



Northumberland

County Council

CASTLE MORPETH LOCAL AREA COUNCIL
DATE: 13TH MARCH 2023

PETITION – REQUEST FOR ROAD REPAIR AND ONE WAY SYSTEM AT
MARGARET STREET, WIDDRINGTON STATION

Cabinet Member: John Riddle, Environment and Local Services

Report of: Service Director - Local Services, Paul Jones

Purpose of report

To respond to the e petition which closed on 11th November 2022 regarding a request for road repairs and a one-way system at Margaret Street, Widdrington Station.

Recommendations

It is recommended that the Local Area Council note the content of this report and support the actions proposed.

Link to Corporate Plan

How - “We want to be efficient, open and work for everyone”

Enjoying - “We want you to love where you live”

Connecting - “We want you to have access to the things you need”

Key Issues

1. An e petition has been received requesting road repairs and a one-way system at Margaret Street, Widdrington Station.
2. The e petition has been signed by 129 signatories.
3. The petition recognises the efforts of Councillor Dickinson in trying to resolve the issues regarding road condition, but residents feel they have no option but to petition for this work to be carried out.
4. The petition states that remedial works are not holding, and the streets are causing damage to cars.
5. A request for a one-way system on Margaret Street has also been made. The request has been recorded on our Directory of Requests Database.

Background

The Petition

The County Council has received a 129-name e-petition stating that :-

“We the undersigned are asking Northumberland County Council to take action to repair our streets on The Green and Margaret Street in Widdrington Northumberland. We recognise the efforts of the local Councillor in trying to resolve this matter and as residents feel we have no option but to petition for this work to be carried out. Remedial works are not holding, and the streets are damaging people's cars. We need proper resurfacing works to solve this problem. In addition to the above we are petitioning for a one-way system along Margaret Street to improve traffic flow and safety. We urge the County Council to listen to us and support our requests with some action.”

Comments

Margaret Street is a one of the main residential streets accessed from Grange Road in Widdrington Station. It lies within a 20mph zone meaning traffic calming measures are provided throughout the estate. Several other streets are accessed via Margaret Street.



Plan of Margaret Street, Widdrington Station



Northern access to Margaret Street at Grange Road junction

The County Council are mindful of the deteriorating condition of Margaret Street, we have visited the site to review the condition of the road alongside the ongoing programme of planned maintenance across Northumberland. While at present we consider the condition of the street is not such that we would replace schemes already identified in the 2023/24 programme, we will submit the street for consideration in the development and prioritisation of the next Local Transport Plan programme of maintenance.

In the meantime, we have highlighted the condition of Margaret Street with our Castle Morpeth Highways Delivery team who are responsible for undertaking regular inspection, for them to consider if there are any actionable defects and carry out any works identified to maintain the surface in a safe condition.



Image of poor road surface and road hump on Margaret Street

With regards to the request for a one-way system on Margaret Street, we have again visited the street on a number of occasions.

Concerns about inconsiderate parking have been raised, vehicles are reported to be parking too close to junctions meaning that visibility is affected as a result.

Margaret Street is an older street not built to modern standards to cater for the number or size of vehicles now using the street, we would support this being submitted for consideration in the next Local Transport Plan programme of road safety initiatives.

Although, according to our records, no previous requests for a one way system have been made, this has now been recorded onto our Directory of Requests database and will be included for future consideration in a Local Transport Plan programme to be supported by either the local County Councillor or Parish Council.

Should a one-way system be considered, this would be subject to a formal consultation. As well as residents in Margaret Street, residents in surrounding roads accessed from Margaret Street would need to adhere to this restriction and would need to be consulted.

In the meantime, as this is a residential street it should be noted by all residents that the highway code states that vehicles should not park opposite or within 10 metres (32 feet) of a junction, except in an authorised parking space.

Accident Data

According to accident data from Northumbria Police, there have been no personal injury collisions on Margaret Street in the previous five years. This data does not include any damage only incidents or near misses which may have occurred.

The was a slight personal injury collision on Elizabeth Street in January 2020 when a car travelling on Elizabeth Street was hit by a car accessing from one of the side streets.

Proposed Actions

The requests for road repairs and a one-way system will be considered for inclusion in a future Local Transport Plan (LTP) programme and assessed and further prioritised alongside similar requests across Northumberland.

Implications

Policy	The response to the issues raised in this petition is consistent with LTP Policies.
Finance and value for money	n/a
Legal	None
Procurement	None
Human Resources	None
Property	None
Equalities (Impact Assessment attached) Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> N/A <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	None
Risk Assessment	n/a
Crime & Disorder	n/a
Customer Consideration	Petition requests road repairs and the introduction of a one-way system on Margaret Street, Widdrington Station.

Carbon reduction	None
Health and Wellbeing	Petition raises issues regarding road condition on Margaret Street
Wards	Druridge Bay

Background papers:

None

Report sign off

	Full Name of Officer
Monitoring Officer/Legal	SB
Executive Director of Finance & S151 Officer	JW
Relevant Executive Director	RM
Chief Executive	RF
Portfolio Holder(s)	JR

Author and Contact Details

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