

Council Petitions Scheme

Council

Date: 19th September 2019

Author: Chief Legal Officer (Monitoring Officer)

Wards: All

Parishes Affected: All

1. Purpose and Reasons

- 1.1 To report the receipt of a petition calling upon Swindon Borough Council to: "make the section of the Hay Lane in Grange Park safe to cross for pedestrians..." which satisfies the requirement of the Council's Petition Scheme for the matter to be presented to Full Council as a petition for debate.
- 1.2 Operating the Petition Scheme helps deliver the strategic corporate priority of working with people and families to help them fulfil their potential by developing public participation in decision-making.

2. Recommendations

Council is recommended to:

- 2.1 Hear the Lead Petitioner (or representative) presenting the Petition calling on the Council to "make the section of the Hay Lane in Grange Park safe to cross for pedestrians..."
- 2.2 Thank the Lead Petition and the signatories for bringing this Petition to Council.
- 2.3 To consider any amendment from the Cabinet Member for Transport and the Environment about how the Council wishes to respond to the petition.

3. Detail

Petition – Make Hay Lane Safe

- 3.1 The Council has received a petition containing 425 signatures, a copy of which can be obtained from the Committee Clerk. In addition, there is an online version of the petition at <https://you.38degrees.org.uk/petitions/make-hay-lane-safe> with 409 signatures at 13:00, 11th September 2019, which it has not been able to cross check with the paper version. The petition satisfies the requirement of the Petitions Scheme for the matter to be presented to Full Council as a petition for debate as a single ward issue.
- 3.2 The petition states: "We, the undersigned, call on Swindon Borough Council to make the section of the Hay Lane in Grange Park safe to cross for pedestrian. We call on Swindon Council to introduce some or all of the following measures to improve pedestrian safety on this section of Hay Lane:

Further information on the subject of this report can be obtained from Lisa Hall on : 07971253625 or Email lhall@swindon.gov.uk or Shaun Banks, Committee and Member Services on 07980752047 or Email sbanks@swindon.gov.uk

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- Introduced a 20mph speed limit.
- Insert a road-wide speed hump on or near to the pedestrian crossing.
- Improved signage to ensure motorists are aware of the zebra crossing and to slow down motorists.”

Procedure

- 3.3 At the Annual Council meeting held on 21st May 2010, the Council formally adopted a Petition Scheme in accordance with the requirements of Sections 10 to 22 of the Local Democracy, Economic Development and Construction Act 2009 (the 2009 Act) and subsequent statutory guidance (Council Minute 10, 2010/11 refers). While the statutory requirement to have a petition scheme has been repealed (Section 46, Localism Act 2011), the Council has resolved to retain a petition scheme at each subsequent Annual Meeting in order to promote public participation. The current scheme is set out in Section 9, Part 4 of the Constitution (Council Minute 11, 2019/2020).
- 3.4 The Council's Petitions Officer has determined that the Petitions set out in paragraph 3.2 of the report meets the requirements to be considered by the Council.
- 3.4.1 In accordance with the Scheme:
- 3.4.2 The petition organiser, or their appointed deputy, will be invited to address the meeting for up to 5 minutes on the subject of the petition.
- 3.5 The petition organiser will be notified of the outcome of the debate in writing and of any follow-up actions that are agreed by the meeting.
- 3.6 A copy of the petition is available for inspection by contacting Committee and Member Services.
- 3.7 The Lead Petitioner has been advised that the petition will be presented to the meeting of Council to be held on 19th September 2019 and has been invited to attend.

4. Alternative Options

- 4.1 No further options are proposed at this time.

5. Implications, Diversity Impact Assessment and Risk Management

Financial and Procurement Implications

- 5.1 There are none specific to this report. However, should the Council determine that action be taken in respect of this petition this will require a report to the

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Cabinet, Cabinet Member or relevant Committee and any Financial and Procurement Implications will need to be addressed in that report.

Legal and Human Rights Implications

- 5.2 Legal and human rights implications have been taken into account in the body of the report. It is considered that the recommendations are compatible with Convention Rights.

All Other Implications (including Staff, Sustainability, Health, Rural, Crime and Disorder)

- 5.3 None

Diversity Impact Assessment

- 5.4 No Diversity Impact Assessment (DIA) was undertaken for this report. However, a DIA process would be followed in any subsequent Cabinet Report if appropriate.

Risk Management

- 5.5 None

6. Consultees

- 6.1 The Director of Finance (Section 151 Officer) and Chief Legal Officer (Monitoring Officer) are consulted in respect of all reports.

7. Background Papers

- 7.1 None

8. Appendices

- 8.1 Petition Extract