

Decision Maker: COUNCIL

Date: Monday 8 April 2019

Decision Type: Non-Urgent Non-Executive Non-Key

Title: PETITION

Contact Officer: Graham Walton, Democratic Services Manager
Tel: 0208 461 7743 E-mail: graham.walton@bromley.gov.uk

Chief Officer: Mark Bowen, Director of Corporate Services

Ward: (All Wards);

1. Reason for report

- 1.1 Under the Council's Petition Scheme, if petitioners are dissatisfied with the Council's response to their petition they can present their case to full Council, provided that the number of verified signatures exceeds the threshold of 500 signatures. The lead petitioner or their nominee can address the Council for up to five minutes, after which Members can debate the issues raised. Council can resolve to recommend the Executive, or the relevant Portfolio holder, to take action, or it can decide that no further action be taken.
- 1.2 A petition has been received meeting the threshold for the lead petitioner to address full Council from Ms Ruth Fabricant, calling for the Council to introduce more 20mph speed traffic restriction zones outside schools and along smaller shopping parades where shops or parking take up both sides of the road or in locally identified "risk areas." Further details of the petition are set out in section 3 of this report.
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2. **RECOMMENDATION**

The Council is requested to consider the case made by the petitioners and, if necessary, recommend action to be taken by the Executive or the Portfolio Holder for Environment and Community Services.

Impact on Vulnerable Adults and Children

1. Summary of Impact:
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Corporate Policy

1. Policy Status: Existing Policy: Petitions are dealt with in accordance with the Council's Petition Scheme.
 2. BBB Priority: Children and Young People Quality Environment Safe Bromley:
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Financial

1. Cost of proposal: Not Applicable:
 2. Ongoing costs: Not Applicable:
 3. Budget head/performance centre: Democratic Services
 4. Total current budget for this head: £350,650
 5. Source of funding: 2018/19 Revenue Budget
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Personnel

1. Number of staff (current and additional): 8 (6.79fte)
 2. If from existing staff resources, number of staff hours: Not Applicable
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Legal

1. Legal Requirement: None:
 2. Call-in: Not Applicable: Decisions by full Council are not subject to call-in.
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Procurement

1. Summary of Procurement Implications: Not Applicable
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Customer Impact

1. Estimated number of users/beneficiaries (current and projected): Not Applicable
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Ward Councillor Views

1. Have Ward Councillors been asked for comments? No
2. Summary of Ward Councillors comments: Not Applicable

3. COMMENTARY

3.1 The Council's Petition Scheme allows for petitioners to present their case to full Council if they are dissatisfied with the Council's response to their petition, provided that the number of verified signatures exceeds the threshold of 500 signatures. The lead petitioner or their nominee can address the Council for up to five minutes. Once Members have considered the matter, they can choose whether or not to recommend any further action. One petition has been received that meets the threshold where the petitioner is dissatisfied with the Council's response.

3.2 A petition was received on 28th February 2019 from Ruth Fabricant with the following request -

"Bromley is a large and varied borough and enforcing a 20 mph zone in all residential roads could prove impossible. However, there are certain places, outside schools and in shopping areas, where better road safety measures - like reducing traffic speed - could help pedestrians and road users. This slower speed would help reduce road traffic accidents to pedestrians, motor cyclists and cyclists as well as car drivers and other road traffic. Figures show slower traffic speeds significantly reduce harm to those injured in collisions. Speed restrictions also slow down the rate of vehicle exhaust emissions by burning fuels more efficiently. There are already several 20 mph schemes in action, along Turpington Lane, Bromley, outside Perry Hall Primary School in Perry hall Road, Orpington and in other parts of the Borough. Bromley Green Party will be conducting surveys to ask local residents to identify schools, or areas of concern, used regularly by children or by vulnerable adults, who may or may not be accompanied while crossing the road and where speed of passing traffic could endanger pedestrians and other road users. The signatories below ask the Council to take action on the sites identified in the survey results. We, the undersigned, ask that Bromley Council introduce more 20mph speed traffic restriction zones outside schools and along smaller shopping parades where shops or parking take up both sides of the road, or in locally-identified "risk areas.""

3.3 The petition contained 565 valid signatures from people who live, work or study in the borough. A letter addressed to Councillors accompanied the petition and is attached at Appendix A to this report.

3.4 The Council's response to the lead petitioner, Ruth Fabricant, was as follows -

"We welcome support for the Bromley LIP policy of targeted 20 mph zones and your recognition of the past successes of Bromley's polices in making our roads safer.

Targeted full-time or part-time 20 mph zones are one part of a prioritised road safety programme that includes road safety education and engineering works to address causes of accidents and provide additional facilities for travel, such as traffic islands and cycling and walking schemes. We note your comments that one aim of 20mph zones is that active modes of travel become a realistic choice for visitors.

We are of the view that particularly around schools 20 mph zones will not achieve a mode change in isolation and that any changes should be in conjunction with schools enhancing their travel plans to the gold standard and then implementing them."

Non-Applicable Sections:	Impact on Vulnerable Adults and Children/Policy/Financial/Personnel/Legal/Procurement
Background Documents: (Access via Contact Officer)	Petition submitted by Ruth Fabricant