

Petition Table – Active Petitions

Appendix 2

Nature of Petition	Appropriate Service/Officer	Summary of Information	Status of Petition
<p>Petition 322</p> <p>Skatepark for Ushaw Moor</p> <p>E-Petition No. of signatures – 98 Petition received – 18.11.17</p>	<p>Stephen Howell Head of Culture and Sport</p>	<p>Petition asking the Council to build a skatepark for the residents of Ushaw Moor.</p> <p>e-petition from 18.11.17 – 1.6.18 and closed with 98 signatures</p>	<p>Awaiting response</p>
<p>Petition 330</p> <p>Keep our Sport Alive, Open Waste Land for off Road Motorbikes</p> <p>E-Petition Petition received – 16.2.18 No. of signatures –</p>	<p>Barrie Alderson Outdoor Facilities Co-ordinator</p>	<p>Petition asking the Council to provide waste land for off road motorbikes</p> <p>To run until 30 June 2018.</p>	<p>E-Petition live</p>
<p>Petition 335</p> <p>Vigo Lane Improvements to Highway</p> <p>Petition received 29.3.18 No. of signatures - 56</p>	<p>David Battensby Traffic Asset Senior Engineer</p>	<p>Petition asking the Council to address the highways infrastructure and install a crossing on Vigo Lane, Chester-le-Street.</p> <p>The Council receives more requests for formalised crossing facilities than it is able to fund from limited road safety budgets. Due to the need to concentrate resources on reducing casualty accidents, the Council is required to direct its limited funding towards addressing locations with the worst accident trends.</p> <p>The accident recording database shared with Durham Constabulary, confirms no recorded ‘personal injury’ accidents associated with pedestrians during the past 4 years; this being the standard search criteria. These figures represent a favourable accident record compared to many other locations within the County, where future intervention by the Council would be beneficial to improve road safety.</p>	<p>Petition CLOSED</p>

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		<p>Requests for formalised crossing such as a zebra crossing or traffic signal controlled crossing are assessed against a national criteria devised by the Department for Transport (DfT), which takes into account various factors including traffic flow and the number of pedestrians crossing the road within the busiest period.</p> <p>In the case of Vigo Lane, an assessment using the Department for Transport’s criteria was carried out. The national criteria could not be satisfied because there is no specific “desire line” on what is a long section of road where pedestrians choose to cross where it is convenient for them.</p> <p>There are a number reasons that may prevent formal crossings being installed. These relate to specific road safety issues such as lack of driver forward vision due to bends or crests in the road, nearby junctions and bus stops.</p> <p>Other safety features including pedestrian refuge islands have been considered however Vigo Lane is not wide enough to accommodate such measures without substantial and costly carriageway widening.</p>	
<p>Petition 336</p> <p>School Run Parking – Lanchester</p> <p>Petition received 12.04.18</p> <p>No. of signatures – 68</p>	<p>Danny Harland Parking & Transport Infrastructure Team Leader</p>	<p>Petition asking the Council to instruct traffic enforcement officers to take regular action to prevent parking on double yellow lines during school run hours.</p> <p>DCC officers enforce restrictions outside of schools on a daily basis. However, as there are approximately 275 schools throughout the County and only 12 enforcement officers, they are only able to visit each school on an occasional basis.</p> <p>A request for information regarding the frequency of enforcement demonstrated that officers had visited Lanchester</p>	<p>Petition CLOSED</p>

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		<p>between 4 September 2017 & 22 December 2017 on ten occasions, during which they issued three penalty charge notices. In spite of their attendance it was noted that the problems have persisted. It is understood that residents are disappointed at the number of penalty charge notices issued, however boarding/alighting is a permitted activity from a 'no waiting' restriction and that this includes escorting a dependent child to and from school. It is therefore important to recognise that whilst an officer may observe an unattended vehicle this does not in itself mean a contravention has occurred.</p> <p>Other permitted activities from a 'no waiting' restriction include loading and unloading and parking with a blue badge for a period up to 3 hours.</p> <p>An enforcement officer will note a vehicle details when they first see a possible contravention and stay next to or near the vehicle, keeping it in sight at all times, for a set period of at least five minutes to see if there is any sign of boarding and alighting (or loading and unloading). Ordinarily, a parent or guardian will return within this period of time or, where they have remained with the vehicle, will drive away the moment an officer commences their observation. Consequently, more often than not, an officer is unable to issue a penalty charge notice.</p> <p>Furthermore, whilst the occasional presence of officers often deters drivers from parking illegally, it is not uncommon for dangerous and inconsiderate parking to return when enforcement ceases. Therefore, in this instance, we have requested that officers undertake a more prolonged enforcement campaign to encourage parents to develop good safety habits and park in a safe and legal manner in future. It has also been requested that enforcement occurs between 3:15pm and</p>	

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		<p>3:45pm in order to address concerns regarding a lack of enforcement during this particular period of time.</p> <p>Concerns have also been forwarded to the Head Teacher of each school, requesting that they remind parents of the need to park safely and considerately when dropping off and picking up their children.</p>	
<p>Petition 337</p> <p>Parking at Sycamore Square, Shildon</p> <p>Petition received 13.04.18</p> <p>No. of signatures - 14</p>	<p>Danny Harland</p> <p>Parking & Transport Infrastructure Team Leader</p>	<p>Petition asking the Council to address parking problems at Sycamore Square, Shildon.</p> <p>The conversion of open space amenity land to carriageway, whilst possible in most instances, is extremely costly at an estimated £3000 per linear metre which in this instance would amount to approx. £470,000. This estimate can rise dramatically if any public utility apparatus will be affected. Unfortunately DCC do not have a budget for this purpose and therefore are unable to take the request forward at this stage.</p> <p>However the local Area Action Partnership or local Councillors who may have access to a suitable funding stream could be approached.</p> <p>If successful in securing funding the necessary public utility searches and a detailed estimate of works could be provided.</p>	<p>Petition CLOSED</p>
<p>Petition 338</p> <p>Seaton Lane Traffic Campaign</p> <p>Petition received 24.04.18</p> <p>No. of signatures - 803</p>	<p>Dave Wafer</p> <p>Strategic Traffic Manager</p>	<p>Petition asking the Council to bring forward new proposals to resolve the traffic management issues at Seaton Lane. The Council is asked to establish a working group with residents to consider the long term traffic issues associated with Seaton Lane.</p> <p>A working group has now been established with representatives from the local community to consider alternative proposals to address the current traffic issues.</p>	<p>Petition CLOSED</p>

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<p>Petition 340</p> <p>Weeds, Garden Waste and Rubbish left by garages in Seaham</p> <p>Petition received 14.5.18 No. of signatures – 29</p>	<p>Stuart Cockburn County Durham Housing Group</p>	<p>Petition asking the Council to address weeds, garden waste and rubbish left beside garages in Seaham.</p> <p>Durham County Council (DCC) and County Durham Housing Group (CDHG) attended a joint visit to the areas highlighted in the petition to assess the issues highlighted. During the visit, it was noted that the estate was litter free. Weeds were observed on paths and the garage site in question.</p> <p>DCC, in collaboration with CDHG, carry out chemical weed control to garage sites, un-adopted footpaths, blocked paved areas, and walls and fences on open space areas. This is performed twice yearly, with the first application usually being applied in April/May.</p> <p>Due to the adverse weather in April, the operation suffered delays however the first application of the chemical weed control was applied on and around the 24th May 2018 in the local area.</p> <p>During the aforementioned visit, it was observed that the garage site was relatively litter free. CDHG own the land the garages are situated on, however the structures in question had been erected by the tenants of the garage plots and as such were not subject to maintenance or improvement works</p> <p>As per the tenancy agreement, CDHG will intervene if the structures pose a health and safety issue.</p>	<p>Petition CLOSED</p>