



Democratic Services

Location: Phase II

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**To: COUNCILLOR JONATHAN BIANCO
CABINET MEMBER FOR PROPERTY, HIGHWAYS
& TRANSPORT**

c.c. All Members of the Property, Highways & Transport Select Committee

c.c. Caroline Haywood – Place Directorate

c.c. Perry Scott – Corporate Director of Place

c.c. Ward Councillors for Hillingdon West

Date: 16 December 2022

Non-Key Decision request

Form D

VINE LANE, HILLINGDON - OBJECTION TO PROPOSED SPEED CUSHIONS

Dear Cabinet Member,

Attached is a report requesting that a decision be made by you as an individual Cabinet Member. Democratic Services confirm that this is not a key decision, as such, the Local Authorities (Executive Arrangements) (Meetings and Access to Information) (England) Regulations 2012 notice period does not apply.

You should take a decision **on or after Wednesday 28 December 2022** in order to meet Constitutional requirements about publication of decisions that are to be made. You may wish to discuss the report with the Corporate Director before it is made. Please indicate your decision on the duplicate memo supplied, and return it to me when you have made your decision. I will then arrange for the formal notice of decision to be published.

Steve Clarke
Democratic Services Officer

Title of Report: Vine Lane, Hillingdon - Objection to Proposed Speed Cushions

Decision made:

Reasons for your decision: (e.g. as stated in report)

Alternatives considered and rejected: (e.g. as stated in report)

Signed Date.....

Cabinet Member for Property, Highways and Transport

VINE LANE, HILLINGDON - OBJECTION TO PROPOSED SPEED CUSHIONS

Cabinet Member	Councillor Jonathon Bianco
Cabinet Portfolio	Cabinet Member for Property, Highway and Transport
Officer Contact(s)	Caroline Haywood – Place Directorate
Papers with report	Appendix A – Location Plan Appendix B – Plan of Proposal

HEADLINES

Summary	To inform the Cabinet Member that objections have been received to the proposed speed cushions on Vine Lane, Hillingdon.
Putting our Residents First	This report supports our ambition for residents / the Council of: Live in good quality, affordable homes in connected communities This report supports our commitments to residents of: Safe and Strong Communities
Financial Cost	The cost associated with the recommendations to this report is estimated at £30k and will be met from within the 2022/23 Road Safety Programme budget.
Relevant Select Committee	Property, Highways and Transport Select Committee
Relevant Ward(s)	Hillingdon West

RECOMMENDATIONS

That the Cabinet Member for Property, Highways and Transport:

- 1) **Considers the objections received from the statutory consultation for the proposed speed cushions on Vine Lane, Hillingdon; and,**
- 2) **Approves the introduction of the proposed speed cushions on Vine Lane, as shown on Appendix B.**

Reasons for recommendations

To improve road safety on Vine Lane.

Alternative options considered / risk management

The Council could decide not to proceed with the installation of the speed cushions as advertised.

Democratic compliance / previous authority

None at this stage.

Select Committee comments

None at this stage.

SUPPORTING INFORMATION

1. Vine Lane is a mainly residential road within Hillingdon West Ward. Vine Lane is used as a route from Hillingdon Hill to Long Lane but not for large vehicles as there is a width restriction halfway up the road. It has a school located on it and is used to access part of St Andrews Estate for both vehicles and pedestrians. Part of the road has a 20mph speed limit with traffic calming measures. The road has a rural feel with sections of the road having footpaths on one side of the road only. A plan of the area is shown on Appendix A to this report.
2. The Council received a petition asking for additional measures to reduce vehicles speeds to the 20mph speed limit in the northern section of Vine Lane. As a consequence, a detailed site investigation was undertaken by Council officers.
3. An independent 24/7 traffic survey was undertaken, and the results showed that the majority of vehicles were exceeding the 20mph speed limit in this part of the road. There are no traffic calming measures between Sylvana Close and Blossom Way. It was therefore agreed to investigate physical measures.
4. An investigation took place and the previous Cabinet Member agreed to informally consult the residents on the installation of speed cushions in this section of road. The Ward Members were consulted and supported the proposal. The lead petitioner was then informed of the proposal. The proposed speed cushions are shown on the plan attached as Appendix B of this report.
5. The residents have been informally consulted on the proposal for speed cushions in Vine Lane between Blossom Way and St Andrews Road. The results of the consultation showed the majority of responses supported the proposal.
6. The previous Cabinet Member agreed to take the proposal through the statutory 21-day consultation process, which involved the placing of advertisements in the local press and

the display of public notices on site. During this period the Council received one objection and five in support of the proposal.

7. The objector stated *"I have lived on Chestwood Grove for nearly a decade and have no concerns of speeding traffic along the proposed stretch. To my knowledge there has never been an accident and having passed this road daily (by foot and car) I have never noticed cars driving at excessive speeds. Please note... There is only pavement on the eastern side meaning no foot traffic crossing the road. There is a raised roundabout within metres of the proposed central speed cushion and roundabouts close to the most northern and southern proposed speed cushions, thus cars already have to slow down. There are almost always parked cars on the eastern side, again meaning traffic has to slow down to give way. The proposal will cause a hindrance for local residents and not improve public safety. The Council's resources would be better spent resurfacing roads / repairing potholes in the area or even resurfacing aging pavements for aesthetic reasons."*
8. The first supporter stated *"I am a resident of Chestwood Grove, and I am in favour of the speed cushions, but I do believe that they should not be speed cushions they should be the entire width of the road as they are in Blossom Way. "*
9. The second supporter stated *"I, along with my family who reside in Chestwood Grove, would approve the installation of these cushions. As parents who walk their children to school via Vine Lane this will be a great addition to our road as lots of motorists do not observe the speed limit making it dangerous for children and all other pedestrians especially when crossing over into St Andrews Road to access John Locke Academy."*
10. The third supporter stated, *"I entirely support the idea as very few drivers currently obey the speed limit on that stretch of the road."*
11. The fourth supporter stated, *"As a resident of Chestwood Grove, I fully support the proposal. Despite there being a roundabout at the junction, thus giving priority to Chestwood Grove when turning right on many occasions I have been forced to stop due to vehicles travelling at speed and failing to give way at the roundabout. The existing half chicanes further along Vine Lane end prior to Sylvana Close and this seems to be the trigger for motorists to suddenly increase their speed despite being a 20mph zone and resulting in them being unable to stop at the roundabout junction with Chestwood Grove. The addition of the speed cushions should help control this and make the junction much safer."*
12. The fifth supporter stated, *"The difficulty the residents of Sylvana Close are also having turning right out of their cul-de-sac due to speeding traffic and would therefore expect an additional set of pillows to be installed between their mini roundabout and the American School to facilitate a safe exit, this has not been included...I would also suggest that an electronic speed sign could be installed along this stretch of road...., which would draw motorists attention to their speed and the need to slow down...I believe a minimum of six*

sets of pillows need to be installed not just the tree proposed and look forward to something positive happening soon..."

13. The local Ward Councillors (now Hillingdon West) have been consulted and they support the proposed speed cushions.
14. A Zebra Crossing on the junction of St Andrews Road was investigated as part of the development and it was not deemed safe and would not meet the current regulations, therefore the current layout of the footway and tactile paving was installed by the developer. It should be noted that the layout of Vine Lane is semi-rural in nature and what has the appearance of a formal footway is in fact nothing more than a band of coloured surfacing bounded by a white line, installed about ten years as a compromised response to road safety concerns as making substantial changes to the existing highway structure, appearance and drainage were not deemed viable. Regrettably that despite the obvious appeal of the suggestion, it simply is not feasible to introduce a formal Zebra Crossing here and which has also been considered by the developer but failed an independent road safety audit.
15. There are existing traffic calming measures between St Andrews Road and Sylvana Close. If different measures were to be installed these measures would have to be removed at a cost to the Council and there is no evidence to suggest changing the traffic calming measures will reduce vehicle speeds further.
16. After careful consideration of comments received from the statutory consultation and the views of the local Ward Councillors; it is recommended that the Cabinet Member agrees to proceed with the proposed three sets of speed cushions on Vine Lane as shown in Appendix B to this report.

Financial Implications

The cost associated with the recommendations to this report is estimated at £30k and will be met from within the MTFF Road Safety Programme 2022 / 23 to 2026/27 capital budget agreed at Cabinet and Council February 2022, subject to the usual Capital release process.

RESIDENT BENEFIT & CONSULTATION

The benefit or impact upon Hillingdon residents, service users and communities

The effect of introducing the proposed speed cushions will be that safety is maintained.

Consultation carried out or required

Consultation has been carried out on this proposal through a notice on site and in the local press. Local Ward Councillors have also been consulted.

CORPORATE CONSIDERATIONS

Corporate Finance

Corporate Finance has reviewed the recommendations to this report and concurs with the financial implications as set out above.

Legal

The Borough Solicitor confirms that there are no legal impediments to the Cabinet Member agreeing the recommendations set out in the report which are in accordance with the outcome of the statutory consultation.

Infrastructure / Asset Management

There are no property implications resulting from the recommendations set out in this report.

Comments from other relevant service areas

None at this stage.

BACKGROUND PAPERS

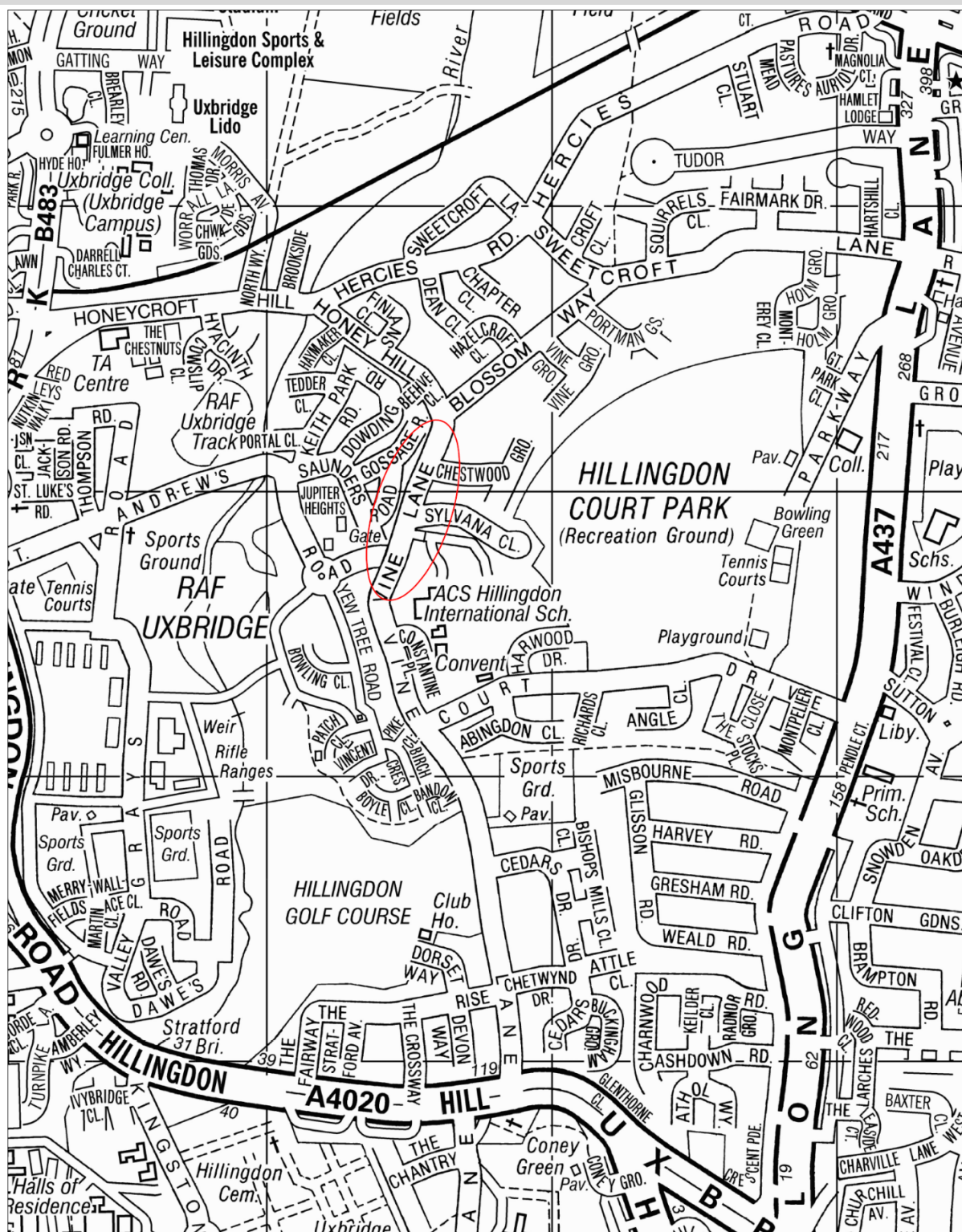
- Traffic order
- Objection email
- supporter emails

TITLE OF ANY APPENDICES

Appendix A - Location Plan
Appendix B - Plan of Proposal



APPENDIX A - LOCATION PLAN



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Vine Lane, Hillingdon

APPENDIX B - PLAN OF PROPOSAL

