

CROWLAND AVENUE, HAYES – PETITION REQUESTING THE INSTALLATION OF ‘SPEED HUMPS’ TO PREVENT THE SPEEDING ISSUE.

Cabinet Member & Portfolio	Councillor Steve Tuckwell Cabinet Member for Planning, Housing & Growth
Responsible Officer	Dan Kennedy – Corporate Director of Residents Services
Report Author & Directorate	Steven Austin – Residents Services Directorate
Papers with report	Appendix A – Location Plan

HEADLINES

Summary	To inform the Cabinet Member that a petition has been received requesting the installation of ‘speed humps’ to prevent the speeding issue.
Putting our Residents First Delivering on the Council Strategy 2022-2026	<p>This report supports our ambition for residents/ the Council of: Live in good quality, affordable homes in connected communities</p> <p>This report supports our commitments to residents of: Safe and Strong Communities</p> <p>The request can be considered as part of the Council’s annual programme for road safety measures.</p>
Financial Cost	Should speed and traffic surveys be commissioned, costs will be c.£85 per location, managed within existing Transportation Services revenue budgets.
Select Committee	Corporate Resources & Infrastructure Select Committee
Ward	Pinkwell

RECOMMENDATIONS

That the Cabinet Member for Planning, Housing & Growth:

- 1) Meets with petitioners and listens to their request for traffic calming measures on Crowland Avenue;
- 2) Subject to the outcome of the above, decides if officers should commission independent 24/7 speed and traffic surveys on Crowland Avenue, Hayes, 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, signed mainly by residents of Crowland Avenue, Hayes have been submitted to the Council under the following heading:

“Residents request the installation of speed humps that will be effective to prevent the speeding issue that occurs frequently on Crowland Avenue in Hayes.”

2. In addition, the following helpful information was submitted by the lead petitioner:

“As was explained in our last correspondence regarding Service request 0870-0286-1645-6585 (which was a request for speed humps on Crowland Avenue to prevent speeding issue that continues and worsens on Crowland Avenue) please see attached a petition signed by over 50 residents of the road and adjoining roads.

I have stopped at 50 as we have more than 20 which is the minimum for such requests but we have many residents concerned and worries about this speeding issues who want to see speed humps and or effective measures to be installed on Crowland Avenue.

The petition is for speed humps but at this point it will be for any related effective speed enforcement action on this road with speed humps being the main prioritised request. Even when doing this petition we witnessed several cars driving with excessive speed on this road with no regulation or worry for safety of residents, elderly and children visiting schools.”

3. Officers have interrogated the most recently available official police recorded collision data for the last five years and there have been six recorded incidents on Crowland Avenue all classified as slight in terms of their seriousness. However, this data may not include any recent collisions or crashes that the emergency services do not attend and so do not form part of the Police database records.
4. The petition mentions so-called ‘speed bumps’; if by these, as seems likely, petitioners are thinking of the older type of round-topped narrow transverse road humps – often known colloquially in the past as ‘sleeping policemen’ - then the Cabinet Member will be aware that the vast majority of councils, Hillingdon included, have not introduced these particular types of measure for many years.
5. Having said that, various forms of traffic calming features could be considered, where appropriate, if there is a case for them. 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.

6. Horizontal traffic calming measures, such as chicanes and similar measures, are seldom suitable for the average residential road; they can cause loss of parking, are visually intrusive 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 prove to be 'popular' and 'unpopular' in equal measures.
7. However, it is appreciated that traffic patterns may evolve over time, and so subject to the above the Cabinet Member may be minded to commission further independent 24/7 speed and traffic surveys on Crowland Avenue at locations agreed with petitioners and Ward Councillors.
8. 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 such that not only can it record traffic speeds at any given time, but also records the size and type of vehicles, from motorcycles to large multi-axel lorries.
9. It is also recommended that if they have not already done so, residents raise their concerns directly with the Metropolitan Police because they alone have the necessary powers to tackle speeding and inconsiderate driving in general (if this is the case in Crowland Avenue) through enforcement. Physical traffic calming and traffic management can be effective tools, but, it can also have unwelcome side effects including an increase in noise caused by traffic passing through.

Financial Implications

Subject to the outcome of discussion 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 through the 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 & engagement carried out (or required)

None at this stage.

CORPORATE CONSIDERATIONS

Corporate Finance

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

Legal

There are no legal impediments to the recommendations set out within this report.

Comments from other relevant service areas

None at this stage.

BACKGROUND PAPERS

Petition

TITLE OF ANY APPENDICES

Appendix A – Location plan