

Cabinet Member for City Services

24 September 2018

Name of Cabinet Member:

Cabinet Member for City Services – Councillor J Innes

Director Approving Submission of the report:

Deputy Chief Executive (Place)

Ward(s) affected:

Cheylesmore

Title: Petition – Whitley Traffic Matters – Address worsening road safety problems especially around the 3 schools

Is this a key decision?

No

Executive Summary:

A petition of 555 signatures has been received requesting road safety measures in Whitley, especially around the three schools, including speed reduction measures, additional school warning signs and double yellow lines.

In accordance with the City Council's procedure for dealing with petitions, those relating to road safety are heard by the Cabinet Member for City Services. The Cabinet Member had considered this petition prior to this meeting and in response to the request made, requested that the petition was dealt with by letter (determination letter), rather than a formal report being submitted to a meeting, to be able to deal with the matter more efficiently.

The determination letter advised of the action proposed and approved and also those actions which had already taken place since the receipt of the petition in response to the issues raised. On receipt of the determination letter the petitioner advised they did not wish the petition to be progressed by letter and wanted the issue to be considered at a Cabinet Member for City Services meeting.

The cost of introducing road safety measures, including waiting restrictions, is funded from the Highways Maintenance and Investment Capital Programme budget through the Local Transport Plan.

Recommendations:

Cabinet Member for City Services is recommended to:

1. Note the petitioners concerns
2. Note that a number of measures have already been introduced since receipt of the petition (as detailed in paragraph 1.6 of the report)
3. Endorse that the actions confirmed by determination letter to the petition spokesperson are undertaken.

List of Appendices included:

Appendix A – Location Plan
Appendix B – Determination letter

Background Papers

None

Other useful documents:

None

Has it been or will it be considered by Scrutiny?

No

Has it been or will it be considered by any other Council Committee, Advisory Panel or other body?

No

Will this report go to Council?

No

Report title: Petition - Whitley Traffic Matters – Address worsening road safety problems especially around the 3 schools

1. Context (or background)

1.1 A petition of 555 signatures has been received requesting road safety measures in Whitley, especially around the three schools including speed reduction measures, additional school warning signs and double yellow lines. The petition is supported by Councillor Bailey and Councillor Brown.

1.2 The petition advises:

'We the undersigned, call upon Coventry City Council to address our worsening safety problems, especially with a focus around the schools. To reduce speed, to make safe for pedestrians and cyclists and ensure access for emergency vehicles.

We ask that they introduce measures to include a 20mph speed limit, additional school warning signs(possibly 'vehicle activated'), and pinch points in the vicinity of the 3 schools (inc. the Abbey Rd/Avenue 'rat run').

To introduce junction protection (double yellow lines) for example, Ashington Grove and Rutherglen Avenue, Ashington Grove and Abbey Road (top), The Avenue and Burnham Road etc. Also better lighting along the Ash-path (Abbey Road) between the schools.

We strongly urge the Council to work with local residents" representatives in consultation and to take into account our Traffic Management & Impact report which highlights issues and requests.'

1.3 Whitley is a residential area, which includes 3 schools, which is accessed from London Road. A location plan is shown in Appendix A.

1.4 In accordance with the City Council's procedure for dealing with petitions, those relating to road safety and parking issues are heard by the Cabinet Member for City Services. The Cabinet Member considered the petition prior to this meeting and in response requested that the issue was dealt with by determination letter rather than a formal report being submitted to a meeting, to be able to deal with the matter more efficiently.

1.5 The determination letter (copy in Appendix B) advised of the importance of prioritising road safety measures in the city. Coventry is continuing to work towards becoming a safer speed City and to ensure the funding we have is targeted carefully, we use personal injury collisions reported to the Police. A review of the Whitley area showed that one injury collision had been recorded in the last three years. Safety schemes are prioritised in locations where there have been six or more recorded injury collisions in the previous three years.

1.6 The determination letter also advised of the measures that had already been undertaken since receipt of the petition, including the installation of double yellow lines for junction protection at the requested locations, the installation of new school warning signs and 'SLOW' carriageway markings, and the installation of a mobile vehicle activated sign on Abbey Road. Contact details were also provided should residents wish to get involved in the Community Speed Watch initiative.

2. Options considered and recommended proposal

2.1 The recommended proposals in regard to the issues raised have already been approved and are detailed in the determination letter (Appendix B) and item 1.5 & 1.6

3. Results of consultation undertaken

3.1 No consultation has been undertaken.

4. Timetable for implementing this decision

4.1 The actions described have already been undertaken.

5. Comments from Director of Finance and Corporate Services

5.1 Financial implications

None.

5.2 Legal implications

There are no legal implications of the recommended proposal

6. Other implications

6.1 How will this contribute to achievement of the Council's key objectives / corporate priorities (corporate plan/scorecard) / organisational blueprint / Local Area Agreement (or Coventry Sustainable Community Strategy)?

N/A.

6.2 How is risk being managed?

None

6.3 What is the impact on the organisation?

None

6.4 Equalities / EIA

No specific equalities impact assessment has been carried out.

6.5 Implications for (or impact on) the environment

None

6.6 Implications for partner organisations?

None

Report author(s)**Name and job title:**

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Directorate:

Place

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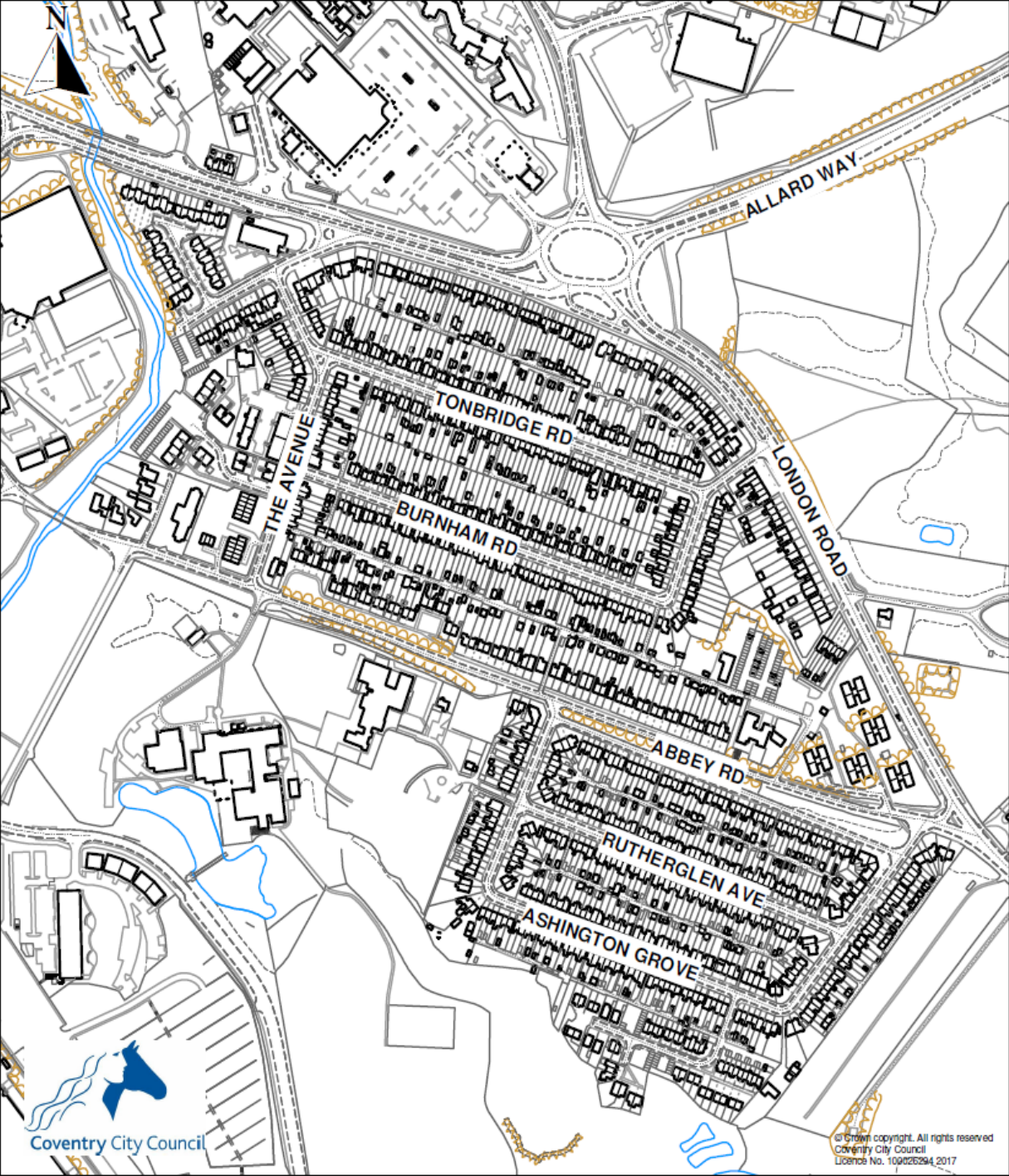
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Enquiries should be directed to the above person.

Contributor/approver name	Title	Directorate or organisation	Date doc sent out	Date response received or approved
Contributors:				
Colin Knight	Director (Transportation and Highways)	Place	18.07.2018	18.07.2018
Karen Seager	Head of Traffic and Network Management	Place	18.07.2018	19.07.2018
Rachel Goodyer	Traffic and Road Safety Manager	Place	18.07.2018	19.07.2018
Liz Knight	Governance Services Officer	Place	18.07.2018	18.07.2018
Names of approvers: (Officers and Members)				
Graham Clark	Lead Accountant	Place	18.07.2018	18.07.2018
Rob Parkes	Team Leader	Place	18.07.2018	18.07.2018
Councillor J Innes	Cabinet Member for City Services	-	03.07.2018	03.07.2018

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Appendix A – Location plan



Appendix B – Copy of text of determination letter

Re: petition submitted on 9 March 2017

Subject matter: Whitley Traffic Matters – Address worsening road safety problems especially around the 3 schools

I am writing with regards to the above petition and your request for measures to improve safety on Abbey Road and neighbouring streets. Please accept my apologies for the delay in responding formally to your petition.

The matter was discussed with Councillor Innes, Cabinet Member for City Services, who has requested that this be dealt with by way of letter rather than a formal report being submitted to a future meeting.

It is important that we prioritise road safety measures in the city. We do this using personal injury collision data to ensure the funding we have is targeted carefully.

Locations where there have been six or more personal injury collisions reported to the Police in the previous three years are considered for inclusion in our safety scheme programme. Our records show that there has been one personal injury collision in the area you have highlighted in the last three years. Therefore, it does not meet the safety scheme criteria.

In response to your concerns, a mobile vehicle-activated sign has been installed on Abbey Road near the junction with London Road facing drivers turning off London Road onto Abbey Road. This is part of the programme for the deployment of mobile signs at locations around the city.

We are also working towards Coventry becoming a 20mph city and each year we are introducing more 20mph speed limits on residential roads. Community concerns are taken into account when prioritising areas for the introduction of such schemes and petitions help to inform this process.

As you are concerned about speeding, you may wish to get involved in the Community Speed Watch initiative. This is a speed monitoring and awareness scheme that is co-ordinated by the Police and run by a group of local volunteers who use speed detection devices to monitor traffic and identify speeding drivers on a specific road or small area. For further information, please contact the Police by emailing: cvcsww@west-midlands.pnn.police.uk.

As you may be aware, the requested double yellow lines at junctions have since been advertised and installed. We have also arranged for maintenance work to be undertaken on the school warning signage in the area.

I hope this information explains fully the measures we have undertaken in response to your concerns.

I would be grateful if you could please confirm in writing, either by email or letter, that you agree that the petition be progressed by way of this letter. If you do not agree, a report responding to your petition will be prepared for consideration at a future Cabinet Member meeting. You will be invited to attend this meeting where you have the opportunity to speak on behalf of the petitioners.