



## TRAFFORD COUNCIL

**Council – 29 January 2020**

**Consideration of a Petition containing more than 500 signatures**

**Petition Requesting a Crossing on Barrington Road, Altrincham**

Petition organiser, Rachel Pleasant introduced the following petition containing 517 signatures, which had been presented to the Council:

*“The Council is requested to give consideration to a crossing on Barrington Road, Altrincham.*

*The section where Sandiway Road / Gaskell Road intersect Barrington Road is used by many as a daily crossing point and is extremely dangerous. Traffic flow is often heavy in both directions, especially at peak travel times. Often pedestrians are forced to cross and wait in the middle of the road before a vehicle will stop to allow safe crossing. Many school children must cross this busy road each day to get to some of the local primary and secondary schools and increasingly have to wait longer to cross. There is concern that a serious accident could occur if a safe crossing is not made available.*

*Currently, there is only one crossing point on Barrington Road (at the junction with the A560, opposite Altrincham Methodist Church) which is insufficient for a road of this length, with such high volumes of traffic. This road is one of the main routes in and out of Altrincham Town Centre and people would be encouraged to walk and cycle more around this area if crossing this road was easier.*

*A crossing point, wherever is safest, around the aforementioned junction would also help cars and cyclists to safely pull out of Gaskell Road and Sandiway Road onto Barrington Road. On the Bee Network map, Barrington Road is already marked as a red ‘severance line’, cutting across significant ‘desire lines’ between local communities, parks, businesses and schools at the junction with the above two roads. The road here is also very wide, long and straight so traffic often appears to travel well in excess of the speed limit. Also, the large radius of the junctions with Gaskell Road and Sandiway Road enables cars to turn without needing to slow down significantly, while leaving pedestrians with a very wide expanse of road to cross before reaching safety.*

*There is a great deal of support for the proposal and it is hoped that a crossing will be considered.”*

Councillor Adshead, the relevant Executive Member and Councillors Evans, Newgrosh and Welton responded on behalf of the political parties. The Leader of the Council, Councillor Andrew Western, summarised what action the Council planned to take, advising that whilst, in principle, nobody was opposed to the petition request, there was a process that needed to be followed.

The Leader confirmed that the Council would wait for Transport for Greater Manchester (TfGM) to report the findings of its safety-based audit of the location, the methodology of which across Greater Manchester was on the basis of assessed need. Referring to the issue of speeding motorists on Barrington Road, Councillor Andrew Western also advised that he would raise that particular matter with the local police.

The Leader of the Council was appreciative of the work undertaken to gather signatures but indicated that the audit undertaken would be independent of that exercise. The Council would urge TfGM to complete its investigations as quickly as possible and as the Executive Member had stated, would keep the lead petitioner updated throughout the process.