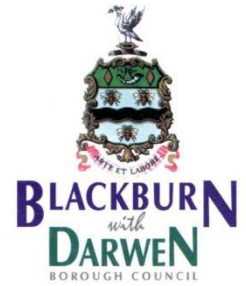


EXECUTIVE BOARD DECISION



REPORT OF: Executive Member for Growth and Development

LEAD OFFICERS: Strategic Director of Place

DATE: Thursday, 12 August 2021

PORTFOLIO(S) AFFECTED: Growth and Development

WARD/S AFFECTED: Shear Brow and Corporation Park;

KEY DECISION: N

SUBJECT:

East Park Road Petition – Road Safety Concerns

1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

A petition has been submitted signed by residents of East Park Road, East Park Court, Winston Road, Shear Brow, Beresford Road, The Croft and Langham Road requesting improved road safety for residents, pedestrians and people travelling around the East Park Road area.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

That the Executive Board:

- Notes the petition
- Notes that the service had already committed to designing and consulting on a road safety scheme for the area, following a request from Cllr Zainab Rawat, one of the Ward Councillors
- Supports the road safety scheme designed to improve road safety for the area
- Request that officers inform the lead petitioner of the decision

3. BACKGROUND

East Park Road is primarily a residential road but like many others in the Borough it has become a busy route used by residents to access amenities and to pass through the area.

On 7th May 2021 Cllr Zainab Rawat contacted the highways team to express both hers and the concerns of residents over road safety in the area. The HoS for Highways committed to undertake investigations and consider if intervention was needed. The outcome of these investigations was that it was felt that the introduction of a road safety scheme would enhance the safety for pedestrians and road users. Design progressed and early options were shared at Executive Member briefings in May and June.

On the 9th June this petition was received, confirming the local concern over road safety. The petition noted:

- Request for road markings
- Safety measures for children on Shear Bank Road
- Alleged speeding on East Park Road
- Concerns over the junction of Lilford and Park Avenue

The scheme designed by the highways traffic team will address the issues highlighted below:

- Request for road markings – Included in the scheme.
- Safety measures for children on Shear Bank Road and East Park Road – The traffic team consider that the road safety scheme will address safety for children and pedestrians and the introduction of a new 20mph speed limit and speed humps will slow traffic down. This will create a safer area for children to cross both roads without the need for controlled zebra crossings. The traffic team has considered the request to introduce zebra crossings and do not consider there to be a need in usage, as they will only be required at specific times of the day / week. In addition, the introduction of a zebra crossing with associated zig-zags around Winston Road will result in the loss of around 15 – 20 residents parking spaces which we consider to be an unacceptable outcome.
- Alleged speeding on East Park Road – Included in the scheme.
- Concerns over the junction of Lilford and Park Avenue - Whilst the new 20mph Zone will cover this junction it needs to be noted that the service has been in consultation with residents at this location for some time and all requests to impose a one way system on Lilford Road have been rejected (alternatives and either direction have been proposed previously. The highways traffic team consider this to be the only option to improve safety at this junction and despite offering several options the residents have consistently rejected this scheme.

4. KEY ISSUES & RISKS

To mitigate risk at this location the highways traffic team had committed to undertaking investigation and implementation of a road safety scheme, prior to the receipt of the petition.

5. POLICY IMPLICATIONS

None

6. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Whilst the road safety maintenance budget is committed to the long term programme of improvements funding for this scheme will be sourced within financial year.

7. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

The Council has a duty to maintain the adopted highway under the Highways Act 1980 and to demonstrate that they made adequate provision for upkeep and safety, as can be reasonably expected.

This is an ordinary petition as defined in the Council's constitution as being one signed by at least 50 people and submitted by people who live, work or study in the Borough. Part 7 of the Constitution outlines the possible mechanisms for petitions and this report and response is one such type of valid response.

8. RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

None

9. EQUALITY AND HEALTH IMPLICATIONS

Please select one of the options below.

Option 1 ☒ Equality Impact Assessment (EIA) not required – the EIA checklist has been completed.

Option 2 ☐ In determining this matter the Executive Member needs to consider the EIA associated with this item in advance of making the decision.

Option 3 ☐ In determining this matter the Executive Board Members need to consider the EIA associated with this item in advance of making the decision.

10. CONSULTATIONS

The road safety scheme will be consulted upon.

11. STATEMENT OF COMPLIANCE

The recommendations are made further to advice from the Monitoring Officer and the Section 151 Officer has confirmed that they do not incur unlawful expenditure. They are also compliant with equality legislation and an equality analysis and impact assessment has been considered. The recommendations reflect the core principles of good governance set out in the Council's Code of Corporate Governance.

12. DECLARATION OF INTEREST

All Declarations of Interest of any Executive Member consulted and note of any dispensation granted by the Chief Executive will be recorded in the Summary of Decisions published on the day following the meeting.

CONTACT OFFICER:	Dwayne Lowe, Head of Highways, Transport and Network, dwayne.lowe@blackburn.gov.uk
DATE:	23 rd July 2021
BACKGROUND PAPER:	Petition