

AVONDALE DRIVE – PETITION REQUESTING TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT MEASURES

Cabinet Member	Councillor Keith Burrows
Cabinet Portfolio	Planning and Transportation
Report Author	Andy Codd, Planning and Community Services
Papers with report	Appendix A

HEADLINE INFORMATION

Purpose of report	This report advises the Cabinet Member that a petition has been received from the parents of pupils attending Minet Infant and Junior School requesting traffic calming measures and waiting restrictions in the streets around the school. The petition has been organised by Ms Judith Lynch, Headteacher of Minet Nursery and Infant School.
Contribution to our plans and strategies	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Transport Strategy• Community Plan• Local Implementation Plan• Sustainable Modes of Transport Strategy (SMoTS)
Financial Cost	The cost of a traffic congestion mitigation scheme could be funded as part of Transport for London's (TfL) School Travel Plan Programme providing funding can be secured from TfL.
Relevant Policy Overview Committee	Residents' and Environmental Services
Ward(s) affected	Townfield

RECOMMENDATION

That the Cabinet Member:

1. Notes the petition and meets with petitioners to discuss in greater detail the concerns they have; and
2. Asks officers to conduct a feasibility study into suitable traffic calming measures and waiting restrictions in Avondale Drive.

INFORMATION

Reasons for recommendation

The petitioners are concerned with the hazardous journeys experienced by staff and pupils through illegal parking, excessive speeds and inconsiderate driving of vehicles using Avondale Drive during school peak times. The recommendations will enable clarification of their concerns and investigation of possible solutions to mitigate these concerns.

Alternative options considered

No other options have been considered, as the recommendations ask officers to gather further information before considering feasible solutions.

Supporting Information

1. A petition with 286 signatures has been received from parents and staff of the Minet Infant and Junior Schools requesting measures to reduce traffic congestion in Avondale Drive during peak times.
2. The petition stated: *“Journeys to and from these schools are hazardous due to traffic conditions in Avondale Drive which include illegal parking, excessive speed and inconsiderate drivers. There is no safe crossing between the school and the Village Garden Estate where many of our families live”*.
3. Avondale Drive, Hayes is a predominantly residential road that heads west from Coldharbour Lane. Due to its close proximity to the Hayes Bypass, the street does not form a link to other major roads; however it links other residential streets to Coldharbour Lane. Minet Infant and Junior Schools are located on the northern side of Avondale Drive approximately 200m from the junction with Coldharbour Lane. Minet Clinic is located adjacent to the school site. Appendix A shows a location plan of the above area.
4. The issues of traffic congestion and road safety at peak times around schools are fairly common for all schools throughout London. In order to address these issues Transport for London developed the School Travel Plan Programme.
5. A School Travel Plan is prepared by an individual school and is a document that looks at the current travel patterns of pupils and details how it proposes to tackle the problems of congestion at the school gates and safety on the route to school. All schools in the Borough are required to complete a School Travel Plan (STP).
6. Minet Infant and Junior Schools have submitted their STP to the Council. The STP requested a raised crossing point in Avondale Drive outside the school gates and the introduction of a 20 mph zone outside the school. The feasibility of these requests has not yet been carried out.
7. The petition from residents of Avondale Drive requests similar action to that in the STP to alleviate the congestion experienced during the school peak hours.
8. Officers recommend the Cabinet Member meets with petitioners to discuss in greater detail the concerns they have. The information gathered at the petition hearing of the

residents of Avondale Drive coupled with the schools STPs could be used to develop a scheme that will benefit all road users.

Financial Implications

The funding for the feasibility study could be met from the Transport for London's School Travel Plan Programme budget. Once developed, a scheme to introduce waiting restrictions could be implemented this financial year as part of the same budget.

A suitable source of funding will need to be identified for any physical traffic calming measures as Transport for London did not award funding to implement such schemes to any borough in London this financial year. However, it may be possible to fund such a scheme as part of the 2010/11 LIP funding or the Councils Road Safety Programme.

EFFECT ON RESIDENTS, SERVICE USERS & COMMUNITIES

What will be the effect of the recommendation?

The recommendations will identify the extent of the petitioners concerns and look at possible solutions to mitigate these concerns.

Consultation Carried Out or Required

Ward Councillors were asked to comment on this petition as part of the report writing process.

CORPORATE IMPLICATIONS

Legal

There are no special legal implications for this informal consultation.

Should there be a decision that further measures are to be considered, then the relevant statutory provisions will have to be identified and considered.

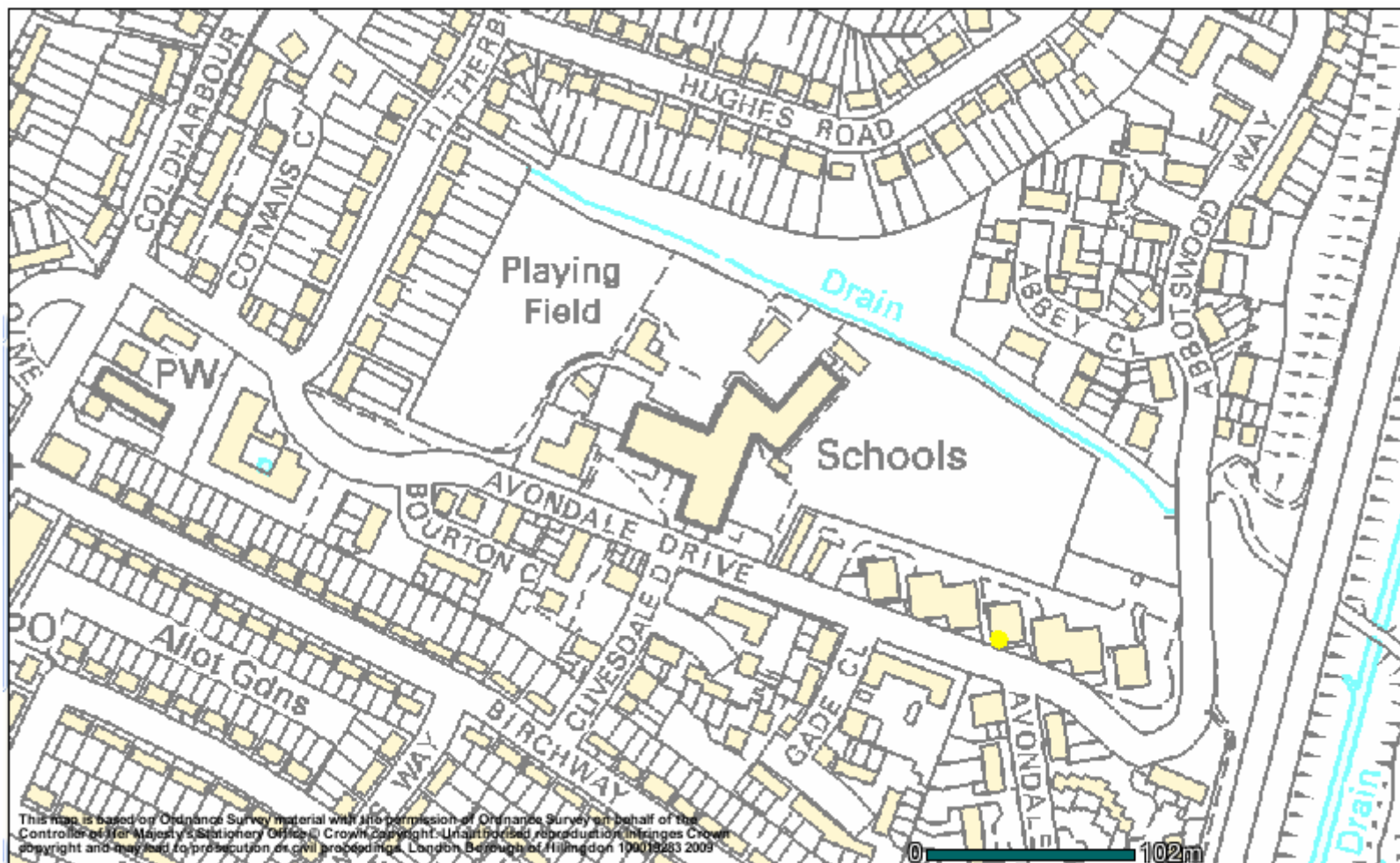
Corporate Property

The Head of Corporate Property has reviewed this report and notes that there are no property implications.

BACKGROUND PAPERS

Petition received 11th December 2008.

APPENDIX A – LOCATION PLAN



PART 1 – MEMBERS, PUBLIC AND PRESS