

Meeting date: 27 SEPTEMBER 2018
Report to: Cabinet Member for Transport & Highways



Subject/report title: **PETITION SUMMARY**
Report from: Head of Highway Services
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Wards affected:

- All Wards | Bickenhill | Blythe | Castle Bromwich | Chelmsley Wood |
 Dorridge/Hockley Heath | Elmdon | Kingshurst/Fordbridge | Knowle |
 Lyndon | Meriden | Olton | Shirley East | Shirley South |
 Shirley West | Silhill | Smith's Wood | St Alphege

Public/private report: Choose an item.

Exempt by virtue of paragraph: Select an Exemption paragraph from the Quick Parts drop-down list

1. Purpose of Report

1.1 To provide an update on petitions received for the Transport & Highways portfolio.

2. Decision(s) recommended

2.1 Cabinet Member is asked to note the current summary position as detailed in Appendix 1.

3. What is the issue

3.1 Petition 1 - Request the installation of fixed speed cameras on Coleshill Heath Road

At Full Council on 6 February 2018, Councillor Rolf submitted a petition on behalf of residents of Coleshill Heath Road, requesting the installation of fixed speed cameras on Coleshill Heath Road.

3.2 Petition 2 - Request for a crossing Burtons Way, Smiths Wood

An online petition was submitted on the 29 June to the Council from a local resident

regarding road safety concerns on Burtons Way. The petition with 318 signatures requests that the Authority introduces some form of safe road crossing e.g. Zebra Crossing, at Burtons Way, to assist young people crossing the road as they go to and from the school and shops.

The petition highlights a build-up of traffic at peak times as well as parked vehicles, which pose a risk to children's safety, and suggests that an accident is bound to happen.

3.3 Petition 3 – Request for the reinstatement of bus routes

At Full Council on 10 July 2018, Councillor Hall submitted a petition on behalf of local residents, requesting the reinstatement of the 71 bus route, as well as the reinstatement of a bus service for the people who have been inconvenienced by the withdrawal of the 59 bus route.

4. What options have been considered and what is the evidence telling us about them?

4.1 Petition 1 - Request the installation of fixed speed cameras on Coleshill Heath Road

It was recommended that this request was referred to the Average Speed Enforcement (ASE) project team to review and consider the options which would be appropriate for the management of traffic speeds on Coleshill Heath Road.

As a result of this enquiry, a register has been created to record similar requests for the expansion of the Average Speed camera project. Coleshill Heath Road has been added to this list of streets, which also includes the other 25 fixed camera sites that have not currently been converted to ASE equipment.

The council will no doubt continue to receive other similar requests, and to ensure such requests are considered equally and fairly, it is recommended that a prioritisation process should be developed. This will ensure the council knows where its priorities lie as and when the ASE project draws to a conclusion, which is expected to be in late 2019. The Birmingham and Solihull ASE project is very much in its "Informing stage" and learning about the benefits and potential issues with this type of equipment, when used in an urban environment. There are no plans at the stage to expand the current ASE project.

Looking at the available traffic speed and casualty data for Coleshill Heath Road, this currently indicates that Coleshill Heath Road is not considered to be a specific priority at the present time. The casualty records for the last 3 years show that there have been 4 road traffic collisions (3 slight and 1 serious).

Coleshill Heath Road already benefits from occasional visits from the West Midlands Mobile Speed Camera Unit. They last visited this location in March 2018, and spent over 6 hours on 2 separate occasions monitoring traffic speed in both directions. As a result, 49 speeding offences were reported to the Police Central Ticket Office. A summary of the data collected is shown in the table below:

Site No	Location	Date of enforcement	Time recording start	Time recording finish	Offences to CTO
2303	COLESHILL HEATH ROAD (NB) between Bickenhill Parkway & house no 268 (Coleshill Heath Rd)	01/03/2018	09:15	10:05	6
2304	COLESHILL HEATH ROAD (SB) between house no 268 (Coleshill Heath Rd) & Bickenhill Parkway	01/03/2018	10:05	10:55	1
2304	COLESHILL HEATH ROAD (SB) between house no 268 (Coleshill Heath Rd) & Bickenhill Parkway	01/03/2018	11:12	12:02	10
2303	COLESHILL HEATH ROAD (NB) between Bickenhill Parkway & house no 268 (Coleshill Heath Rd)	01/03/2018	12:02	12:52	4
2303	COLESHILL HEATH ROAD (NB) between Bickenhill Parkway & house no 268 (Coleshill Heath Rd)	19/03/2018	10:10	11:00	10
2304	COLESHILL HEATH ROAD (SB) between house no 268 (Coleshill Heath Rd) & Bickenhill Parkway	19/03/2018	11:00	11:50	2
2304	COLESHILL HEATH ROAD (SB) between house no 268 (Coleshill Heath Rd) & Bickenhill Parkway	19/03/2018	12:48	13:18	14
2303	COLESHILL HEATH ROAD (NB) between Bickenhill Parkway & house no 268 (Coleshill Heath Rd)	19/03/2018	13:18	13:48	2

In addition, Coleshill Heath Road has two permanent vehicle activated speed signs which help to inform motorists of their actual speed. These continue to help raise awareness to passing motorists of the concerns raised by the local residents in this petition.

4.2 **Petition 2 - Request for a crossing Burtons Way, Smiths Wood**

Following a previous request received from Smiths Wood School, a Stage one pedestrian crossing initial site assessment was undertaken in January 2018. This assessment reviewed the location in question and found that as a result of the shared space concept of the design of this area that there was not a particular single concentration of pedestrians crossing Burtons Way. Observation showed that during school times, children and parents crossed sporadically along the length of Burtons Way, dictated by their point of origin or parking location. At other times, there was no great pedestrian demand and there were adequate gaps in the traffic to allow crossing of the road to be undertaken safely.

Due to these reasons it is determined at that time it would not be appropriate to install a formal pedestrian crossing at this site and the site was consequently not put forward for a Stage two assessment which involves vehicle and traffic surveys.

Following receipt of this latest petition, Officers have carried out further site inspections of this location and engaged with the lead petitioner offering to undertake site meetings to discuss the request further. In addition to this a review of the available collision records for this location has been undertaken. This indicates that there have been no recorded incidents involving pedestrians crossing the road at this location. A study of the data shows that there has been only a single motor vehicle collision on

this section of road which took place in 2016.

In 2017, following requests from the local community to review parking practices and increase enforcement at this location, the Authority implemented a number of changes to existing parking restrictions in order to encourage compliance and prevent inconsiderate and obstructive parking practices from taking place directly outside the school. These measures have improved parking behaviours and are being actively enforced by our civil enforcement parking team who have visited this location six times during the period 01/04/2017 and 31/03/2018; no Penalty Charge Notices have been issued.

4.3 Petition 3 – Request for the reinstatement of bus routes

Local Bus Services are managed by colleagues at Transport for West Midlands. A copy of this petition has therefore been shared with the appropriate team, who we understand are having positive discussions with Ward Councillors on this matter.

5. Reasons for recommending preferred option

5.1 Petition 1 - Request the installation of fixed speed cameras on Coleshill Heath Road

Having reviewed the location, the objectives of the ASE project and the available traffic data for this route, it is recommended that no further action is justified and the request to install Average Speed Camera equipment should not be approved, but will be kept under review as part of our regular road safety duty.

5.2 Petition 2 - Request for a crossing Burtons Way, Smiths Wood

It is the view of Officers that there have been no material changes to the site since the previous Stage 1 Pedestrian Crossing Assessment was undertaken in January 2018 and as such the recommendation reached at that time is still relevant and appropriate. The site is performing as per its original design concept and formal crossing facilities would undermine this.

As such it is recommended that the request of the petition be noted, but no further action be taken at this time.

This location will be monitored in line with the Authority's continuing traffic management and road safety responsibilities.

5.3 Petition 3 – Request for the reinstatement of bus routes

The petition has been noted and referred to Transport for West Midlands (TfWM) to investigate and respond. Your officers will monitor progress and the outcome of this petition, which it is recommended should be determined through the associated TfWM process.

6. Implications and Considerations

How will the options/proposals in this report contribute to the delivery of Council Priorities (*select which priority/priorities and also specify which key programme/s*):

- ☒ The Council's priorities have been taken into consideration when making the recommendations contained within this report.

6.1 Implications for children and young people, vulnerable groups and particular communities:

- 6.1.1 Safety and accessibility is at the heart of everything the Council does when considering making changes to how the public highway operates. This includes the safety of children, young people and our most vulnerable road user groups.
- 6.1.2 Any risks identified are either designed out or mitigating measures proposed which are all subject to an independent Road Safety Audit process.

6.2 Consultation and Scrutiny:

- 6.2.1 The matters arising from these petitions have not been subject to review by any of the Council's Scrutiny Boards. With any proposed changes the associated statutory consultation process will be followed.

6.3 Financial implications:

- 6.3.1 The cost of dealing with a petition is met from within existing Highway Services staff revenue budgets.

6.4 Legal implications:

- 6.4.1 None as a consequence of this report. Specific legal implications will be considered while investigating each petition.

6.5 Risk implications:

- 6.5.1 The Corporate Risk Management Approach has been complied with to identify and assess the significant risk associated with this decision/project. This includes (but is not limited to), financial, political, legislation and reputation risks.

The Approach is not intended to eliminate all risks and not all the risks identified can be managed all of the time. Also, risks will still exist that have not been identified.

However, based on the information provided, no significant risks have been identified.

6.6 Statutory Equality Duty:

- 6.6.1 None as a consequence of this report. Specific Fair Treatment Assessment will be considered while investigating each petition.

7. List of appendices referred to

- 7.1 Petition Update September 2018 – Appendix 1

8. Background papers used to compile this report

- 8.1 None.

9. List of other relevant documents

9.1 None.

PETITION UPDATE 27 SEPTEMBER 2018

Petition Title	Date Received	Service Area Responsible	Councillor	Action Being Taken	Date of Full Report, Summary or Letter	Cabinet Decision Session
Request the installation of a pedestrian crossing at the upper end of Hobs Moat Road	6 February 2018	Sustainable Travel and Highway Management	Councillor Slater	Referred to Pedestrian Crossing Assessment process, outcome to be reported November 2018	November 2018	Transport and Highways
Request the installation of a pedestrian crossing at the upper end of Hobs Moat Road	6 February 2018	Sustainable Travel and Highway Management	Councillor Ludlow	Referred to Pedestrian Crossing Assessment process, outcome to be reported November 2018	November 2018	Transport and Highways
Request the installation of fixed speed cameras on Coleshill Heath Road	6 February 2018	Sustainable Travel and Highway Management	Councillor Rolf	Referred to Average Speed Enforcement Camera Project team and WM Police. Investigations complete	September 2018	Transport and Highways
Request for a crossing Burtons Way, Smiths Wood	29 June 2018	Sustainable Travel and Highway Management	N/A	Location will be monitored in line with the Authority's continuing traffic management and road safety responsibilities	September 2018	Transport and Highways

Petition Title	Date Received	Service Area Responsible	Councillor	Action Being Taken	Date of Full Report, Summary or Letter	Cabinet Decision Session
Request for the reinstatement of the 71 bus route as well as the reinstatement of a bus service for the people who have been inconvenienced by the withdrawal of the 59 bus route	10 July 2018	Sustainable Travel and Highway Management	Councillor Hall	Petition referred to Transport for West Midlands who manage local Bus Services in Solihull	September 2018	Transport and Highways
Request for the introduction of parking restrictions in Dorchester Road due to the impact of Station Approach	20 August 2018	Sustainable Travel and Highway Management	N/A	Phase 1 – Currently being investigated and will be included in the annual TRO review	November 2018	Transport and Highways
Request to review and resolve the inconsiderate parking issues at Alston Close	28 August 2018	Sustainable Travel and Highway Management	N/A	Phase 1 – Currently being investigated and will be included in the annual TRO review	November 2018	Transport and Highways