

Full Council: 31st October

Administration Motion: Councillor Rohit Grover

Safety of the Ossulton Way/ Kingsley Way/A1 Junction

On 4 April 2017 Council unanimously agreed to call an urgent meeting between Transport for London (TfL), officers of Barnet's Highways Department and local councillors to assess and improve the safety of the Ossulton Way/ Kingsley Way/A1 Junction. This urgent meeting took place three months later on 13 July.

During this meeting it was noted that the all-red phase of the traffic lights at the above junction is inadequate to non-existent, meaning that pedestrians do not have sufficient time to cross the A1. As there are parades of shops and cafes on both sides of the A1 at this junction, this crossing is frequently used, particularly by elderly residents who need to cross from the surgery on the south side to the chemist on the north.

Excessive speed levels were also observed on the stretch of the A1, in both directions, leading from this junction to Henlys Corner.

While the TfL representative who was present noted these concerns, it was mentioned that 'political pressure' would likely be required for action to take place, given concerns over the impact on bus schedules in the event that further traffic calming measures are implemented.

In view of the fact that since 2010, 11 serious collisions have taken place on this stretch of the A1, including the death of an elderly resident at the Ossulton Way junction earlier this year, Council calls for a further meeting to take place, at a high level, where those with senior decision-making authority at TfL are required to seriously consider what can be done to improve pedestrian safety. Options could include a longer all-red phase at the Kingsley Way/Ossulton Way/A1 junction where traffic from all sides is stopped, an improved pedestrian crossing facility, or speed cameras for this stretch of road generally.

Under Full Council Procedure Rule 23.5: if my item is not dealt with by the end of the meeting I ask that it be voted upon at the Council meeting.