

Croydon Council

For General Release

REPORT TO:	COUNCIL 1 DECEMBER 2014
AGENDA ITEM NO:	8
SUBJECT:	RESPONSES TO PETITIONS PRESENTED TO COUNCIL ON BEHALF OF THE PEOPLE OF CROYDON ON 6 OCTOBER 2014
LEAD OFFICER:	Julie Belvir, Director of Democratic and Legal Services
WARDS:	ALL
CORPORATE PRIORITY/POLICY CONTEXT: This report is prepared in keeping with paragraph 3.22 of the Council Procedure Rules at Part 4A of the Constitution.	

1. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 1.1 The Council is asked to note the response to the petition presented by Councillors at its last ordinary meeting as detailed in paragraph 4 of the report.

2. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- 2.1 This report details Cabinet Member response to the petition presented to Council on 6th October 2014. All Members have the opportunity to ask questions on the responses to any of the petitions.

3. BACKGROUND

- 3.1 Part 4A of the Constitution allows Councillors to present petitions to meetings of the Full Council.
- 3.2 The Constitution requires a response to that petition to be presented at this meeting.
- 3.3 A period of up to ten minutes is permitted for questions on the response to the petition.

4. RESPONSES TO PETITIONS

- 4.1 Petition presented by Councillor Vidhi Mohan on behalf of residents

“We the residents of Carolina Road and other affected roads in Upper Norwood Ward, urge Croydon Council to take immediate action on the following issues affecting us:

1. Ensure that parking restrictions are properly enforced at the junction of Carolina Road and Green Lane, where cars regularly park illegally, and thereby blocking access to the road for local residents.
2. Work with the police to ensure that strong action is taken against those engaging in anti-social behaviour at the junction of Carolina Road and Green Lane, especially in the evenings and at night. Local residents find this very intimidating. “

Response from Councillor Kathy Bee, Cabinet Member for Transport and Environment (1) and Councillor Mark Watson, Cabinet Member for Safety and Justice (2)

The Council and the police continue to work together to tackle crime and anti-social behaviour (ASB) across the Borough.

Records show that the Safer Croydon Partnership has delivered lots of activity into this location in the past; for example

- A Dispersal Order
- Visits to all the local shops adjacent to Carolina Road with recommendations for them to join the Safer Croydon Radio scheme providing live contact with the Council’s Control Room,
- Deploying the Youth Outreach Team to engage with young people in the area and
- Working with individuals to tackle their ASB using Acceptable behaviour Agreements.

Both Council and police resources are deployed according to need. Areas with high numbers of reports (both crime and asb) are discussed at the Joint Agency Group which task both Police and Council officers but also diversion and support approaches; for example engagement with young people hanging around with a view to directing them to make more positive use of their leisure time. If individuals continue to behave badly then the process escalates to enforcement measures by the Anti-Social behaviour Team. Currently, the Council’s ASB Team has no live cases in this area.

The analysis of Police data showed 64 incidents have been reported over the past 12 months, (an average of 5 per month) the majority of the incidents were recorded as rowdy and inconsiderate behaviour.

There have been only 3 calls relating to Carolina Road, one in Feb, one in June and one in July, all for rowdy and inconsiderate behaviour. The analysis covering the nearest roads indicates that most of the calls happened in July, and on Sundays.

In comparison to other areas in the Borough the number of reports of anti-social behaviour at this location is low. If a resident or a business is experiencing ASB we would encourage them to report all incidents to the police or the council as there are many actions that we can take, working in partnership to improve the situation; including the deployment of both police and council patrols in specific locations if we

have the information to act.

4.2 Petition presented by Councillor Mark Watson on behalf of residents of Davidson Road.

“We the undersigned call upon Croydon Council to introduce controlled parking on Davidson Road from 180 - 280. We understand that controlled parking permits are currently priced at £80 a year for the first permit. “

Response from Councillor Kathy Bee, Cabinet Member for Transport and Environment

The petition was reported to the Traffic Management Advisory Committee meeting on 20 October and it was agreed to extend the Croydon Controlled Parking Zone into the section of Davidson Road between the existing boundary by Stretton Road to Brampton Road with shared-use Permit / Pay & Display bays operating between 9am and 5pm, Monday to Saturday, subject to consultation with residents and businesses’. It is anticipated that this consultation will be undertaken in the first 6 months next year.

4.3 Petition presented by Councillor John Wentworth on behalf of residents:

The residents who live on Queen Mary Road, Upper Norwood Ward call on Croydon Council to introduce a 20mph speed limit in their road and associated enforcement measures.

Response from Councillor Kathy Bee, Cabinet Member for Transport and Environment

The new administration has pledged to investigate and introduce area wide 20mph speed limits where local residents are in favour. Queen Mary Road will be included in an area that will be considered for such treatment.

At this time, officers are investigating all possible options with a view to developing a clear policy on the introduction of area wide 20mph speed limits. This will also require a bid for funding to Transport for London (TfL) via the Local Implementation Plan (LIP) process. Provided that this application meets with financial approval, a full programme of works is expected to start in the 2015/16 financial year.

The Metropolitan Police have advised the council that they will enforce any 20mph limit in the same way that they enforce the existing 30mph limit. At this time, it is felt that enforcement action is the most appropriate way to deal with speeding issues. Physical measures to restrict traffic speeds can be introduced, where speeding persists, but need to be considered most carefully given the noise and vibration problems that these features can cause.

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BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS: