

**REPORT OF THE CABINET MEMBER FOR TRANSPORT AND ENVIRONMENT
AND THE CABINET MEMBER FOR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND ASSET
MANAGEMENT****RESPONSES TO PETITIONS PRESENTED TO THE CHAIRMAN OF THE
COUNTY COUNCIL****Purpose of the Report**

1. The purpose of this report is to inform Council of the decisions made by the Cabinet Member for Transport and Environment and the Cabinet Member for Economic Development and Asset Management concerning issues raised in petitions presented to the County Council at its 24 November 2022 and 19 January 2023 meetings.

Information**Decisions by the Cabinet Member for Transport and Environment****A. Request for carriageway resurfacing on Nottingham Road and High Street, Arnold
(Ref:2023/03)**

2. A petition containing 474 signatures was presented to the 19 January 2023 meeting of the County Council by Councillor Michael Payne. The petition was from local residents requesting the carriageway on Nottingham Road and High Street in Arnold be resurfaced.
3. Nottingham Road and High Street form a busy arterial route through Arnold Town Centre and any resurfacing works would have to be phased over a number of years due to its length and the impact this would have.
4. Phase one from Arnot Hill Road to Portland Street was approved for delivery as part of the highways capital maintenance programme for the for the forthcoming financial year, 2023/24.
5. The condition of the carriageway in the meantime would continue to be monitored by the routine highway inspections and any safety defects addressed.
6. It was agreed that the lead petitioner be informed accordingly.

B. Request for the pavements to be repaired on Wolsey Road, Newark (Ref:2023/01)

7. A petition containing 106 signatures was presented to the 19 January 2023 meeting of the County Council by Councillor Debbie Darby. The petition was from local residents requesting that the footways on Wolsey Road be repaired due to damage caused by tree roots.
8. Wolsey Road is a busy residential road with a high number of well-established trees along its length.

9. The footway was inspected on Thursday 2 February and some defects identified. Cracks in the footways have been repaired using hot bituminous material and patching in selected areas to address the tree root uplift carried out. These repairs have now been completed.
10. The condition of the footway would continue to be monitored by the routine highway inspections.
11. It was agreed that the lead petitioner be informed accordingly.

C. Request for Nottinghamshire County Council to work with Nottinghamshire Police, Nottingham Forest Football Club, Nottinghamshire County Cricket, and residents, to address traffic issues in West Bridgford on match days (Ref:2023/02)

12. A 233-signature petition was presented to the 19 January 2023 meeting of the County Council by Councillor Penny Gowland, requesting that the Nottinghamshire County Council, Nottinghamshire Police, Nottingham Forest Football Club and Nottinghamshire County Cricket Club work together with residents to address traffic issues on match days.
13. The County Council is aware of the traffic issues created by visitors to the City Ground on match days. Traffic has increased due in part to the increased profile of the club in the Premier League and in part due to frequent rail strikes that have impacted upon the availability of public transport for away supporters.
14. Potential safety matters arising are taken very seriously and the County Council chairs a multi-agency Safety Advisory Group (SAG) for Nottingham Forest Football Club which provides specialist advice to the Council. The SAG provides a forum within which the Council and other agencies may develop a co-ordinated approach to safety for the ground. The SAG also considers matters relating to the safety of those attending events at the sports ground which fall outside the remit of the Club's General Safety Certificate, such as traffic management in the vicinity of the ground. At the most recent SAG meeting in January issues relating to traffic management and safety were discussed, particularly in relation to Lady Bay and Trent Bridges. Key members of the SAG have agreed to continue to monitor the situation for the next 2-3 fixtures and then meet to discuss any potential actions that may be needed to improve safety on match days.
15. Parking enforcement has also increased for home games and officers now cover a wide residential area around the ground typically issuing a significant number of Penalty Charge Notices. In addition, the recent planning application from Nottingham Forest to build flats adjacent to the ground and increase the capacity of the Peter Taylor stand includes several proposals to mitigate against the increased traffic; proposals that will potentially benefit the wider local community. These proposals include the consideration (subject to local consultation) of residential parking permit schemes on several local streets which would resolve many of the issues that are raised. Nottingham Forest have also been asked to look at the feasibility of assisting with public transport initiatives. It is anticipated that subject to the finalising of the planning agreement, these proposals will be able to be developed further in the near future.
16. Meetings have also taken place with representatives from Nottingham Forest, the Council and the local public to directly address local issues and going forward, increased community engagement from the club will be actively encouraged.

17. It was agreed that the lead petitioner be informed accordingly.

Link to Nottinghamshire Plan/Annual Delivery Plan

18. The agreed actions will help deliver the following Nottinghamshire Plan ambitions/delivery plan priorities:

- 'Improving transport and digital connections' and more specifically:
 - response to petitions labelled A and B will help in the delivery of the action: '*Invest in and improve the condition of the County's roads and pavements*'
 - response to petition labelled A, B and C will help in the delivery of the action: '*Keep our highways safe and reduce congestion*'

Decisions by the Cabinet Member for Economic Development and Asset Management

D. Request for the immediate building of a new school at Gateford Manor (Ref:2022/14)

19. A 280-signature petition was presented to the 24 November 2022 meeting of the County Council by Councillor Sybil Fielding. The petition was from residents in Worksop requesting that work starts immediately on building the new school at Gateford Manor.

20. Planning permission was granted by Bassetlaw District Council in 2015 for development comprising 750 new dwellings, a one form entry primary school including a community hall and two junior playing pitches, landscaping, incidental and informal open space, highway and drainage works, associated earthworks and access from Churchill Way and Ashes Park Avenue. The new primary school at Gateford is an essential piece of infrastructure to support the delivery of this sustainable development and the County Council has consistently stated that a school will be built.

21. A large number of houses granted by this permission are now occupied and Officers are progressing work to transfer the school land to the County Council. Colleagues in Arc have been in pre-application discussions with planning officers and a planning application has now been submitted to the County Council.

22. The timely submission of the application will allow it to progress to the County Council's Planning and Rights of Way Committee in June or July 2023, providing sufficient time to construct the new school for an opening date of September 2024. The County Councillor for Worksop West, Councillor Sybil Fielding, has been kept informed regarding progress on the land transfer and the planning application.

23. It was agreed that the proposed actions be approved, and the lead petitioner be informed accordingly.

E. Planning agreement for development surrounding Highfields School (Ref 2022/9)

24. A 125-signature petition was presented to the 24 November 2022 meeting of the County Council by Councillors Sam Smith and John Lee. The petition was from residents of London Road, The Woodwards and Glebe Park in Newark requesting that the Council withdraw from their planning agreement with Avant Homes for the development of the land surrounding Highfields school.

25. At its meeting on 17 March 2021 Policy Committee approved terms for the Council to sell its land in this location, along with that of adjoining owners, to Avant Homes, subject to them achieving planning consent for residential development. The Council subsequently entered into a contract for sale subject to planning consent and Avant Homes has a planning application lodged with Newark and Sherwood District Council. The application awaits determination and the contract has a long stop date such that if this is reached without planning being secured, or the purchaser waives the requirement for consent, the contract can be terminated. In these circumstances the Cabinet Member for Economic Development and Asset Management confirmed at Full Council on 24 November 2022 that the future of the site would be reconsidered in view of the continued failure to secure an acceptable planning consent.

26. It was agreed that the proposed actions be approved, and the lead petitioner be informed accordingly.

Link to Nottinghamshire Plan/Annual Delivery Plan

27. Should the proposed actions be approved, they will help deliver the following Nottinghamshire Plan visions and ambitions/delivery plan priorities:

- Making Nottinghamshire somewhere people love to live, work and visit. In particular, response to petition labelled D:
 - will ensure the Gateford development is attractive, sustainable and well planned.
- In respect of petition E the objective of the existing contract is to bring forward homes but if the contract falls then the Council will consider options for its land holding to meet other priorities.

Other Options Considered

28. There are no other options to consider as this report is for noting only.

Reason/s for Recommendation/s

29. The recommendations detailed within this report have been developed to help ensure delivery of the County Council's 'Nottinghamshire Plan 2021-31' priorities, national priorities, and local transport goals and objectives. Recommendations are based on their ability to deliver strategic objectives (including transport objectives), evidence of need (including technical analysis), feasibility, and value for money assessments.

Statutory and Policy Implications

30. This report has been compiled after consideration of implications in respect of crime and disorder, data protection and information governance, finance, human resources, human rights, the NHS Constitution (public health services), the public sector equality duty, safeguarding of children and adults at risk, service users, smarter working, sustainability and the environment and where such implications are material they are described below. Appropriate consultation has been undertaken and advice sought on these issues as required.

Financial Implications

31. There are no specific financial implications arising directly from the report.

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the contents of the report be noted.

Councillor Neil Clarke MBE
Cabinet Member for Transport and Environment

Councillor Keith Girling
Cabinet Member for Economic Development and Asset Management

For any enquiries about this report please contact:

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Background Papers and Published Documents

- Responses to Petitions Presented to the Chairman of the County Council – Delegated Decision (Reference 251) by Cabinet Member for Transport and Environment (published)
- Responses to Petitions Presented to the Chairman of the County Council – Delegated Decision (Reference 258) by Cabinet Member for Economic Development and Asset Management (published)

Electoral Division(s) and Member(s) Affected

- Arnold North – Councillor Michael Payne and Councillor Pauline Allan
- Collingham – Councillor Debbie Darby
- Newark East – Councillor Sam Smith
- West Bridgford North – Councillor Penny Gowland
- Worksop West – Councillor Sybil Fielding.