

REPORT OF MUSWELL HILL, ALEXENDRA, FORTIS GREEN, AND HIGHGATE COMMITTEE 13 JUNE 2013

TO CABINET 18 June 2013

Chair:
Councillor Gail Engert

INTRODUCTION

This report, to Cabinet, details the deputation to the Muswell Hill, Alexandra, Fortis Green and Highgate Area Committee on 13 June 2013 from WalkSafe N10 calling on Barnet and Haringey councils to make the streets around two local primary schools – Coldfall School in Haringey and Coppetts School in Barnet safer for children. The deputation expressed its concerns about the number of near misses and accidents on these streets, and requested an introduction of a 20 mph speed limit on the streets around Coldfall, Coppetts Wood and Hollickwood primary schools in North Muswell Hill. The deputation commented that children currently walk to school on streets with cars doing speeds of 30mph or more, and have to cross roads where there are no pedestrian crossings or where the crossings that exist are inadequate. The deputation commented that they believe that 20 mph can largely be achieved by signage, but that some streets would need additional traffic calming measures, such as speed bumps, and that a proper survey carried out by both Councils would establish what needed to be done.

The deputation further commented on the need for more pedestrian crossings on Colney Hatch Lane as it was a fast road with only one crossing, which is only a zebra, between St Peter le Poer and Alexandra Park Road, which in residents' views was woefully inadequate. The deputees commented that parents had to weave their children through the traffic, which was totally unsafe, and that in recent years there had been several serious injuries to pedestrians and at least one fatality, and many parents supported the need for two new pedestrian crossings – one next to Greenham Road (Haringey) and one next to St Peter le Poer church (in Barnet).

The deputation concluded that it wanted the Council to listen to its concerns about other road safety problems, and in the surveys carried in March 2013 by WalkSafe N10 people who answered had listed their top priorities. Some of these were relatively quick and cheap to fix – such as an extended railing on the pavement near Coldfall school on Coppetts Road.

The deputation summarised that :

1. WalkSafe N10 would like the Muswell Hill, Alexandra, Fortis Green and Highgate Area Committee to agree to recommend that the points are looked at by Cabinet. It was great that the LB Haringey were consulting on a borough-wide 20 mph zone – but WalkSafe N10 would like discussions about how that might be enforced in their area, and when, and request Cabinet consider other issues, which include safer crossing points on Colney Hatch Lane.
2. WalkSafe N10 requests an on-site meeting with Haringey traffic engineers so that there could be a walk through the area, and that it should be noted that

Barnet Council had already done this. Haringey had not so far agreed – despite requests. The deputation would like Haringey to commission a report to establish what can be done to make the streets safer.

3. WalkSafe N10 would like a commitment that Haringey would work with Barnet on these issues. The area crossed both councils, and it was important that there was a co-ordinated approach.

The deputation also presented a petition with 670 signatures from residents of both the Boroughs Barnet and Haringey which stated:

A copy of the first page of the petition is attached, together with surveys carried out by WalkSafe in March 2103. The petition comprised of :

107 signed the Haringey petition on line
133 signed the Barnet petition online
430 signed the paper petition

Following clarification and questions to the deputation we **RESOLVED:**

- i. To support the requests of the deputation and forward the WalkSafeN10 petition to the cabinet and request that 20mph with signage in Haringey roads around Coldfall and Coppetts Wood Primary schools should be given early consideration for implementation prior to and not dependent on a decision on a borough-wide 20mph speed limit, as this would make it safer for young people and encourage walking to and from local schools.
- ii. In addition to (i) above that LB Haringey should fully consider the other aims of WalkSafe N10 including a new pedestrian crossing on Colney Hatch Lane at the junction of with Barnard Hill and Greenham Road.

COUNCILLOR GAIL ENGERT