



Northumberland

County Council

COMMITTEE: CASTLE MORPETH LOCAL AREA COUNCIL

DATE: 15TH MAY 2023

TITLE OF REPORT: PETITION TO INVESTIGATE THE POTENTIAL REMOVAL OF A TRAFFIC ISLAND, AMENDMENT OF THE EXTENT OF THE SPEED LIMIT AND THE INTRODUCTION OF ROAD MARKINGS TO PROVIDE VISUAL CONSTRAINTS TO SLOW TRAFFIC ENTERING PEGSWOOD, OUTSIDE BLOSSOM PARK ESTATE PEGSWOOD

Purpose of report: This petition is in respect of the perceived on-going highways safety issues related to the traffic island introduced as part of the off-site highway works associated with the new development named Blossom Park, Pegswood.

Recommendations

It is recommended that the Petitions Committee note the content of this report, acknowledge receipt of the petition and support the proposed actions.

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

The residents of Pegswood have submitted a petition raising a series of concerns pertaining to the traffic island to the west of the entrance to Blossom Park Pegswood. The residents feel that the introduction of the traffic island has created a highway safety issue resulting in accidents and action is required to rectify the situation. The petition contains 329 names.

Background

The County Council has received a petition relating to road safety concerns in relation to a new traffic island introduced on the C395 to the west of the access to new development at Blossom Park, Pegswood.

The traffic island was introduced as part of the Barratts development at the request of the Highways Authority in order to act as a traffic calming feature to reduce the speed of traffic entering Pegswood.

Since its introduction of the traffic island there have been incidents of the traffic island being hit by vehicles.

As part of the highway works associated with the access to the development of Blossom Park, Pegswood, Road Safety Audits have been undertaken on the creation of the access and the construction on the traffic island.

As part of the initial Road Safety Audit on the entire scheme items were raised which have been relayed back to the designers of the scheme to address.

A separate Road Safety Audit has been undertaken solely on the impact on highways safety the removal of the traffic island will have.

Actions:

A) Highways Development Management are reviewing the necessity of the traffic island and to see whether the removal will have an adverse impact on highway safety. A Road Safety Audit has been commissioned to enable an assessment to be made as to whether the removal of the traffic island will adversely impact highway safety and what other mitigation measures may need to be introduced.

B) HDM are liaising with Barratts to finalise a safety scheme at the west end of Pegswood in the vicinity of the access to Blossom Park

Recommendation:

That Members accept the actions officers propose to take as set out in this report.

Author and Contact Details

Rob Murfin

Rob.murfin@northumberland.gov.uk