

THE ASSEMBLY

10 JANUARY 2007

REPORT OF THE CORPORATE DIRECTOR OF REGENERATION

Title: Petition regarding traffic speed in Dagenham Road, Rush Green	For Decision
<p>Summary:</p> <p>The Council has received a petition regarding traffic speed in Dagenham Road, Rush Green and the potential for road safety accidents and hazard to wild life.</p> <p>The petition is long outstanding but from discussion with the lead petitioner it was clear that changes in traffic conditions in the area had addressed the concerns covered by the petition. The current main issue in the area was related to anti social behaviour regarding young people using motorised two wheel vehicles.</p> <p>It was agreed that Ward Councillors would seek greater enforcement from the Police against anti social behaviour.</p> <p>Wards Affected: Eastbrook Ward</p>	
<p>Implications:</p> <p>Financial:</p> <p>There are no financial implications.</p> <p>Legal:</p> <p>There are no legal implications.</p> <p>Risk Management:</p> <p>No significant risks identified if the Assembly approves the recommendations.</p> <p>Social Inclusion and Diversity:</p> <p>The Race Relations (Amendment) Act 2000 places a requirement on local authorities to make an assessment of the impact of new and revised policies in terms of race equality. Existing policies have already been subjected to impact assessments. This Authority has adopted an approach of extending the impact to cover gender, disability, sexuality, faith, age and community cohesion.</p> <p>As this report does not concern a new or revised policy there are no specific adverse impacts insofar as this report is concerned.</p>	

<p>Crime and Disorder:</p> <p>Section 17 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 places a responsibility on local authorities to consider the crime and disorder implications of any proposals.</p> <p>The report recommends that the Council support a request for increased enforcement action to address anti social behaviour.</p>		
<p>Recommendation(s)</p> <p>The Assembly is asked to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Note that the issues covered in the petition have been addressed over time by initiatives introduced in the Dagenham Road, Rush Green area; and 2. Support Ward Councillors in their request to seek action to address anti social behaviour in the area by the Police Service. 		
<p>Reason(s)</p> <p>The Assembly is recommended to agree the recommendations as they acknowledge that the grounds for the original petition are no longer considered valid. Although the petition did not relate to anti social behaviour, the Council will be proactive in addressing current concerns by seeking attention by the Police Service</p>		
<p>Contact Officer: Gary Ellison</p>	<p>Title: Group Manager for Highway and Civil Engineering Services</p>	<p>Contact Details: Tel: 020 8227 3226 Fax: 020 8227 3116 E-mail: gary.ellison@lbbd.gov.uk</p>

1. Introduction and Background

- 1.1 The Council received a petition from residents in the Dagenham Road, Rush Green area to 'Slow down traffic'. The accompanying letter from the lead petitioner requested the Council to introduce speed humps and reduce the danger to wild life.
- 1.2 Unfortunately the petition has not been brought to the Assembly in a timely manner, but measures are in place to ensure that future petitions are dealt with in accordance with the Constitution.
- 1.3 In recent years a number of changes have been introduced in the Dagenham Road, Rush Green area that have had a beneficial effect on traffic speed.
- 1.4 A meeting was held with the lead petitioner, ward councillor and the Portfolio Holder for services including highways, road safety and parking to discuss the current conditions. It was agreed that traffic speed in the area was under reasonable control but there was now a greater nuisance of young people acting in an anti social manner on two wheeled vehicles

2. Current Position

- 2.1 Road safety is monitored across the Borough and it is pleasing that residents have accepted that measures introduced by the Council are having a positive effect on road safety in the area covered by the petition.

3. Report Detail

- 3.1 Residents of the Dagenham Road area petitioned the Council regarding traffic speed. Regrettably the petition was not processed in good time. In recent weeks a meeting was held with the lead petitioner and Members where it was acknowledged that traffic and parking arrangements had changed in recent years.
- 3.2 The refuge islands at the bends in Dagenham Road near the country park had been modified to deter excessive speed in this area and a mini roundabout was introduced in association with the development of the site of the former Rush Green hospital.
- 3.3 A pelican crossing has been introduced adjacent to Barking College to assist pedestrians and increase safe use of local bus stops.
- 3.4 A CCTV unit has been introduced after a successful bid to Transport for London to assist with parking enforcement in the area. Residents consider that this has had a beneficial effect on traffic speed and parking.
- 3.5 The Council has been successful in requesting the Road Safety Camera Partnership introduce a speed camera in Dagenham Road on an occasional basis.
- 3.6 Speed humps would not be appropriate in Dagenham Road as it is a bus route. It was accepted by the lead petitioner that measures introduced had already significantly reduced community concerns at traffic speed in the area.
- 3.7 The lead petitioner outlined current concerns regarding anti social behaviour of young people in the area using powered two wheeled vehicles and it was agreed that councillors would seek the assistance of the Police Service.

4. Consultees

- 5.1 This report has been issued to the following consultees:

Councillor McKenzie – Lead Portfolio Holder

Background Papers Used in the Preparation of the Report:

- Petition for consideration – located with Highways and Civil Engineering Services.