. Should works be required subsequently, 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 report and concurs with the financial implications set out above.

**Legal**

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

**Infrastructure / Asset Management**

None at this stage.

**Comments from other relevant service areas**

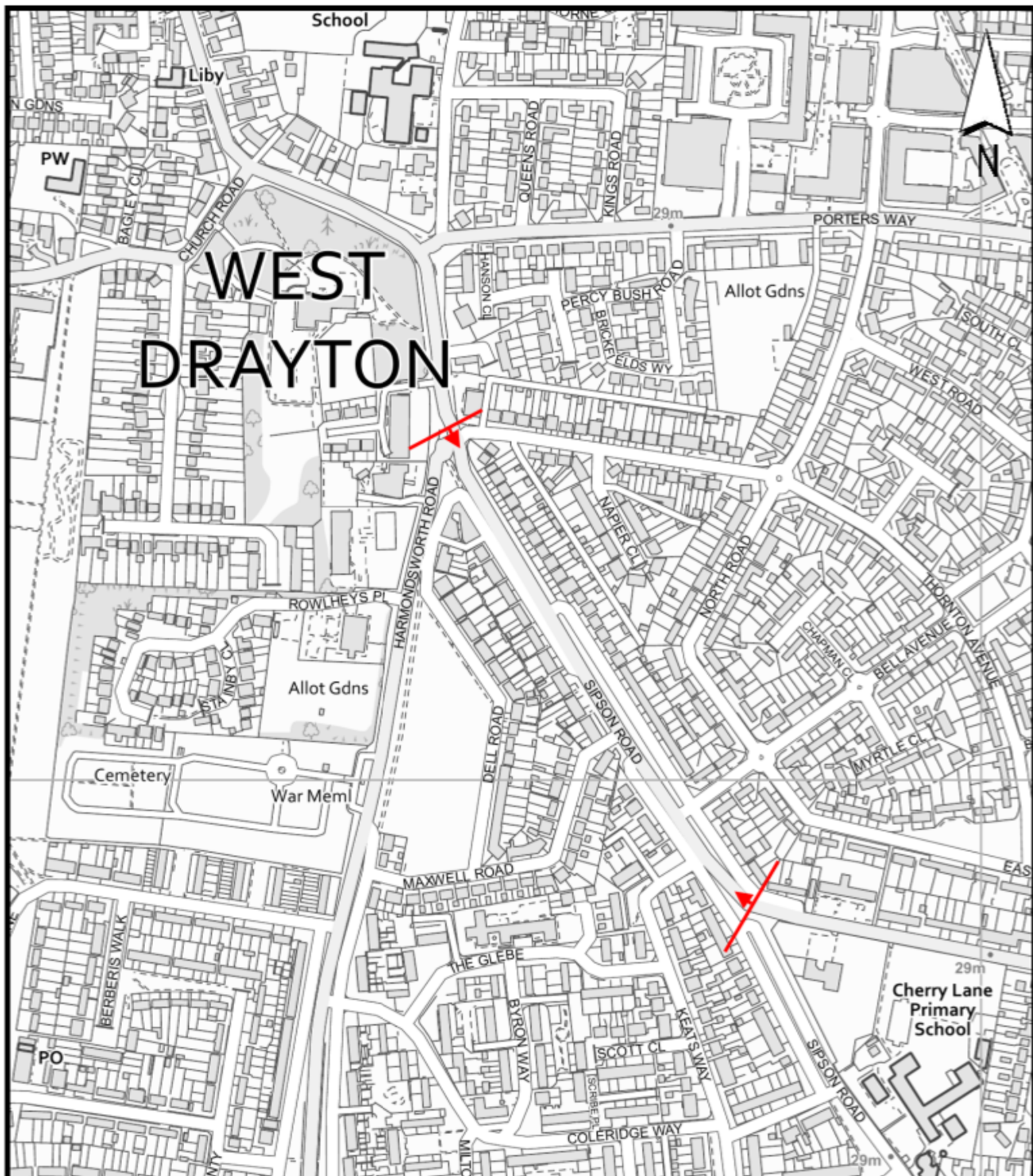
None at this stage.

## **BACKGROUND PAPERS**

Petition received.

## **TITLE OF ANY APPENDICES**

Appendix A – Location plan



# Sipson Road, West Drayton Location plan

## Appendix A

January 2024  
Scale 1:5,000



Section of Sipson Road between the junctions  
of Cherry Lane and Station Road