

Cabinet Member for City Services

19 November 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 – Keep Clear Box to Provide Access to Seymour Close

Is this a key decision?

No

Executive Summary:

A petition of 24 signatures has been received requesting a box junction is installed on London Road at its junction with Seymour Close to assist vehicles entering and exiting Seymour Close.

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 investigations undertaken and that in considering the results of these investigations a box junction would not be installed. 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, 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 action confirmed by determination letter to the petition spokesperson (as detailed in paragraph 1.5 of the report).

List of Appendices included:

Appendix A – Location Plan

Appendix B – Holding Letter & 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 – Keep Clear Box to Provide Access to Seymour Close

1. Context (or background)

1.1 A petition of 24 signatures has been received requesting a box junction is installed on London Road at its junction with Seymour Close to assist drivers entering and exiting Seymour Close.

1.2 The petition advises:

'Keep clear box to provide access to Seymour Close - London road is very busy. Access in and out of Seymour close can be very dangerous at times. Traffic speeds from toll bar end towards the st James Lane traffic lights and do not give way to anyone who wishes to exit or enter Seymour close. Some times cars do stop and flash you to go but this is dangerous as there are two lanes which oncoming traffic going fast will tend to overtake the stopped car! The same happens when coming from st James Lane or towards toll bar end. All of the residents have seen near misses especially with lorries and speeding cars. If a keep clear box cannot be done maybe there should be clearer signed to say you are approaching traffic lights slow down!'

1.3 Seymour Close is a cul de sac located off London Road. London Road (B4110) is a busy road; it is one of the radial routes into/out of Coventry. A traffic signal controlled junction is located nearby at the junction of St James Lane. London Road is also a bus route. 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 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 that CCTV had been utilised to monitor the traffic flows at the London Road/Seymour Close junction on both weekdays and weekends. The monitoring did not show any significant blockage of the junction; only an occasional delay of a few seconds was observed for a vehicle turning in, therefore it was not proposed to install a box junction.

1.6 The petition also advises of concerns relating to the speed of traffic on London Road. As part of this year's Local Safety Scheme programme average speed cameras will be installed on London Road, from its junction with Allard Way to its junction with the A46, which should assist to address these concerns.

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.

3. Results of consultation undertaken

3.1 No consultation has been undertaken.

4. Timetable for implementing this decision

4.1 No action is proposed.

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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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	26.10.2018	28.10.2018
Karen Seager	Head of Traffic and Network Management	Place	26.10.2018	29.10.2018
Rachel Goodyer	Traffic and Road Safety Manager	Place	26.10.2018	30.10.2018
Liz Knight	Governance Services Officer	Place	26.10.2018	29.10.2018
Names of approvers: (officers and members)				
Graham Clark	Lead Accountant	Place	26.10.2018	29.10.2018
Rob Parkes	Team Leader	Place	26.10.2018	29.10.2018
Councillor J Innes	Cabinet Member for City Services	-	22.10.2018	22.10.2018

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Appendix A – Location plan



Location Plan - Petition: Keep Clear Box to Provide Access to Seymour Close



Appendix B – Copy of text of determination letter

Re: petition submitted on 11 September 2018

Subject matter: Keep Clear Box to Provide Access to Seymour Close

I am writing with regard to the above petition and your request for a Keep Clear box to provide access to Seymour Close.

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.

We have monitored traffic flows at the junction of Seymour Close and London Road via CCTV, both on weekdays and at the weekend, to assess the need for a yellow box junction. The monitoring has not shown any significant blockage of the junction; only an occasional delay of a few seconds was observed for a vehicle turning in. Therefore, no further action is proposed.

I would be grateful if you could 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.

Yours sincerely,

I

Copy of text of holding letter

I am writing with regard to the above petition and your request for a Keep Clear box to provide access to Seymour Close.

In order to consider your request, the junction will be monitored via CCTV and footage will be reviewed to assess the need for a yellow box junction. The CCTV camera is part of the system used to monitor the traffic at the junction of London Road and St James Lane. Footage will be reviewed during the morning and evening peak periods when traffic flows are at their highest, as this is most likely to show if the junction is blocked by queueing traffic.

We will contact you again once our investigations have been completed.

Yours sincerely,