

COMMITTEE: SOUTH LUTON AREA BOARD

DATE: 11 NOVEMBER 2015

SUBJECT: PETITION – HASTING STREET, LUTON

REPORT BY: HEAD OF ENGINEERING AND STREET SERVICES

CONTACT OFFICER: CHRISTINE DAVY 546962

IMPLICATIONS:

LEGAL	COMMUNITY SAFETY
EQUALITIES	ENVIRONMENT
FINANCIAL	CONSULTATIONS
STAFFING	OTHER

WARDS AFFECTED: DALLOW

PURPOSE

1. To report to South Luton Area Board the receipt of a petition regarding dangerous traffic issues in Hastings Street, Luton

RECOMMENDATION(S)

2. South Luton Area Board is recommended to:-
 - (i) note receipt of the petition;
 - (ii) note that
 - the additional 20mph speed limits signs are being erected
 - the road markings at the junction of Hastings Street and Dumfries Street have been remarked with an additional hazard marking through the junction

- that a letter to the Secretary of State for Transport has been sent for approval to mark Stop junctions on Dumfries Street at the junction of Hastings Street

(iii) instruct the Head of Engineering and Street Services to advise the petitioners.

BACKGROUND

3. A petition has been received stating that 'LBC should immediately address the dangerous traffic issues in Hastings Street, Luton'. That the petitioners 'especially demand that actions are taken to stop the number of accidents occurring at the junction of Hastings Street and Dumfries Street (by R&R Autos) and that provision of at least a) stop signs at the junction of Dumfries Street and Hastings Street in both directions and b) speed reducing measures along both Hastings Street and Dumfries Street.
4. The petition contained 129 signatures from residents throughout Luton and further afield.

REPORT

5. Hastings Street and Dumfries Street are within a 20mph zone. A speed survey was carried out in Hastings Street in May 2015. This showed the 85 percentile (speed at which 85% of the traffic travels at or under) was 27.3mph and the 50 percentile was 21.5mph. A well respected 20mph speed limit would have an 85 percentile of less than 24mph. Therefore, the speed limit signs will be enhanced. This is expected to be carried out by Christmas.
6. The injury accident data base has been checked for Hastings Street and this has shown that there were 3 injury accidents, all at the junction of the two streets, between 1 January 2012 and 31 December 2014. There have been a further 2 up to June 2015.
7. We are also aware that there have been some damage only accidents and therefore, the road markings were refreshed and a new hazard marking was laid through the junction.
8. The visibility at the junction has also been checked against the criteria for Stop junctions. Both the exits from Dumfries Street meet the criteria and therefore, a letter has been written to the Secretary of State for Transport for approval to install Stop Junctions. Once this has been received we will be able to complete the traffic regulation orders to install Stop junctions.