

REPORT TO: Environment and Urban Renewal Policy and Performance Board

DATE: 15th November 2017

REPORTING OFFICER: Strategic Director, Enterprise, Community & Resources

PORTFOLIO: Transportation

SUBJECT: ePetition – Colvend Way – Effective Speed Control Measures

WARD(S) Birchfield

1.0 PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

- 1.1 To update Members on actions taken relating to an ePetition regarding traffic calming measures, installed by Morris Homes at Colvend Way, Widnes as part of the residential development.

2.0 RECOMMENDATION: That:

Members note that improvements were made to the speed control measures on 17th October 2017 and their ongoing effectiveness will be monitored. Colvend Way will be added to the list of sites at which the Council’s mobile speed activated signs are periodically located.

3.0 SUPPORTING INFORMATION

- 3.1 An ePetition ran from 30/08/2017 to 11/10/2017 on the Council’s website stating the following:

“We the undersigned petition the council to Install effective speed control measures on Colvend Way.

Colvend Way is a new development built in the Upton Rocks area. When the the new development was agreed it was provisioned to be a through road connecting Falkirk Avenue to Lanark Gardens. As the road is close to the local amenities it will be a busy through road.

When myself and other residents moved to the area we highlighted our concerns that there will be a lot of children who live on the street and wanted assurances that effective speed controls would be put in place on the street to protect our children.

On the 29th August two speed bumps were installed, these speed bumps are much smaller than the speed bumps installed on Falkirk Avenue nearby and having driven over them cause no level of disruption to someone driving over the 20 mph limit on the street. I am concerned that this will result in people using the road exceeding the 20 mph limit as there is no deterrent

such as damage to their vehicle. This will cause a danger to the many children who live on the street. As a result we require the council to install speed bumps up to the legal maximum limit of 100mm, This will act as a deterrent and cause drivers to keep to the minimum 20 mph and prevent injuries to children playing on the street. We would also request a electronic speed monitor similar to the one installed on Upton Bridle Path that displays the speeds of vehicles using the road as well as a community speed gun.”

71 people signed the ePetition.

- 3.2 Colvend Way is a through road constructed by Morris Homes to serve its development. Alongside the adjoining Falkirk Avenue, it provides a route for traffic accessing the wider Upton Rocks area to and from Queensbury Way. It is subject to a Section 38 Agreement under the Highways Act for its future adoption by the Council. Colvend Way falls within an area wide 20mph speed restriction zone. 2 No. ‘thump’ type speed control measures were included within the development itself to help self-enforce the 20mph restriction. Following the installation of the thumps, a Road Safety Audit was carried out which did not find any road safety issue with the thumps, but did make a general observation regarding their effectiveness. The thump profiles were examined and found to be slightly lower than the current Council standard detail height of 37mm, which was the height approved by the Council shown in the Morris Homes drawings.
- 3.3 At the request of the Council, Morris Homes amended the thump profiles on 17 October 2017, to the maximum height allowable under current DfT advice of 45mm. It should be noted that is not permitted to install this type of traffic calming at a height of 100mm. Following the amendment of the thumps, a completion certificate was issued, allowing the road to open.
- 3.4 It is intended to continue to monitor the effectiveness of the traffic calming features. Speed activated signs have also been requested in the petition. It would be possible to add the road to the list of sites at which the mobile speed activated signs are periodically located.
- 3.5 A Community Speed Watch scheme is also requested in the petition. Unfortunately, the Council do not currently operate such a scheme, but this may be picked up again by the Road Safety Partnership in the future.

4.0 **POLICY IMPLICATIONS**

- 4.1 There are no policy implications.

5.0 **FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

- 5.1 There may be future financial implications for the Council, should further traffic calming measures need to be installed in the future once Colvend Way is adopted.

6.0 IMPLICATIONS FOR THE COUNCIL’S PRIORITIES

6.1 Children & Young People in Halton

The changes made should help reduce traffic speeds and have a positive impact on road safety.

6.2 Employment, Learning & Skills in Halton

None

6.3 A Healthy Halton

None

6.4 A Safer Halton

The changes made should help reduce traffic speeds and have a positive impact on road safety.

6.5 Halton’s Urban Renewal

None

7.0 RISK ANALYSIS

7.1 There may be future financial implications for the Council, should further traffic calming measures need to be installed in the future once Colvend Way is adopted.

8.0 EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY ISSUES

8.1 None.

9.0 LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS UNDER SECTION 100D OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972

Document	Place of Inspection	Contact Officer
ePetition	www.halton.gov.uk	
Colvend Way Stage 3 Road Safety Audit	Municipal Buildings	Jonathan Farmer