

Darlaston LNP

Report Title Station Road, Darlaston – Traffic Calming

Portfolio: Councillor R Walker

Service Area: Engineering and Transportation

Background:

At the Darlaston LNP held on 14 February a Mr. S. Stuart of 91 Station Street, Darlaston expressed concern at the speed of vehicles using Station Street especially at night. He asked if speed humps could be provided to slow the speed of traffic using the road.

Evidence for Recommendations:

On receipt of the request, the accident record for Stafford Road was checked to see if there is an accident problem related to excessive speed. In a three year period there has been ten slight and one serious personal injury accidents for the entire length of Station Road. Of these accidents, only one was due to excessive speed with two other accidents stating loss of control (which may be due to speed).

Using the accident information the First Year Rate of Return (FYRR) was calculated for the scheme. To produce a feasible traffic calming scheme an estimated budget of £130,000.00 would be required. The high estimate is due to the length of Station Road, coupled with the mix of both residential and industrial properties. In addition measures would be needed at the junction with Heath Road where the majority of the personal injury accidents have occurred. Also due to HGV traffic traditional speed cushions may generate too much noise and vibration.

Based on the above the FYRR of 85% traffic calming for Station Road does not qualify for funding as local safety scheme. For this reason it has been ranked as an environmental traffic scheme, where it has ranked first in the table of request.

Unfortunately there is no funding for environmental schemes through the present LTP programme, so a scheme for Station Road cannot be progressed at this moment in time.

Recommendations:

Station Road to be added to the site list for mobile radar activated speed signs to enforce current speed limit.

Station Road remains in the ranking as an environmental traffic scheme so that the situation is monitored on a yearly basis.