

**To: Audit, Scrutiny & Petitions Board**

**On: 19 September 2016**

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**Report by: Director of Finance and Resources**

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**Heading: Petition: Sergeant Law Road, Safety Measures**

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## **1. Summary**

1.1. The Council has agreed procedures in relation to the submission of petitions including parameters for determining valid petitions and those areas where petitions would not be valid.

1.2. All valid petitions are to be submitted to the Board for consideration and a summary report is to be prepared on any petitions which are not considered to be valid in terms of the procedures and it is for the Board to determine the validity of such petitions.

1.3 A petition has been received from Ms Cheryl Johnstone in the undernoted terms:

“The purpose of this petition is to make Sergeant Law Road at the junction of Gleniffer Braes safer for all road users by putting in traffic calming measures, ie reduce speed limit, all vegetation away from sides of road to allow drivers more visibility, install mirrors at junction, and any other safety measures which may be allowed.”

1.4 The Director of Community Resources advises that following a fatal accident on 5 July 2016, a joint site visit was undertaken by the Police and Council Roads Service. The topography and layout of the road at this location is challenging. The junction of Sergeant Law Road and Gleniffer Road is constructed on a steep hillside. The approach from Sergeant Law Road to Gleniffer Road is downhill, with embankments on both sides consisting of grassed areas and shrubbery.

Approaching the junction from Paisley on Gleniffer Road is a steep uphill gradient. This topography severely limits scope for improvements. However, a number of improvements have been/or are going to be taken forward by the Council on the basis of observations and recommendations made by the Police Scotland:

- A speed limit order, reducing the speed limit on Gleniffer Road from the national speed limit of 60mph to 40mph, is being processed with Police approval
  - Additional "slow" markings to be painted on the carriageway in each direction closer to the junction.
  - A new finger post direction sign to be erected at the junction pointing into Sergeant Law Road to make the junction more visible for drivers on Gleniffer Road.
  - The shrubbery obscuring the sign on Gleniffer Road has been cut away and shrubbery close to the other signs has been trimmed back since the accident.
  - The grass on the verge has also been cut back since the accident as part of the ongoing programmed maintenance of this stretch of road.
  - Regular routine maintenance of road signs and verge shrubbery to continue.
  - Road inspectors have been reminded to highlight all road signs that need vegetation cleared to maintain visibility on an ongoing basis.
- 1.5 It is for the Board to determine the validity of the petition and whether they wish to hear it.
- 1.6 The Board may consider whether the Council has already addressed the petition by the measures outlined in paragraph 1.4 above.
- 1.7 Should the Board determine if they wish to hear the petition, their role is to consider the petition, hear and ask questions of the petitioner and take the appropriate action in respect of the petition which will be one of the following:
- (a) that no action is taken, in which case the reasons will be specified and intimated to the petitioner;
- (b) that the petition be referred to the relevant director/and or policy board for further investigation, with or without any specific recommendation; or
- (c) refer the petition to another organisation if the petition relates to that organisation.

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## 2. Recommendation

- 2.1 That the Board determine the validity of the petition and whether they wish to hear it.
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## Implications of this report

1. Financial Implications – none
2. HR and Organisational Development Implications – none

3. **Community Plan/Council Plan Implications – none**
4. **Legal Implications – none**
5. **Property/Assets Implications – none**
6. **Information Technology Implications – none**
7. **Equality and Human Rights Implications**
  - (a) The Recommendations contained within this report have been assessed in relation to their impact on equalities and human rights. No negative impacts on equality groups or potential for infringement of individuals' human rights have been identified arising from the recommendations contained in the report because for example it is for noting only. If required following implementation, the actual impact of the recommendations and the mitigating actions will be reviewed and monitored, and the results of the assessment will be published on the Council's website.
8. **Health and Safety Implications – none**
9. **Procurement Implications – none**
10. **Risk Implications – none**
11. **Privacy Impact – none**

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#### **List of Background Papers –**

- (a) petition

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