



Leicester
City Council

**WARDS AFFECTED:
COLEMAN**

**Cabinet Lead
OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY MANAGEMENT BOARD**

**28th May 2008
18th June 2008**

**ROAD SAFETY PETITION
AL-AQSA PRIMARY SCHOOL**

Report of the Service Director – Regeneration, Highways and Transportation

1 Purpose of Report

- 1.1 This report is in response to a petition presented to full Council, on January 24th, 2008 by Mr Yahya Birt on behalf of the School requesting that parents of pupils at Al-Aqsa Primary School and neighbours of the school, have particular concerns about road safety at the complex junction of Clumber Road, The Littleway, The Wayne Way and the Langhill in Leicester at school start and finish times. They request the installation of traffic calming measures at this junction to slow traffic down.

2 Summary

- 2.1 The Service Director has approved the recommendations in this report which details how the concerns of the petitioners are to be addressed.

3 Recommendations

- 3.1 It is recommended that the decisions of the Service Director as set out below, be supported:
- a) To note the petitioners concerns,
 - b) To agree that officers take no further action to implement a traffic calming scheme in this area, which is the most effective way of reducing vehicle speeds, until such a time as the area reaches a higher level in the traffic calming priority list.
 - c) That officers provide support to the petitioners by helping the school to produce a school travel plan to counteract the congestion problems mentioned in the petition.
 - d) That officers visit the school to carry out road safety education and training.

- e) That officers investigate the provision of suitable school warning signs in the area around the school.
- f) That the petitioners be informed accordingly,

4 Report

- 4.1 Mr. Yahya Birt presented a petition with a total of 123 signatures to full Council, on 24th January 2008.
- 4.2 The petition read;
“We, the undersigned parents of pupils at Al-Aqsa Primary School and neighbours of the school, recognise the importance of road safety. We have particular concerns about road safety at the complex junction of Clumber Road, The Littleway, The Wayne Way and the Langhill in Leicester.
- 4.3 We would like to draw to the attention of Leicester City Council that between 8.15 a.m. and 8.40 a.m. and again from 3.10 p.m. to 3.25 p.m. on school days this particular junction is seriously congested as parents drop off and collect their children from the school and commuters use the route to avoid traffic on the main roads in the area.
- 4.4 In 2006 the management of Al-Aqsa Primary School made a request (via our local Councillors) for the installation of traffic calming measures at this junction in order to prevent any accidents. However, despite Councillor Mary Draycott’s efforts, no further action was taken beyond preliminary discussions.
- 4.5 Al-Aqsa Primary School has made considerable efforts to prevent accidents by ensuring no build-up of traffic at this junction, but these have only had a temporary effect. Last year, there was one reported near accident and there is great concern that quick action is taken to forestall any possibility of any more serious incidents happening in the future.
- 4.6 We ask therefore that Leicester City Council installs appropriate traffic calming measures, road markings or other measures to improve the safety of all road users and pedestrians – particularly children – at the aforementioned junction”

Accidents and Vehicle Speeds

- 4.7 In the period between 1st January 2004 and 31st December 2006 there were no recorded personal injury accidents in the area around the School.
- 4.8 The level of accidents here and in the surrounding area, place the school in an area that is placed 31st on the priority list for traffic calming, as agreed by the Service Director – Highways and Transportation on 1st April, 2007. Priority for traffic calming measures in the top 6 residential areas in the list was agreed for funding.
- 4.9 It could not be justified to install a traffic calming scheme in this area, when sites with many more accidents, need investigating fully and treating before this one.

- 4.10 Measurement of vehicle speeds on Clumber Road, show an 85th percentile speed of 29 mph. This shows that the large majority (85%) of the traffic is travelling at speeds below or only just above the speed limit.
- 4.11 With the level of road traffic accidents here and the measured vehicle speeds, the road would not justify police enforcement under current enforcement criteria.
- 4.12 Few really serious problems were observed on two visits to the site compared to many other schools visited over the years. Vehicle speeds were low and drivers were generally very careful.
- 4.13 Some pupils could benefit from road safety education and training.
- 4.14 The school has not produced a School Travel Plan and should consider this as a matter of urgency to try and find alternative ways rather than the private car for getting the children to school.
- 4.15 The junction has adequate markings for the nature of the roads leading off it. Improved school warning signs could be put on the approaches to the School particularly on Clumber Road where vehicle speeds might be a bit higher.
- 4.16 The recorded personal injury accidents do not justify the construction of a traffic calming scheme in this area, which is the most effective way of reducing vehicle speeds, as requested by the petitioners.

5 Financial Implications

- 5.1 Possible low cost provision of signs depending on site requirements and suitability. (£500 approx. max. estimate)

Martin Judson, Head of Finance, Regeneration and Culture, 29-7390

6 Legal Implications

- 6.1 No legal implications arise directly from this report.

Anthony Cross, Head of Environment & Advocacy Law, 29-6362

7 Other Implications

OTHER IMPLICATIONS	YES/NO	Paragraph references within the report
Equal Opportunities	NO	
Policy	NO	
Sustainable and Environmental	NO	
Crime and Disorder	NO	
Human Rights Act	NO	
Elderly/People on Low Income	NO	

8 Risk Assessment Matrix

Risk	Likelihood L/M/H	Severity Impact L/M/H	Control Actions (if necessary/or appropriate)
1 – If no improvements are made collisions between vehicles and other road users could occur.	L	M	

L – Low
M– Medium
H – High

L - Low
M- Medium
H - High

9 Background Papers – Local Government Act 1972

- a. Petitions presented to Full Council, on January 24th, 2008 by Mr Yahya Birt on behalf of the School.
- b. Report to Service Director – Highways & Transportation – Traffic in Residential Areas – January, 2007.

10 Powers under which decision is made.

10.1 No Powers required.

11 Decision By Service Director

The recommendations contained in this report are approved

Signed Jeff Miller

Service Director of Highways and Transportation

Date:

12 Report Author

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