
Meeting of Executive Members for City Strategy and Advisory Panel

14 January 2008

Report of the Director of City Strategy

Petition for Traffic Calming Measures on Penyghent Avenue, Burnholme, York.

Summary

1. This report advises Members of the receipt of a petition seeking traffic calming measures on Penyghent Avenue and the proposed initial action to be taken in response to the concerns expressed in it.

Background

2. The petition was presented to the Council in September 2007, and contains signatures from 110 people, 41 of whom live on Penyghent Avenue. The remainder of the petitioners appear to live some distance from Penyghent Avenue. The front page of the petition is attached in **Annex A** and a plan showing the location is included in **Annex B**. This plan highlights properties where residents on Penyghent Avenue and the immediate surrounding area, have signed the petition.
3. The existing 20 mph School Zone for St Aelred's RC Primary School, has been in place since 2002 and incorporates traffic calming for part of Penyghent Avenue near the junction of Fifth Avenue. This is also shown on **Annex B**.
4. The main safety concern of the petitioners is the speed of traffic on Penyghent Avenue and the safety of school children.
5. Officers are aware that on the last day of the summer term 2007, a road traffic accident occurred near the school involving a vehicle and young boy who sustained slight injuries. The location was on Fifth Avenue, close to Penyghent Avenue junction, (marked on **Annex B**).
6. The Speed Management Plan for York, adopted in 1997, sets a framework for speed management measures. Penyghent Avenue is 'residential' and means it is appropriate for traffic calming. However, a proposed scheme with the location of traffic calming measures would need to be supported by the majority of residents. It also needs to be justified, based on available funding and other priorities.

Proposal

7. It would appear that the petitioners' concerns might be best addressed by considering the introduction of additional traffic calming measures along the full length of Penyghent Avenue. This would probably involve constructing about four new road humps and changing the location of the 20 mph zone to encompass all of Penyghent Avenue. It is also likely to involve replacing the existing 20 mph signs with school warning signs and relocating the 20 mph signs to the northern end of Penyghent Avenue. The petition suggests a scheme proposal would receive support from the majority of residents on Penyghent Avenue. Therefore, it is proposed to undertake a detailed assessment of traffic type, volume, and speed, with a view to determining if traffic calming is justified under current criteria. This assessment would be carried out within the framework of the six-month review of speed issues previously approved by EMAP.

Options

8. Option 1: Assess request – using the prioritisation framework previously agreed by Members as part of the six monthly Review of Speeding Issues. Assess the speed survey information and compare with other high priority schemes put forward for future programmes.

Option 2: Do nothing

Analysis

9. Additional traffic calming on Penyghent Avenue is supported by many local residents, and would increase reassurance for the school community. However, the street is already traffic calmed in the vicinity of the school, and given there would be a significant cost implication for introducing such measures, the area should be reviewed to ensure traffic calming here is justified. No road traffic accidents have been reported over the last three years on Penyghent Avenue, therefore it is not a high priority for engineering measures. However, it could still be considered as a low priority speed management scheme if speeds are high. To assess this, Officers have instigated a speed survey on Penyghent Avenue and the results should be available to report at the meeting.

Consultation

10. Local Members have been informed of the request for traffic calming measures and invited to comment. Feedback has been received from Councillor R Potter, supportive of the petitioners' request for traffic calming. No comment to date from Councillors Funnell and Blanchard. Councillors Gillies and Simpson-Laing have also been invited to comment. No comment to date.

Corporate Priorities

11. A data led approach of assessing road safety issues and prioritising schemes meets the Council's corporate priorities to create a Safer City. It also supports the aims and objectives of the Road Safety Strategy as part of the Second Local Transport Plan.

Implications

12. There is a small financial implication for City Strategy in undertaking the proposed assessment, but a budget is available to carry this out within the LTP Capital Programme.
13. There are no Human Resources (HR) implications
14. There are no Equalities implications
15. There are no Legal implications
16. There are no Crime and Disorder implications
17. There are no Information Technology implications
18. There are no Property implications.

Risk Management

Risk Category	Impact	Likelihood	Score
Strategic	Very Low	Remote	1
Physical	Very Low	Remote	1
Financial	Low	Possible	6
Organisation/Reputation	Low	Possible	6

19. In compliance with the Council's risk management strategy, the main risks that have been identified in this report are those which could lead to financial loss and damage to the Council's image and reputation.

Measured in terms of impact and likelihood, the risk score for all risks has been assessed at less than 16. This means that at this point the risks need only to be monitored as they do not provide a real threat to the achievement of the objectives of this report.

Recommendations

20. That the Advisory Panel advises the Executive Member to:
 - (i) Note the content of the petition.
 - (ii) Note that Officers are carrying out a detailed speed survey to support the provision of traffic calming on Penyghent Avenue. The outcome will be presented at the meeting for Members consideration.
 - (iii) Seek approval to put forward traffic calming on Penyghent Avenue as an option in next year's programme.

Reasons: To respond to the petitioners' concerns.

Contact Details

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Specialist Implications Officer(s)

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Wards Affected:

All

Heworth

For further information please contact the author of the report

Background Papers: None

Annexes

Annex A: Scanned copy of petition (page one only, of 9 pages)

Annex B: Map of Penyghent Avenue and surrounding area