

## READING BOROUGH COUNCIL

### REPORT BY DIRECTOR OF ENVIRONMENT AND NEIGHBOURHOOD SERVICES

TO:	TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT SUB-COMMITTEE		
DATE:	14 JANUARY 2016	AGENDA ITEM:	5 (B)
TITLE:	PETITION FOR SAFE CROSSING PLACES FOR SCHOOL CHILDREN ON ROTHERFIELD WAY		
LEAD COUNCILLOR:	TONY PAGE	PORTFOLIO:	STRATEGIC ENVIRONMENT, PLANNING AND TRANSPORT
SERVICE:	TRANSPORTATION & STREETCARE	WARDS:	THAMES AND PEPPARD
LEAD OFFICER:	JAMES PENMAN	TEL:	0118 937 2202
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#### 1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- 1.1 To report to the Sub-Committee the receipt of a petition asking the Council to implement a crossing place for school children on Rotherfield Way.

#### 2. RECOMMENDED ACTION

- 2.1 That the Sub-Committee notes the report.
- 2.2 That the petition is received and officers investigate the issue and report back their findings to a future meeting of the Sub-committee.
- 2.3 That the lead petitioner be informed accordingly.

#### 3. POLICY CONTEXT

- 3.1 The provision of pedestrian crossing facilities and associated criteria is specified within existing Traffic Management Policies and Standards.

#### 4. THE PROPOSAL

4.1 An online petition has been created, which, at 31<sup>st</sup> December 2015 has received 462 signatures.

4.2 The wording of the petition reads:

*'We demand Reading Borough Council urgently implement an appropriately located crossing place for school children on Rotherfield Way.'*

*'Why is this important?*

*Every child deserves a safe route to school.*

*There have been two serious incidents involving school children in the last two years. Coupled with a number of near misses, we demand that the council urgently review traffic conditions and the location of crossing places on Rotherfield Way.*

*We believe there is a significant volume of traffic exceeding the speed limit on this very busy road. Additional crossing places are required, in particular by the Surley Row junction where numerous school children are crossing during morning rush hour.*

*We cannot wait for one of our children to die before action is taken.'*

4.3 The Sub-committee is asked to note the petition and officers will report back their response to a future meeting of the Sub-committee.

#### 5. CONTRIBUTION TO STRATEGIC AIMS

5.1 To promote equality, social inclusion and a safe and healthy environment for all.

#### 6. COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT AND INFORMATION

6.1 The lead petitioner will be informed of the findings of the Sub-Committee.

#### 7. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

7.1 None arising from this report.

## **8. EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT**

8.1 In addition to the Human Rights Act 1998 the Council is required to comply with the Equalities Act 2010. Section 149 of the Equalities Act 2010 requires the Council to have due regard to the need to:-

- eliminate discrimination, harassment, victimisation and any other conduct that is prohibited by or under this Act;
- advance equality of opportunity between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it;
- foster good relations between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it.

8.2 The Council will carry out an equality impact assessment scoping exercise prior to submitting the update report to a future meeting of the Sub-Committee.

## **9. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

9.1 None arising from this report.

## **10. BACKGROUND PAPERS**

10.1 None.