

**Decision Session –
Cabinet Member for Transport,
Planning and Sustainability**

16th May 2013

Report of the Director of City and Environmental Services

Calf Close, Haxby Petition

Summary

1. The purpose of this report is to consider a 107 signature petition (see Annex A) from the residents of the Calf Close, Haxby requesting action to:
 - Reduce the number of drivers using Calf Close as a short cut from Station Road to York Road and vice versa.
 - Reduce the speed of vehicles using the road.

Recommendations

2. It is recommended that the Cabinet Member approves the following:
 - That the petition and concerns of the residents be noted but that no action be taken to take forward a scheme to limit through traffic.

Reason:

Because Traffic Regulation Orders aimed at reducing through traffic are ineffective.

- That the petitioners concerns regarding speed be forwarded to the city wide 20mph project.

Reason:

To provide background information for this project.

Background

3. The 107 signatures represent approximately half of the properties in Calf Close which is a minor residential road (see Annex B) bounded along one section by the Ethel Ward Playing Fields. The road runs between Station Road and York Road and during busy periods there is scope for drivers to use this route in preference to the main roads if there are any delays at the roundabout junction of Station Road / York Road / The Village. In addition, the Ethel Ward recreation grounds, local primary school and Library on Station Road will attract drivers wishing to park to use these facilities / premises.

4. There have been 2 recorded injury accidents during the last 5 years. One involved a driver pulling out of Calf Close on to Station Road in front of a cyclist and one involving a learner driver part way along the street losing control of the vehicle.
5. Reducing traffic on a through route that is a convenient alternative to the main road network using restricted access regulations has very little effect and relies heavily on active enforcement action. Enforcement in most cases can only be carried out by the Police, however this type of work tends to be a low priority for them hence the lack of effectiveness. This situation really only leaves closing the road to cut the through route as a viable alternative, however closing a road is not often an acceptable solution for the local community as a whole because it also affects the way residents carry out their daily activities.
6. Haxby is in phase 2 of the city wide 20mph plan which is due to begin consultation later this year with implementation, depending on the outcome, in 2014.

Options -

7. **Option 1** – acknowledge the aims of the petition but take no action regarding the through route issue. This is the recommended option for the reasons outlined above.
8. **Option 2** – Carry out some initial informal consultation to gauge the level of support for a road closure. This is not what residents have asked for and no budget has been established to carry out the necessary works to create a road closure, hence this is not the recommended option.
9. **Option 3** - leave the speed of traffic issue to be investigated later this year. This is the recommended option because it ties in with the city wide project for implementing 20mph speed limits.

The Council Plan

10. Considering this matter contributes to the Council Plan building strong communities by engaging with all members of the local community.

Implications

11.

Legal	There are no legal implications.
Financial	There are no financial implications.
Human Resources	There are no HR implications.

Crime & Disorder	There are no crime and disorder implications
Sustainability	There are no sustainability implications
Equalities	There are no equalities implications
Property	There are no property implications

Risk Management

12. In compliance with the Council's risk management strategy there are no risks associated with the recommendations in this report.

Contact Details:

Author

Alistair Briggs
Traffic Network Manager
Tel No. (01904) 551368

Chief Officer Responsible for the Report

Richard Wood
Assistant Director City Strategy

**Report
Approved**



Date
26/4/2013

Wards Affected: Haxby & Wigginton

All

For further information please contact the author of the report

Annex A Front Page of Petition

Annex B Plan of the area

Background Information

**Annex A
Front Page of Petition**

6.30 11/10/12

107

Petition to City of York Council - October 2012

We, the undersigned residents of Calf Close, Haxby, wish to state our concern that Calf Close is too frequently used by drivers as a short cut from Station Road to York Road. We are greatly concerned that such additional traffic will increase the risk of accidents involving pedestrians at times of the day when young children are using the road as a route to or from Ralph Butterfield Primary School. We are also concerned at the number of speeding vehicles which use this road, especially late at night, and two recent accidents bear witness to this.

We therefore call on City of York Council to take appropriate action as a matter of urgency to prevent Calf Close from being used as a short cut and to limit vehicles to safe speeds along this stretch of road.

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Annex B Plan of the Area

