

AGENDA ITEM: 9

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Meeting	Business Management Overview & Scrutiny Committee
Date	29 February 2012
Subject	Pedestrian Safety, East Finchley Petition
Report of	Scrutiny Office
Summary	This report provides Members with information relating to a petition signed by 2,300 residents submitted to the Council in relation to pedestrian safety in East Finchley

Officer Contributors	Melissa James, Overview & Scrutiny Officer
Status (public or exempt)	Public
Wards affected	East Finchley
Enclosures	Appendix A – Petition Text
For decision by	Business Management Overview and Scrutiny Committee

Contact for further information:

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1. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 1.1 That the Committee consider the petition received by the Council in relation to Pedestrian Safety in East Finchley and make appropriate comments/recommendations to the Cabinet, relevant Cabinet Member or officers (as appropriate) in respect of the issues raised.**

2. CORPORATE PRIORITIES AND POLICY CONSIDERATIONS

- 2.1 The Overview and Scrutiny Committees, Panels and Task and Finish Groups must ensure that the work of Scrutiny is reflective of the Council's priorities.**
- 2.2 The three priority outcomes set out in the 2011-13 Corporate Plan are: –**
- Better services with less money**
 - Sharing opportunities, sharing responsibilities**
 - A successful London suburb**

3. RELEVANT PREVIOUS DECISIONS

- 3.1 None**

4. RISK MANAGEMENT ISSUES

- 4.1 Failure to deal with petitions received from members of the public in a timely way and in accordance with the provisions of the Council's Constitution carries a reputational risk for the authority.**

5. EQUALITIES AND DIVERSITY ISSUES

- 5.1 In addition to the Terms of Reference of the Committee, and in so far as relating to matters within its remit, the role of the Committee is to perform the Overview and Scrutiny role in relation to:**
- The Council's leadership role in relation to diversity and inclusiveness; and**
 - The fulfilment of the Council's duties as employer including recruitment and retention, personnel, pensions and payroll services, staff development, equalities and health and safety.**

6. USE OF RESOURCES IMPLICATIONS (Finance, Procurement, Performance & Value for Money, Staffing, IT, Property, Sustainability)

- 6.1 Any financial implication will be contained within the EPR budgets.**

7. LEGAL ISSUES

- 7.1 The Local Democracy, Economic Development and Construction Act 2009 requires local authorities to publicise and comply with a scheme for handling petitions and also provide a facility for electronic petitions on their websites.

8. CONSTITUTIONAL POWERS

- 8.1 The scope of the Overview & Scrutiny Committees is contained within Part 2, Article 6 of the Council's Constitution.
- 8.2 The Terms of Reference of the Overview & Scrutiny Committees are set out in the Overview and Scrutiny Procedure Rules (Part 4 of the Constitution).
- 8.3 Section 4, Public Participation Procedure Rules, paragraph 5.8 provide that petitions of over 2,000 signatures will be considered at the Business Management Overview and Scrutiny Committee, where an officer will be called to give account. The lead petitioner will have the right to address the Committee for five minutes.

9. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

- 9.1 On the 13th February 2012, the Head of Governance was notified that a petition in the name of, Michelle Imber (Lead Petitioner) in relation to pedestrian safety in East Finchley had exceeded 2,000 signatures. The petition requested that the Council ensure greater pedestrian safety in East Finchley along the route of Church Lane High Road and Creighton Avenue N2. In accordance with the Public Participation Rules, relevant officers have been requested to attend the meeting to answer questions and give account to matters raised in the petition.
- 9.2 The Chairman has agreed that the petition will be discussed at the meeting following the format below:
- Lead Petitioner has five minutes to present the petition to the Committee;
 - Committee Members have the opportunity to ask questions of the Lead Petitioner;
 - Relevant Officers (Assistant Director, Highways & Transport and Environment and the Principal Engineer) respond to the issues raised by the Lead Petitioner and Committee Members;
 - Committee Members to ask any further questions of the relevant officers; and
 - Committee to agree any recommendations to be made to the Cabinet, relevant Cabinet Member or officers (as appropriate).

9.6 The text submitted with the online signature petition is attached at Appendix A.

10. LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS

10.1 None

Legal: CH
CFO: MC/JH

Petition to: ENSURE GREATER PEDESTRIAN SAFETY IN EAST FINCHLEY ALONG THE ROUTE OF CHURCH LANE, HIGH ROAD & CRIGHTON AVENUE N2

We the undersigned petition Barnet Council to ENSURE GREATER PEDESTRIAN SAFETY IN EAST FINCHLEY ALONG THE ROUTE OF CHURCH LANE, HIGH ROAD & CRIGHTON AVENUE N2.

Submitted by Michelle Imber of WalksafeN2 – **Deadline to sign up by:** 12 January 2013 – **Signatures:** 121

ACTION NEEDED:

- Introduce a 3-way traffic light with pelican crossings at the junction of Church Lane and East Finchley High Road.
- Introduce a pedestrian crossing on Creighton Avenue near East Finchley High Road.
- Ensure greater visibility of Martin Primary School by improving school signs and adding road markings.
- Re-introduce a speed limit of 20mph on Church Lane.
- WALKSAFE N2 has been set up by a group of local parents to demand road safety measures from Barnet Council.

PLEASE SHOW YOUR SUPPORT BY SIGNING OUR PETITION

THANK YOU!