

Cabinet – 18 December 2019

Petition: Request a traffic management plan to reduce incidences of speeding on Beechdale

Recommendations of the Economy and Environment Overview and Scrutiny Committee

Summary of report

The Economy and Environment Overview and Scrutiny Committee considered a petition in regard to a request a traffic management plan to reduce incidences of speeding on Beechdale which had received more than 500 signatures.

This report presents the comments and recommendations from the Economy and Environment Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

The Committee considered a petition calling for the Council to consider a traffic management plan for the Beechdale estate following a recent fatal incident and concerns over road safety. There were community concerns that without a complete traffic management, the estate would find more incidences of dangerous driving and excessive speeding.

The Head of Planning, Engineering and Transportation confirmed that the Council reviews statutory road survey data and collision data annually which provides information on the rank and prioritisation of locations for allocation of funding to effectively reduce the number of casualties. In March 2019, the Cabinet approved the annual rank and prioritised list for road safety measures the Borough, this review identified that the estate was a low priority area for road safety measures when assessed against other locations in the Borough. It was identified that the estate had an average speed of 33.5mph in a 30mph zone.

It was noted that Fleming Road and Stephenson Avenue appeared on the low priority list of community health and safety locations where community concerns had been identified. However, it was confirmed that both locations were not applicable under the criteria for the local safety scheme programme as the scheme required a history of at least 6 personal injury collisions occurring in a previous 3 year period.

As a result of the incident, the Council had considered a number of measures to address community concerns such as the installation of a vehicle activated speed sign and engaging with the Police to take appropriate speed enforcement actions. It was confirmed that the incident was a result of criminal behaviour which was for the Police to action upon as the responsible authority for crime and disorder.

Members noted that the estate was subject to a Public Spaces Protection Order (PSPO) which restricts incidences of nuisance, annoyance, alarm or distress involving any vehicle or person.

A lengthy discussion commenced on the petition and approaches to alleviate community concerns about dangerous driving and excess speeding. It was highlighted that any incidences of dangerous driving or speeding needed to be logged with the Police as recorded data assists the Police in understanding local data patterns and allows the Police to prioritise areas which require support.

The Committee recommended for a highways review on traffic management and speed reduction measures on the estate. In addition, Members noted concerns about children crossing roads near Bloxwich Academy. It was requested that a school crossing patrol be installed to improve school crossing safety in the area.

The Committee Resolved:

1. **That, the Cabinet:**
 - a. **Undertake a highways review on traffic management and speed reduction measures on the Beechdale Estate;**
 - b. **Establish a School Crossing Patrol on Bloxwich Lane, Beechdale to improve school crossing safety in the area.**
2. **That, the Council empower the local community to organise a Community Speed Watch to monitor excessive speeding;**
3. **That, a Working Group be established to examine driving culture in the Borough and investigate good driving practice.**

Report Author

Matt Powis

Democratic Services Officer

Tel: 01922 654 764

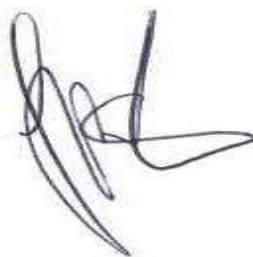
E-mail: matthew.powis@walsall.gov.uk

Signed:



Councillor L Harrison
Chair of Economy and Environment Overview
and Scrutiny Committee

Signed:



Simon Neilson
Executive Director of
Economy and Environment