



North Area Committee

26 January 2023

Title	Petition(s)
Report of	Head of Governance
Wards	East Barnet Barnet Vale High Barnet Underhill Totteridge and Woodside Mill Hill Edgwarebury Whetstone
Status	Public
Urgent	No
Key	No
Enclosures	None
Officer Contact Details	Paul Frost – Senior Governance Officer paul.frost@barnet.gov.uk – 020 8359 2205

Summary

This report informs the North Area Committee of the petition(s) received. The Committee is requested to consider the petition(s) and make a determination on its desired course of action in accordance with its powers.

Officers Recommendations

1. That the Area Committee notes the petition(s) detailed in section 1.

2. That the Area Committee decides whether it wishes to:

- a) Take no action
- b) Refer the matter to a chief officer to provide a written response to the Lead Petitioner within 20 working days; or
- c) 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

1. WHY THIS REPORT IS NEEDED

1.1 The following petitions from Barnet residents have been received prior to the deadline for submission of petitions.

Petition: Traffic Calming Measures in York Road, EN5

Lead Petitioner: Samin Ahmadzadeh

Ward: Barnet Vale

Number of signatures 2

Details: 99

As residents of York Road in New Barnet we are writing to you 1) to lodge our serious concerns about sharply increasing dangers from vehicular traffic, and 2) to demand that you take urgent action to avoid injury or indeed fatalities.

In recent months, traffic on York Road has increased significantly. Along with the increased volume of traffic, we have witnessed an alarming increase in speeding and reckless driving on what is ultimately a narrow, residential road in a neighbourhood with many children and vulnerable residents. Among the residents of York Road are The Starlings Nursery, Rainbow Cubs and Rosa Morison Day Centre (the latter on Gloucester Road, but adjacent to and making extensive use of York Road).

The sharp increase in traffic and dangerous driving poses a clear and present danger to the health and safety of the residents. It is plain to see that unless the Council takes urgent preventative steps it is only a matter of time before there is a fatal accident on York Road. Urgent action must be taken now to avert disaster. Anything less would be both unreasonable and reckless and demonstrate an abject disregard for the safety of residents.

Specifically, we demand the following:

- 1) Lowering the speed limit on York Road to 20mph from the current 30mph
- 2) The installation of traffic cameras to deter and penalise dangerous driving

We note that 20mph is a speed limit common on many residential and/or heavily trafficked narrow streets in Greater London and that beyond the clear safety benefits highlighted above, the lower 20mph speed limit would cut carbon emissions and reduce air pollution. Residents would also benefit from reduced noise pollution.

Furthermore, there would be no negative externalities from the reduction of the speed limit from 30mph to 20mph, particularly if such moves were coordinated with other similar roads to create a 20mph zone, like the zone recently created in the Hadley/Clifford/Woodville Road area.

Given the alarming increase in traffic volume and excess speeds on York Road, it is imperative that the Council take urgent and appropriate action. Failing to promptly reduce the speed limit and install traffic cameras is very likely to lead to serious injury or death in the short to medium term.

We look forward to your early engagement.

Yours sincerely

Residents of York Road
(Names and addresses attached)

Petition: Controlled Parking Zone extension in the Barnet Hospital Area

Lead Petitioner: Sophie Wood

Ward: High Barnet

Number of signatures 72

Details:

We the undersigned petition the council to Remove single yellow lines from people's driveway entrances as they are inappropriate Review the extent of single and double yellow lines in general as we believe them excessive Stop penalising those who cannot afford electric cars with higher permit prices Change the controlled parking zone times to one or two separate hour long restrictions between the hours of 0830-1830 instead of the full 10 hours. This is preventing carers for the elderly and visitors of residents from parking. Stop dealing with hospital staff parking problems with controlled parking zones, because you create more problems which you resolve with more controlled parking zones. Remove Quinta Drive from the controlled parking zone. It is a 13 minute walk from the hospital and unlikely to be used by staff.

The extension of the controlled parking zone around Barnet Hospital was done after consultation in 2020 of the roads surrounding Hill Close as well as Trinder Road, Trinder and Pepys Crescent. Quinta Drive comprises a greater number of multiple occupancy blocks than most roads in the area and has suffered a decimation of parking spaces for residents, with excessive use of yellow lines and pay by phone parking bays. Residents are now required to pay for fewer places at a terrible time with the cost of living crisis looming. The housing stock in this area is low-cost ex-council housing. Residents unable to afford electric cars are being penalised with higher permit prices. On top of this, inability to pay has seen residents parking in surrounding areas without controlled parking zones, thus creating the environment to create more controlled parking zones. Enough is enough. The council needs to find a way to deal with the hospital and its parking issues without penalising and inconveniencing thousands of residents.

2 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1 The Committee is requested to make a determination in respect of the petition(s) received in accordance with its powers as set out in the Council's Constitution.

3 ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED AND NOT RECOMMENDED

- 3.1 Not applicable.

4 POST DECISION IMPLEMENTATION

- 4.1.1 Post decision implementation depends on the decision taken by the Committee.

5 IMPLICATIONS OF DECISION

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

5.1.1 N/A

5.2 Social Value

5.2.1 N/A

5.3 Legal and Constitutional References

5.3.1 Council Constitution, Article 7, Section 7.5 Responsibility for Functions details that the Area Committee has responsibility for all constituency specific matters relating to the street scene including parking, road safety, transport, allotments, parks and trees.

5.3.2 Article 3 of the Council's Constitution, section 3.6 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 three minutes to present the petition to the committee for petitions with 25-1,999 signatures. For Petitions with over 1,999 signatures the speaker will be given five minutes to present the petition. Following the presentation the Chair and Committee Members have an opportunity to ask the Lead Petitioner questions. After the debate the Committee will decide to:

5.3.2.1 Take no action

5.3.2.2 Refer the matter to a chief officer to provide a written respond to Lead Petitioner within 20 working days; or

5.3.2.3 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

5.4 Risk Management

5.4.1 None in the context of this report.

4.6 Equalities and Diversity

4.6.1 N/A in the context of this report.

4.7 Corporate Parenting

4.7.1 None in the context of this report.

4.8 Consultation and Engagement

4.8.1 N/A

4.9 Environmental Impact

4.9.1 N/A

5 **Insight**

5.1 N/A

6 **BACKGROUND PAPERS**

6.1 Petitions submitted via email to Governance Service, prior to deadline for petitions to the Area Committee.