

# Bolton Council

**Report to:** Executive Cabinet Member -  
Environmental Services

**Date:** 19 February 2018

**Report of:** Director of Place

**Report No:** ECMES/45/18

**Contact Officer:** Joe Fox

**Tel No:** 01204 336429

**Report Title:** **Petition Requesting a School Crossing Patrol outside Essa Academy on Lever Edge Lane, Bolton.**

**Non Confidential:** This report does **not** contain information which warrants its consideration in the absence of the press or members of the public

**Purpose:** To advise the Executive Cabinet Member on a petition that has been received requesting a school crossing patrol outside the Essa Academy on Lever Edge Lane, Bolton.

**Recommendations:** The Executive Cabinet Member Environmental Services is recommended to approve the following:

- a) No immediate action is taken in respect of this report.
- b) PV2 counts are undertaken on a regular basis to ascertain a full count when all school years are at their full capacity.
- c) Subject to external funding being made available a feasibility study is undertaken in conjunction with the school to determine a suitable location.

**Decision:**

**Signed:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Leader / Executive  
Member

\_\_\_\_\_  
Monitoring Officer

**Date:**

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Summary:**

A petition that has been received requesting a school crossing patrol outside the Essa Academy on Lever Edge Lane, Bolton. The Executive Cabinet Member Environmental Services is requested to approve the recommendation contained in this report.

## Background Information

1. A petition, containing 113 signatures has been received. The petitioners have signed the petition as they are requesting that the decision not to have a school crossing patrol outside the Essa Academy on Lever Edge Lane, Bolton.
2. A covering letter which was received from Aaminah Desai stated the following issues in respect of the patrol:

*I am writing to you as the traffic on Lever Edge Lane has become a big problem. I am currently a student at the primary school and I walk to and from school. To get to school I must cross the road. This is very difficult to do every day because there are too many cars on the road making it very dangerous.*

*People are parking on the yellow zig zag lines even when there are cameras. They are parking in the middle of the roads making it hard to cross the road.*

*I have witnessed children running across the roads and only just getting missed by the cars. Do we have to wait until a child gets run over for action to be taken.*

*As a student I think that traffic lights or a lollypop person would be safe and useful way to cross the road.*

*I understand the school knows about this problem because many parents have complained about it but still nothing has been done.*

*I hope you understand the situation and solve this problem as soon as possible.*

There has been a letter in support of the petition sent in by the Principal of Essa Primary Academy Mrs Joanne Atherton. In it she states that there have been several near misses and that the request for a patrol is reconsidered.

## Background

3. On Lever Edge Lane, Bolton outside what was formally Lever Edge Primary School and Essa Academy there hasn't been a school crossing patrol provision. All school crossing patrol sites across Bolton must adhere to the Guidelines set by Local Authority Road Safety Officer Association to determine if a site meets the criteria for a School Crossing Patrol.
4. This entails undertaking a vehicle and pedestrian count (PV<sup>2</sup>) at the busiest times which is normally morning and afternoon drop off/collection times. The figures collated then determine if the patrol criteria is met.
5. The Council currently has a recruitment freeze on employment with any newly proposed staff, or patrols in this case, would need to be funded externally.

## Officer Observations

6. The school crossing patrol supervisor last carried out a PV<sup>2</sup> count at this location during February 2017 in order to ascertain if a patrol is justified. The last count demonstrated that there are sufficient numbers to justify a patrol. It must be noted that the count picked up children in the age range of 5 – 16 which indicates that children were walking to either school.

7. The injury accident statistics show that on Lever Edge Lane between the junctions of Morris Green Lane and Leonard Street (approx. 900m) there have been 12 injury accidents, 8 of which were pedestrians of which 5 involved children over the past 5 years.
8. Essa Academy has not yet reached full attendance levels as the double intake has still to transfer through the year groups. It is proposed that PV<sup>2</sup> counts will be undertaken on a regular basis to determine what the final base line figure will be once all year groups have their full intake.

### **Recommendations**

9. The Executive Cabinet Member Environmental Services is recommended to approve the following:
  - a) No immediate action is taken in respect of this report.
  - b) PV<sup>2</sup> counts are undertaken on a regular basis to ascertain a full count when all school years are at their full capacity.
  - c) Subject to external funding being made available a feasibility study is undertaken in conjunction with the school to determine a suitable location.