

**Petition – Removal of traffic calming - Upperdale Road, Stanhope Street and Austin Estate****SUPPORTING INFORMATION**

- 1.1 A petition containing 1006 signatures was received on 17 November 2005. The petition called for the removal of traffic calming from the areas of Upperdale Road, Stanhope Street and the Austin Estate.
- 1.2 The traffic calming within the Austin estate was installed in around 1994/95 by Derbyshire County Council, who were the highway authority at the time. This was in response to a fatality involving an infant, which raised considerable concerns within the community. The traffic-calming scheme that was installed in Upperdale Road and Stanhope Street in 2000 aimed to reduce the high number of casualties in the area, particularly vulnerable road users and children.
- 1.3 The relative successes of the schemes, in reducing injury accidents, are shown in the table below:

Upperdale Rd / Stanhope St	All casualties	KSI* casualties	Child KSI* casualties
5 years before	48	12	4
5 years after	25	3	0

Austin Estate	All casualties	KSI casualties	Child KSI casualties
3 years before	30	5	4
3 years after	30	1	1

*KSI – killed or seriously injured

- 1.4 The casualty figures show that there is a marked reduction in both all ksi and child ksi casualties. The Upperdale Rd / Stanhope St scheme also shows almost a 50% reduction in all casualties.
- 1.5 These figures are very encouraging. As well as creating a safer environment for all road users and residents, they also help towards our continual overall casualty reduction efforts.
- 1.6 The removal of traffic calming from any of these areas is likely to lead to an increase in casualties, as was the case at Grampian Way. Here, traffic calming was removed and mobile safety cameras were introduced.

- 1.7 Identifying and reducing casualties is a statutory function of the council and removing traffic calming, without replacing it with a suitable alternative, would not be acceptable.
- 1.8 It may be appropriate to consider alternative forms of traffic calming. Although the current features used in these locations are extremely effective at reducing vehicle speeds, and hence accidents, it is recognised that they can be unpopular with frequent users. However, we must recognise that removing them and replacing them with alternatives is likely to be expensive. To remove the features could cost up to £100,000 with alternative measures perhaps costing more than this. Removing the features on just Upperdale Road and Stanhope Street and replacing them with, for example, similar features like those on St Chads Road, could cost £150,000.
- 1.9 Any monies that the Council allocate to such actions would likely be at the expense of other work in the area. Members will be aware that there are calls for a great many improvements within Area Panel 3 boundaries not least on Normanton Road and Portland Street.
- 1.10 Resources are limited. Given the other demands we have for works to improve highway safety it is not felt that removing the traffic calming on Stanhope Street, Upperdale Road and from within the Austin Estate can be given priority at this time.

PROPOSED ACTION

2. The petition for the removal of traffic calming be refused.

For more information contact: Ian Butler Tel 01332 715021 e-mail ian.butler@derby.gov.uk
Background papers: File held in Traffic Control Section
List of appendices: None

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