

**AREA COMMITTEE:** BISCOT, HIGH TOWN & ROUND GREEN

**DATE:** 29TH JUNE 2004

**SUBJECT:** PETITION – IN SUPPORT OF THE PROPOSED  
ONE-WAY STREET SCHEME IN BURY PARK

**REPORT BY:** HEAD OF ENGINEERING AND TRANSPORTATION

**CONTACT OFFICER:** JONATHAN PALMER 01582 546686

**IMPLICATIONS:**

<b>LEGAL</b>	<b>COMMUNITY SAFETY</b>
<b>EQUALITIES</b>	<b>ENVIRONMENT</b>
<b>FINANCIAL</b>	<b>CONSULTATIONS</b>
<b>STAFFING</b>	<b>OTHER</b>

**WARDS AFFECTED: BISCOT & DALLOW**

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**PURPOSE**

1. To report the receipt of a petition to this Area Committee from the owners of Raja and Rani Fashions and containing approximately 200 signatures in support of the proposed Dunstable Road (Bury Park) improvements.

**RECOMMENDATION(S)**

2. To note the recommendation of the Executive with regard to the Dunstable Road (Bury Park) improvement scheme.

**REPORT**

3. The whole issue of the traffic arrangement for the Dunstable Road (Bury Park) improvement scheme was reported to the Executive on 29 March 2004 for a decision to be made on the way forward. There have been two recent petitions regarding Dunstable Road.

4. The first organised by the Bury Park Jamie Masjid Mosque Committee containing 378 signatures was reported to this Area Committee on 26 January 2004. The petitioners proposed that ...*"the Council urgently reconsiders this new scheme and find an alternative solution without re-routing the traffic along Bury Park Road."*
5. The Executive also noted the receipt of the second and current petition being reported to this Area Committee, containing approximately 200 signatures organised through a shop on Dunstable Road. This petition is in response to the Mosque's petition and states;- *"Residents, customers of the proposed Bury Park One – Way street plan, that the Council has already published, would like to advise of their concern. It is understood that the agreed One – Way system is being opposed. However, we, the undersigned feel this is against procedures to do a U – Turn in a policy already approved. Traffic and parking would be greatly eased and less congested at all times, plus allowing all users easy access to much visited shops and simultaneously increasing revenue for the Council by means of the proposed pay meters already recommended. We have endeavoured to highlight this cause to all customers and fellow shop – owners who have whole – heartedly backed the original One – Way plan set forward by the Council by means on the petition....."*
6. Both petitions were considered by the Executive and the following recommendation was made with regard to traffic flows on Bury Park Road:  
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***'That amendments be pursued to the Dunstable Road (Bury Park) improvement scheme so as to avoid diversion of traffic to Bury Park Road, subject to satisfactory resolution of any objections from bus operators.'***

7. The issue of traffic diversion onto Bury Park Road arises from proposed arrangements on Dunstable Road that include a bus lane between Waldeck Road and Moor Street where there is insufficient road space to accommodate the bus lane and a lane for general traffic. Removal of the bus lane will still mean the scheme delivers all the principal benefits to the community, without the need for major re-design and significant delays in delivering the project, but would not be in accordance with the Council's policy of promoting and enhancing public transport.
8. Schemes of this nature rarely meet the conflicting demands of the public and other groups and organisations and the choice was made between bus priority and traffic diversion onto Bury Park Road. To proceed with the scheme at this time without the bus lane does not preclude it's introduction at a later date. The bus operators are opposed to removal of the bus lane at this late date and a meeting has been held to explore other measures

and changes to assist them. The bus operators are statutory objectors and their concerns will have to be resolved.

### **PROPOSAL/OPTION**

9. To note the recommendation of the Executive with regard to the Dunstable Road (Bury Park) improvement scheme.

### **APPENDIX**

10. None

### **LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS**

#### **LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972, SECTION 100D**

11. Report to the Biscot, High Town & Round Green Area Committee dated 26 January 2004 and entitled '*Petition – Proposed Traffic System For Bury Park*'.
12. Executive report dated 29 March 2004 and entitled '*Bury Park SRB Scheme - Dunstable Road (Bury Park) Improvements And To Note Receipt Of A Petition*'.