



DERBY CITY COUNCIL

AREA PANEL THREE 22 JUNE 2005

Report of Director of Development and Cultural Services

Petition requesting the introduction of a one way system on Percy Street and Raven Street

SUPPORTING INFORMATION

- 1.1 A petition has been received containing 117 signatures requesting a one way system for Percy Street and Raven Street. The heading to the petition reads as follows:

“We the undersigned are concerned about the traffic problems in Raven and Percy Streets and therefore petition the Council to create a one way system using these two streets, for the benefit of all”.

An additional comment has also been added to the petition.

“One of our children was knocked down outside the school as a result of traffic congestion at home time. We feel that it would be safer for the children of Firs Estate School if the two roads were to be made one way”.

- 1.2 Firs Estate Infants and Junior School is situated between Percy Street and Raven Street, with an access to the school off each street. Both Percy Street and Raven Street are residential in nature with properties on either side. None of the properties have off street parking facilities. Traffic flows on both streets are very low during the majority of the day and only increases at the start and end of the school day. This inevitably causes some congestion, which is a common occurrence at the majority of schools across the city.
- 1.3 There are School Keep Clear markings at each entrance to the school which serve to provide safe crossing points for pupils. However it has been observed that some parents chose to ignore these markings when picking up their children, which can only compromise safety for others.
- 1.4 Examination of Derbyshire Constabulary's accident statistics reveals no details of the accident to which the petitioners refer hence it is not possible to know whether inconsiderate parking was a contributory factor. In fact the accident statistics indicate that there have been no reported injury accidents in the vicinity of the Firs Estate Schools during the past ten years. Clearly there is no general road safety issue to address on Percy Street or Raven Street, it is solely the situation at school arrival and dispersal times that needs to be considered.

- 1.5 The fact that too many parents opt to drive their children to and from school and that some of those parents chose to behave inconsiderately towards others' children is not best resolved by the introduction of one way traffic restrictions. Although congestion around schools can cause problems it does tend to control speeds and in part reduces the risk of serious accidents. On the other hand, one way systems can speed traffic up. Derbyshire Constabulary's Traffic Management Officer has also questioned the necessity for such a restriction and has raised concern about potential abuse, outside of school arrival and dispersal times, which is of course, the majority of the time.
- 1.6 The City Council's Road Safety Team spends a lot of time undertaking training and education at the City's schools and it is considered that they are best placed to provide a long term solution. Further training will be given encouraging more pupils to walk to school and leaflets will be given to the school highlighting the hazards associated with parking on School Keep Clear markings.

PROPOSED ACTION

- 2.1 Derby City Council's Road Safety Team will contact the school with regard to the delivery further education and training.

<p>For more information contact: Adrian Martin 01332 715031 e-mail adrian.martin@derby.gov.uk Background papers: Background papers held on Abbey Ward file in Traffic Management List of appendices:</p>
