

GROSVENOR AVENUE, HAYES - PETITION REQUESTING MEASURES TO SLOW DOWN TRAFFIC

Cabinet Member	Councillor Jonathan Bianco
Cabinet Portfolio	Cabinet Member for Property, Highways and Transport
Officer Contact	Steve Austin – Place Directorate
Papers with report	Appendix A – Location Plan

HEADLINES

Summary	To inform the Cabinet Member that a petition has been received from residents who live in Grosvenor Avenue, Hayes requesting “ <i>slowing down of traffic travelling down Grosvenor Avenue</i> ”.
Putting our Residents First	This report supports the Council objective of Our People. The request can be considered as part of the Council’s annual programme for on-street parking controls.
Financial Cost	Should speed and traffic surveys be commissioned, costs will be c.£85 per location, managed within existing Transportation Service revenue budgets.
Relevant Select Committee	Corporate Resources and Infrastructure Select Committee.
Relevant Ward	Charville.

RECOMMENDATIONS

That the Cabinet Member for Property, Highways and Transport:

- 1) Meets with petitioners and listens to their request for measures to slow down traffic in Grosvenor Avenue, Hayes; and**
- 2) Also subject to the outcome of the above, decides if officers should commission independent 24/7 speed and traffic surveys on Grosvenor Avenue 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 regarding 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 65 signatures has been submitted to the Council by residents who live on or close to Grosvenor Avenue, Hayes, signed under the following heading:

“Slowing down of traffic travelling along Grosvenor Avenue”.

The lead petitioner has helpfully provided the following desired outcome:

“Safe environment for residents and pedestrians”.

- 2) Grosvenor Avenue is a mainly residential road and is in effect in two sections divided by Weymouth Road. The southern part of the road has an average carriageway width between opposite kerbs of around 7.6 metres bounded on both sides by a footway of approximately 2.4 metres. The northern section of Grosvenor Avenue has a slightly narrower carriageway of approximately 6.5 metres also bounded on both sides by a footway. A plan of the area is attached as Appendix A.
- 3) The majority of properties on Grosvenor Avenue appear to benefit from off-street parking although the demand for kerbside parking was noted to be high during officers’ site visits. In November 1999, the then ‘Parking Sub-Committee’ allowed footway parking to take place, which is more noticeable in the northern section of the road.
- 4) The petition is requesting measures to slow down traffic along Grosvenor Avenue to create a *“safe environment for residents and pedestrians”* although they have not indicated what measures they would support. It is therefore recommended that the Cabinet Member may wish to hear the testimony of petitioners and their local Ward Councillors to understand in greater detail their road safety concerns.
- 5) Various forms of traffic calming measures can be considered including so-called ‘speed tables’, however, petitioners may wish to consider that such features can sometimes have the unintended effect of increasing noise from passing traffic, notably skip lorries and similar commercial vehicles which may carry loose loads. Horizontal traffic calming measures such as chicanes and similar measures are seldom suitable for a residential road; they can cause loss of parking, visual intrusion and are less effective at actually reducing the speeds of cars and vans in particular. The Cabinet Member may wish to advise the petitioners to consider these factors in their own deliberations and it should be noted that any form of physical measures can be popular or unpopular in equal measures.

- 6) Subject to the above, the Cabinet Member may be minded to commission independent 24/7 speed and traffic surveys on Grosvenor Avenue at locations agreed with petitioners and Ward Councillors.
- 7) 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. These 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 or ten days and monitor traffic movements on a '24/7' basis. The discreet 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 vehicles, from motorcycles to large multi-axel lorries.
- 8) It is also strongly recommended that, if they have not yet done so, residents raise their concerns directly with the Metropolitan Police because they alone have the necessary powers to tackle speeding in general if this is the case in Grosvenor Avenue. Physical traffic calming can be an effective tool, but it can also have unwelcome side effects such as an increase in noise caused by traffic passing through, such as skip lorries and larger vehicles.

Financial Implications

Subject to the outcome of discussions with petitioners, the Cabinet Member may request the commissioning of speed and traffic surveys. The current cost of these is c.£85 per location, with spend managed within existing Transportation revenue budgets.

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. Whenever necessary legal advice is given in relation to specific issues as they arise to ensure that the Council always meets its legal obligations.

Infrastructure / Asset Management

None at this stage.

Comments from other relevant service areas

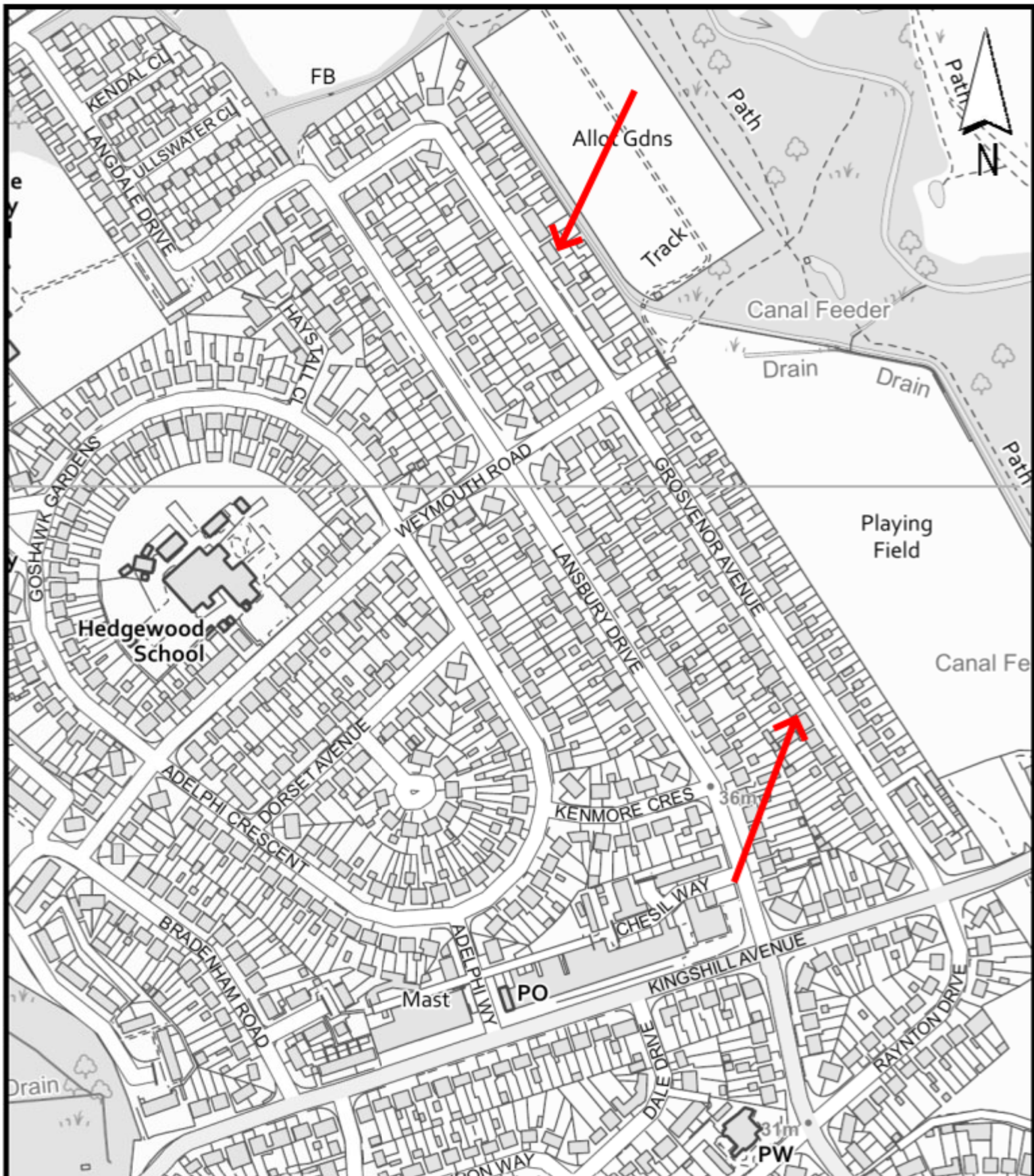
None at this stage.

BACKGROUND PAPERS

Petition received.

TITLE OF ANY APPENDICES

Appendix A – Location plan



Grosvenor Avenue, Hayes
Location plan

Appendix A

June 2024
Scale 1:4,000