



## West Area Committee

30 March 2022

<b>Title</b>	<b>Petition(s)</b>
<b>Report of</b>	Head of Governance
<b>Wards</b>	Burnt Oak, Edgware, Colindale North, Colindale South, West Hendon, Hendon, Cricklewood, Child's Hill
<b>Status</b>	Public
<b>Urgent</b>	No
<b>Key</b>	No
<b>Enclosures</b>	None
<b>Officer Contact Details</b>	Pakeezah Rahman <a href="mailto:pakeezah.rahman@barnet.gov.uk">pakeezah.rahman@barnet.gov.uk</a> 020 8359 6452

### Summary

This report informs the Area Committee of the petition(s) received. The Committee is requested to consider the petitions 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 petition from Barnet residents have been received prior to the deadline for submission of petitions.

**Petition: Review of Double Yellow Lines, Forumside, Edgware**

**Lead Petitioner: John O'Connell**

**Ward: Edgware**

**Number of signatures: 45**

To request a review of the recently implemented, new Double Yellow Lines, in Forumside, Edgware, on behalf of the residents and business owners affected.

Our reasons for objection are as follows;

- Following the letter to advise of your proposed plans, there was no consultation with the residents or business owners.
- My partner and I wrote to oppose the proposed plans and suggested the implementation of dedicated parking bays and parking permits, however no response was received.
- The tenants of Forumside have been severely impacted by these restrictions, some of which have young children and have had no alternative but to purchase parking permits which have been allocated far from their home addresses.
- This has also impacted the elderly residents who can no longer park close to home and have to carry heavy shopping a considerable distance. If you are familiar with this part of Edgware you will know it is unsafe, especially after dark.
- Many residents are confused and angry, as English is not their first language and were unaware of the new restrictions.
- Business owners in Forumside are no longer able to park their vehicles close to their premises. Vehicles which are required for their business operations.
- These restrictions will create a 'rat-run' through Forumside with drivers using the thoroughfare as a convenient shortcut to avoid the traffic lights at the bottom of Station Road, when turning left.

We, the residents of Forumside request for the removal of the double yellow lines and request the implementation of dedicated parking bays with either parking permits or time restrictions.

We fully understand that double yellow lines will be required on the corners of Forumside to allow access for the emergency services.

May we suggest you please refer to Rectory Lane, Edgware which is a similar layout to Forumside and an example of how our suggestions can work. Rectory Lane is in fact narrower and busier. It has double yellow lines on corners, with single yellow lines and parking bays.

We the undersigned residents and traders of Forumside, petition Barnet Council to review parking restrictions in Forumside Edgware and request allocated parking bays and permits.

**Petition: Safety Measures Greyhound Hill**

**Lead Petitioner: Noeleene Coutinho**

**Ward: Hendon**

**Number of signatures: 25**

We are writing to you regarding the safety of the children and the parents/carers when crossing the road on Greyhound Hill. We are a Gold TfL stars school, and we work tirelessly to encourage the school community to travel sustainably every day. However, parents/carers are reluctant to allow their children to walk, scoot or cycle because of the serious issues with using the road, particularly the zebra crossing. It is essential that ensuring the children's safety is your priority for the following reasons.

As a school, we carried out surveys and held coffee mornings with parents/carers to find out their views on how they travel to school, their reasons for choosing that type of travel and what issues stop them from travelling sustainably. We had many replies and every single comment involved the grave concerns they have when crossing Greyhound hill.

An important reason of safety issue is that drivers do not stop even though they can see children and adults waiting by the curb or island. Drivers become impatient whilst waiting for people to cross, and they do not wait until the crossing is clear, to drive on. In some instances, drivers have driven around people on the crossing because they did not want to stop and wait. Additionally, cars travel too quickly and are not able to stop for people waiting.

In fact, in the last day of the last academic year, there was a serious incident when one of our parents was knocked off her bike whilst crossing the zebra crossing (The van was unable to stop in time.) Thankfully the parent has recovered even though she still suffers from some of her injuries. Next time, a child might not be so lucky! This is the main reason why some parents are unwilling to allow their children to travel sustainably as they are concerned for their child's safety as well as the speed of the cars on the hill.

To emphasise the issue with speeding traffic, year 6 children joined the local police, a Road Safety Education Officer from the Safe and Sustainable Travel team on the 27th September 2022 to monitor the traffic on Greyhound Hill. The police used a speed gun and stopped 5 motorists in one hour. The children were able to question the motorists on the reasons for speeding and highlighted the dangers of speeding to children.

As a school community, we launched a petition to demand urgent action from the council to further improve the safety of Greyhound Hill. So far, 244 people have signed the petition and commented on the dangers for pedestrians on Greyhound Hill. Hence,

our main demand is that the council adds a 20mph speed limit across the entire stretch of Greyhound Hill and add speed cameras to monitor the vehicles passing through.

Additional safety measures could include:

- Implementation of speed humps on either side of the crossings forcing drivers to slow down
- Changing the zebra crossing to pelican crossing as this would force the drivers to slow down and wait for the pedestrians to cross the road.
- Adding better speed signs and road markings warning cars to slow down, indicating that children are crossing, and that vehicles are warned that they are approaching a school
- Ensure parking enforcement officers patrol the area more frequently
- Recruit and employ a school crossing attendant to help children cross the road safely

To summarise, we believe that the situation cannot continue in this manner. Children's lives are at risk due to speeding issues, driver negligence and their complete disregard to pedestrians crossing on the zebra crossing. We know that the solutions presented above would be well received by the parents and the school community and would create a positive impact on the safety on Greyhound Hill.

## **1. RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 1.2 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.

## **2. ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED AND NOT RECOMMENDED**

- 2.1 Not applicable.

## **3. POST DECISION IMPLEMENTATION**

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

## **4. IMPLICATIONS OF DECISION**

- 4.1 **Resources (Finance & Value for Money, Procurement, Staffing, IT, Property, Sustainability)**

N/A

- 4.2 **Social Value**

N/A

- 4.3 **Legal and Constitutional References**

- 4.3.1 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.

4.3.2 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:

- 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

#### 4.4 **Risk Management**

4.4.1 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.