



**Highways Committee**  
18<sup>th</sup> October 2011

**Report from the Head of  
Transportation**

For decision

Wards Affected:  
Tokyngton

**Petition for the Introduction of a Pedestrian Crossing on Harrow Road  
(south of Aldbury Avenue)**

**1.0 Summary**

- 1.1 This report informs the Committee of a petition seeking the introduction of a new pedestrian crossing on Harrow Road south of Aldbury Avenue. The petitioners are concerned about access to Islamic Cultural Centre for the elderly and disabled.

The report outlines the results of a review of the situation which concludes that (i) There is no significant personal injury accident (pia) evidence to support the introduction of a new pedestrian crossing in the area, (ii) A pelican crossing already exists within 60metres of the Cultural Centre and (iii) physical constraints on the public highway restrict the opportunity of introducing additional pedestrian facilities.

The report concludes that no changes should be made to the arrangements currently in place.

**2.0 Recommendations**

- 2.1 That Committee notes the contents of the petition and the review of the implemented scheme.
- 2.2 That Committee agrees that no changes should be made to the existing arrangement for pedestrian crossing facilities along this section of Harrow Road.

### **3.0 The petition**

3.1 The petition received via the Brent Muslim Association, requests the introduction of a pedestrian crossing point along Harrow Road, south of Aldbury Avenue junction. The petition has been verified to be in accordance with Standing Orders.

3.2 The full wording of the petition is:

*We the undersigned Brent residents who send their young children to Islamic cultural centre, 72 Harrow Road, Wembley, middx. HA9 6PL. Every evening the elderly and disabled people use the Islamic cultural centre every day for their social and cultural activities. The users of Islamic cultural centre are very concerned for their safety and wellbeing while crossing the very busy Harrow Road.*

*We humbly request to have a pedestrian crossing point along Harrow Road, south of Aldbury Avenue junction.*

The petition has 84 signatures.

### **4.0 Existing Situation**

4.1 The Islamic Cultural Centre is located on Harrow Road approximately 40m southeast of the junction with Aldbury Avenue and 80m northwest of Monks Park. A Pelican crossing is located 60m southeast of the centre near Monks Park, with an inset parking bays located between them.

A bus stop is situated opposite the Aldbury Avenue junction with a southeast bus lane running along the whole length of this section of Harrow Road. The vast majority of all residential properties within the area have vehicular crossovers.

A location plan is attached as appendix A

### **5.0 Detail**

5.1 There are a number of issues to be considered when dealing with requests for new pedestrian crossing.

5.2 The most significant issue for determining which locations would benefit most from the introduction of pedestrian facilities is the accident record at the location concerned. Data on accidents resulting in personal injury accidents (PIAs) within the borough is provided on a regular basis by the Metropolitan Police. The data is used to identify locations where significant numbers of pedestrian PIAs have occurred and through this analysis it is possible to prioritise where pedestrian measures would be of most benefit in terms of accident reduction. This is in line with the Government's road safety strategy to reduce the number of road traffic accidents nationally.

An analysis of the PIA records within the area has identified that there has been 1 accident involving a pedestrian in the last 3 years of available data. This occurred in 2009 and involved a 24 year old pedestrian being hit by a moped in the dark whilst crossing from north to south somewhere between the Cultural Centre and the existing pedestrian crossing.

- 5.3 The next issue to be considered is the presence of existing alternative pedestrian facilities within the area and demand.

Currently a pelican crossing is located 60m southeast of the Cultural Centre.

Site observations of pedestrian activity between Aldbury Avenue and the existing Pelican crossing during a morning peak hour have been undertaken. This work identified that the majority of pedestrians used the existing crossing facility with a relatively small number (5) of pedestrians crossing along the section between Aldbury Avenue and the Pelican crossing.

- 5.4 The final issue to be considered is the viability of actually installing the facilities. There is national guidance on the location of new controlled and uncontrolled crossing points. The existence of the residential crossovers, inset parking, bus stop and bus lane means that it would be extremely unlikely that a location (complying with guidance) could be found for another pedestrian crossing facility between Aldbury Avenue and Monks Park (even a traffic island) without the removal of certain of these facilities.

- 5.5 Taking into account the accident record, the low pedestrian demand, the existing pedestrian facilities and the physical constraints, officers are of the view it would be inappropriate to give further consideration to the introduction of another pedestrian crossing facility on this section of Harrow Road - notwithstanding the fact that an additional facility closer to the Islamic Centre would be convenient for a number of Centre users.

Officers are of the view that no changes be made to the current arrangement as this time.

## **6.0 Financial Implications**

There are no financial implications arising from this report and its recommendations.

## **7.0 Legal Implications**

There are no legal implications arising from this report and its recommendations.

## **8.0 Equalities implications**

The petition that is the subject of this report was presented by members of the Islamic faith concerned about the safety of children, the elderly and the disabled crossing Harrow Road to the Islamic Centre.

Officers are of the view that users of the Centre are adequately provided for by existing facilities and that the course of action set out in the recommendations has no significant implications for users of the Centre.

There are no other equalities implications associated with this issue.

### **Background Papers**

None

### **Contact Officers**

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# Appendix A – Location Plan

