

AREA COMMITTEE: SOUTH LUTON

DATE: 3RD OCTOBER 2006

**SUBJECT: PETITION – SPEED RESTRICTIONS AND
RESIDENTS PARKING IN WHIPPERLEY RING**

REPORT BY: HEAD OF ENGINEERING & TRANSPORTATION

CONTACT OFFICER: JONATHAN PALMER 01582 546686

IMPLICATIONS:

LEGAL	COMMUNITY SAFETY
EQUALITIES	ENVIRONMENT
FINANCIAL	CONSULTATIONS
STAFFING	OTHER

WARDS AFFECTED: FARLEY

PURPOSE

1. To report to this Area Committee receipt of a petition signed by 5 residents of Whipperley Ring requesting speed restrictions and residents only permit parking in Whipperley Ring.

RECOMMENDATION(S)

2. That the South Luton Area Committee note receipt of the petition.
3. That the South Luton Area Committee notes that this area will be consulted on possible traffic calming measures as part of the Area Studies programme of work as part of the Farley Hill area which is currently ranked fifth highest priority.
4. That the South Area Committee notes that this area will be added to the list of new possible parking schemes but that it will need to compete against other parking schemes for the limited staff and financial resources available.

5. **That the South Area Committee notes that Safer Routes of School measures will be investigated for outside Whipperley Infants School.**

REPORT

6. A petition has been received signed by 5 residents of Whipperley Ring requesting *'the Borough Council to install speed restrictions and residents only permit parking in Whipperley Ring. Drivers speed through this busy road while children are trying to cross on their way to school and people from neighbouring roads are leaving large vehicles in the parking bays for residents in the flats.'*
7. Whipperley Ring is contained in the Farley Hill Area Studies traffic calming area which is currently ranked in fifth place on the priority list. The priority list is reviewed each year by Executive. The Area Studies approached was set up to ensure areas were investigated for traffic calming so that problems were not merely transferred from one road to another. The areas are ranked by a number of factors such as parking, rat-running, community uses and accidents, which were given a double weighting. This approach should ensure that the limited staff and financial resources are used to treat the worst areas first. The current budgets for Area Traffic Calming should allow one or two areas to be treated each year and therefore it is likely that it will be 3 or 4 years before the Farley Hill area is investigated/consulted for possible traffic calming measures.
8. There are many road with similar or worse parking problems than Whipperley Ring. These roads need to compete for the limited staff and financial resources to tackle these problems. Whipperley Road will be added to list of possible parking schemes considered by Executive each year.
9. In May, six schools were asked if they would like to take part in the Council's Safer Routes to Schools programme of work. The six schools invited were at the top of the priority list of schools on the Safer Routes to Schools programme as agreed by Executive and included Whipperley Infants school. The School has confirmed that they would like to take part in this project and would like safer routes to schools measures outside their school. The school have agreed to update their School Travel Plan as part of this project. Road Safety Officers and Engineers will meet the school to discuss possible measures. These measures will be subject to local consultation before being implemented. It is likely that measures will be introduced around Whipperley School during the next financial year.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

10. There are no financial implications in this report and this has been agreed with the Finance Manager on 15th September 2006.

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

11. There are no legal implications in this report and this has been agreed with the relevant solicitor in Legal Services on 15 September 2006.

APPENDIX

None

LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS **LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972, SECTION 100D**

None