



Finchley and Golders Green Area Committee

4 April 2019

Title	Petition: Make our school crossing safer for everyone
Report of	Head of Governance
Wards	East Finchley
Status	Public
Urgent	No
Key	No
Enclosures	None.
Officer Contact Details	Faith Mwende, Governance Officer Faith.Mwende@Barnet.gov.uk

Summary

This report informs Members of a petition submitted to the Governance Service which has reached the threshold for reporting to the Area Committee.

Officers Recommendations

1. That the Committee consider the petition and provide instructions in response to the petition in accordance with the Committee's remit, as detailed in the report section 5.4.1.

1. WHY THIS REPORT IS NEEDED

1.1 The following petition has been received by the Governance Service:

Petition details
Title: Make our school crossing safer for everyone
Lead Petitioner: Emily Candler
Signatures: 2,124
Details: Improve safety at the crossing and surrounding junctions on High Road, East Finchley and outside Martin Primary School. Why is this important? Following a recent accident and many near misses, we urgently need changes to make the crossing outside Martin Primary School, East Finchley safer for all users. A child and parent were hit and injured by a car on the crossing outside Martin Primary School on the High Road (A1000), East Finchley on Monday 4 February. There have been two more near misses in the past week, when drivers failed to stop at the red light as families were crossing. These are the latest in a series of collisions and near misses around that crossing. It is essential that children are able to cross the road safely on their way to and from school. And it is not just our children who need a safer crossing: this crossing is also widely used by the local community as a key route to and from the library, bus stops, allotments, churches and local shops. We urgently need a thorough review of safety outside Martin Primary School, including the junctions with surrounding roads and the High Road and a commitment to implement changes to improve safety. The Walksafe campaign in 2012 urged the Council to make changes to the crossing to improve the safety of walking routes to the school including these traffic lights. Many improvements were made then, but need for changes to the traffic lights was to be kept under review. That review is now due. Much has changed since 2012: Martin Primary School now has almost 50% more pupils, the school building and field are now more heavily used by community groups in evenings and weekends; and the Archer Academy is now fully established, bringing extra school children into the area. We need a new transport study to understand how the road works now and swift implementation of changes to improve safety. This petition has been started by a group of parents and East Finchley residents. We hope all our neighbours in East Finchley and everyone who visits the area will support this. For more information or to help with this campaign, please email SafeCrossingN2@gmail.com If you have witnessed dangerous driving at this crossing, please report it to the police via: https://www.met.police.uk/ro/report/rti/report-a-road-traffic-incident/

2. REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

2.1 As per the Constitution, this petition meets the requisite number of signature for reporting to the Area Committee.

3. ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED AND NOT RECOMMENDED

3.1 N/A.

4. POST DECISION IMPLEMENTATION

4.1 N/A.

5. IMPLICATIONS OF DECISION

5.1 Corporate Priorities and Performance

5.1.1 N/A.

5.2 Resources (Finance & Value for Money, Procurement, Staffing, IT, Property, Sustainability)

5.2.1 None in the context of this report.

5.3 Social Value

5.3.1 Not applicable in the context of this report.

5.4 Legal and Constitutional References

5.4.1 In accordance with the Council's Constitution, Article 3 Residents and Public Participation states that where the petition relates to the functions and responsibilities of an Area Committee it will be reported to the relevant Area Committee. The Lead Petitioner will be given five minutes to present the petition to the committee.

Following the presentation the Chairman and Committee Members have an opportunity to ask the Lead Petitioner questions. After the debate the Committee will decide to:

- Take no action
- Refer the matter to a chief officer to provide a written respond to Lead Petitioner within 20 working days; or
- Instruct an officer to prepare a report for a future meeting of the Committee on the issue(s) raised with a recommended course of action

5.5 Risk Management

5.5.1 None in the context of this report.

5.6 Equalities and Diversity

5.6.1 None in the context of this report.

5.7 Corporate Parenting

5.7.1 None identified in the context of this report, any potential implications will be detailed within substantive reports.

5.8 Consultation and Engagement

5.8.1 None in the context of this report.

5.8 Insight

5.8.1 None in the context of this report.

6. BACKGROUND PAPERS

6.1 None.