

Cabinet Member for City Services

8th May 2017

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:

Bablake

Title:

Petition: Traffic Issues on Hawkes Mill Lane between Browns Lane and Washbrook Lane

Is this a key decision?

No

Executive Summary:

A petition of 99 signatures has been received advising of concerns relating to the speed of traffic on Hawkes Mill Lane and also its use by HGVs, and requesting the City Council takes action to mitigate against these issues.

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 issues raised 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 that due to budgetary constraints we have to prioritise requests for traffic calming and safety measures. Personal recorded injury collision data is used to undertake this process and as none had been recorded in the last 3 years it is not currently proposed to undertake any further action. This response was approved by the Cabinet Member for City Services. On receipt of the determination letter the petition spokesperson advised that they did not wish the petition to be progressed by letter and wanted it to be considered at a Cabinet Member for City Services meeting.

The cost of introducing road safety schemes 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) Endorse the actions confirmed by determination letter to the petition spokesperson (as detailed in paragraph 1.6 below).

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: Traffic Issues on Hawkes Mill Lane between Browns Lane and Washbrook Lane

1. Context (or background)

1.1 A petition of 99 signatures has been received advising of concerns relating to the speed of traffic on Hawkes Mill Lane and also its use by HGVs. The petition is supported by Councillor G Williams.

1.2 The petition advises:

'This petition appertains to the Hawkes Mill Lane running between the Browns Lane and Washbrook Lane. The Lane has variable speed along its length with a maximum speed of 60mph. The vertical and horizontal alignments are such that the drivers of the vehicles find it very difficult to drive along especially when there are pedestrian, children, cyclists, horse riders who are also in constant danger of being hurt. During the past several months, few signs have been upgraded but they have had no mitigatory effects. We were promised some Large Blue Police signs as seen in Meridon which we are still awaiting to be installed. There are constantly large HGV which travel along the Lane causing a lot of fear in the residents' minds. There are very tight bends and along the route are high and overgrown bushes, hedges and trees which restrict the visibility and are obstructive to the traffic and the people and the horses. There has been suggestions that a few road humps along the Lane could elevate [sic alleviate?] the problem. Therefore we the undersigned request the City Council takes appropriate action to mitigate and find a resolution to problematic issues.

1.3 Hawkes Mill Lane is partly residential and partly rural in nature. The speed limit does vary along the length of the road; it is 30mph where properties front the road and it is street lit and the national speed limit applies in the area where there are no properties and the road is not lit. Various warning signs are also sited along the length of the road. A location plan is provided in Appendix A to the report.

1.4 A review of the personal recorded injury collision history of Hawkes Mill Lane shows that in the last 3 years (for the time period up to 31 December 2016) no personal injury collisions have been recorded. A longer period of time than the normal 3 years was also investigated and this showed that no personal injury collisions had been recorded in the last 10 years.

1.5 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 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.

1.6 The determination letter (detailed in Appendix B to the report) advised that at the moment, we do not have enough funding to pay for the many requests we receive from residents for traffic calming and other road safety measures. Therefore we have to prioritise requests using injury collision data. 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 the safety scheme programme. The letter also advised that our records showed that there had been no injury collisions on Hawkes Mill Lane in the last three years, therefore, it does not meet this criterion.

- 1.7 The letter also highlighted that the petitioners might also want to get involved in the Community Speedwatch 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.

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 (detailed in Appendix B to the report) and paragraph 1.6 above. The review of the recorded personal injury collision history did not show any recorded injury collisions, therefore the location does not meet the local safety scheme criteria which is the programme from which traffic calming is funded.

3. Results of consultation undertaken

- 3.1 No consultation has been undertaken.

4. Timetable for implementing this decision

- 4.1 It is not proposed to install any traffic calming at this location as it does not meet the local safety scheme criteria. The location will continue to be monitored as part of the annual citywide review of injury collisions which is used to determine the local safety scheme programme.

5. Comments from Director of Finance and Corporate Services

- 5.1 Financial implications

There are no financial implications

- 5.2 Legal implications

Under s.39 Road Traffic Act 1988 the Council must investigate road accidents involving vehicles and bring forward a rational scheme of measures for preventing their recurrence. The Council has a range of highway improvement and traffic management powers available to it consistent with Department for Transport regulations/guidance.

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)?**

None

- 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)

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Place

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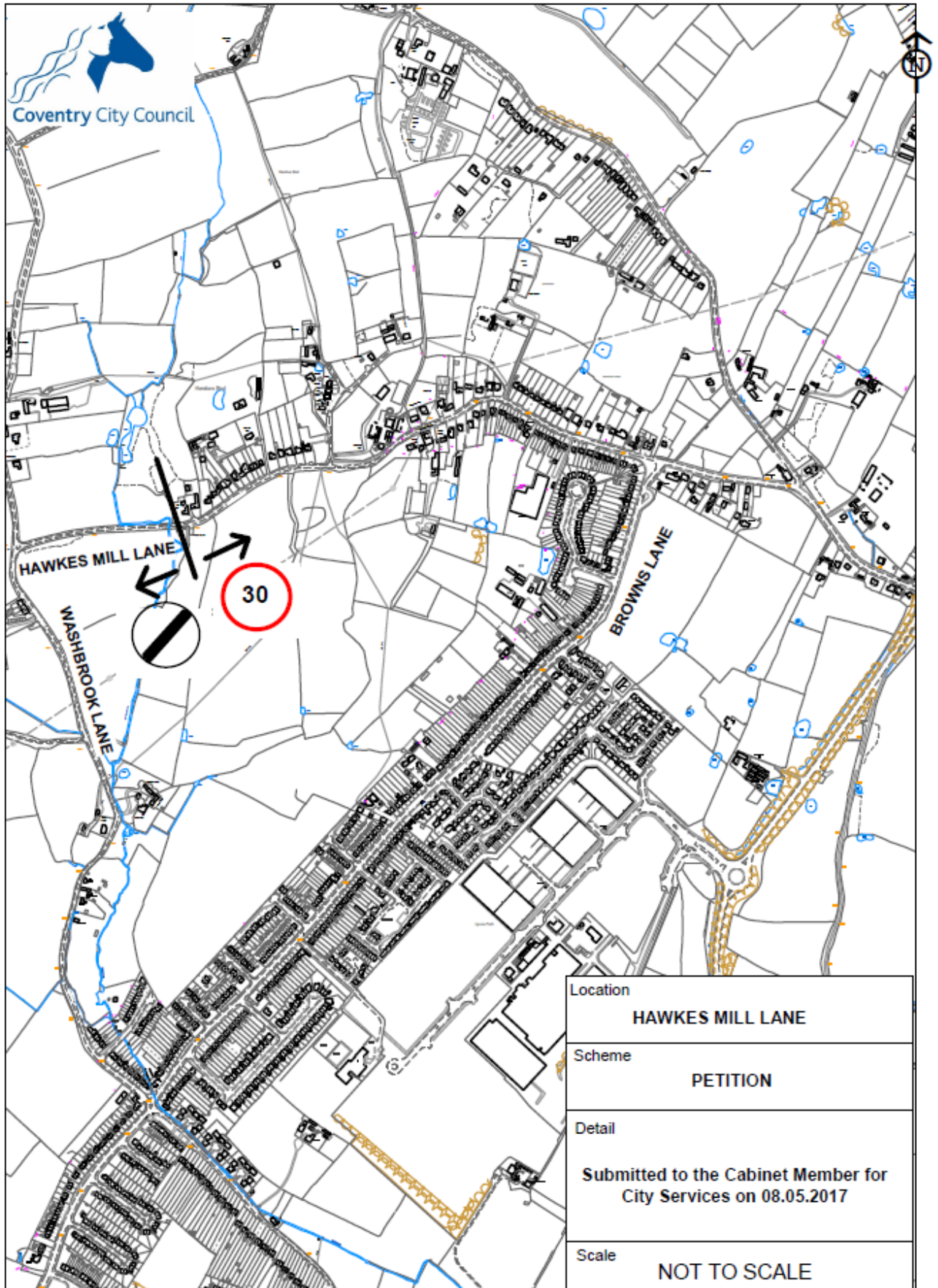
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Enquiries should be directed to the above person.

Contributor/approver name	Title	Directorate or organisation	Date doc sent out	Date response received or approved
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Karen Seager	Head of Traffic and Network Management	Place	21.04.2017	24.04.2017
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Graham Clark	Lead Accountant	Place	21.04.2017	21.04.2017
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Councillor J Innes	Cabinet Member for City Services	-	21.04.2017	26.04.2017

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Appendix A – Location Plan



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Appendix B – Copy of text of determination letter

Re: Petition submitted on: 5 September 2016

Subject matter: Traffic Issues on Hawkes Mill Lane between Browns Lane and Washbrook Lane

I am writing with regard to the above petition and your request for traffic calming on Hawkes Mill Lane.

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 so that this can be dealt with more quickly.

At the moment, we do not have enough funding to pay for the many requests we receive from residents for traffic calming and other road safety measures. This means that we have to prioritise requests using injury collision data.

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 the safety scheme programme. Our records show that there have been no injury collisions on Hawkes Mill Lane in the last three years. Therefore, it does not meet this criterion.

As you are concerned about speeding on Hawkes Mill Lane, you might also want to get involved in the Community Speedwatch 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: cvcsw@west-midlands.pnn.police.uk.

I hope this information explains fully the checks we have undertaken in response to your concerns and the further actions that are available to you.

I would be grateful if you could please confirm in writing, either by email or letter, as soon as possible, that you agree that the petition be progressed in this way. 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.