

**Report to:** Lead Member for Transport and Environment

**Date of meeting:** 20 November 2023

**By:** Director of Communities, Economy and Transport

**Title:** Petition for a safe crossing to Hartfield Square on The Avenue in Eastbourne

**Purpose:** To consider a petition calling on the County Council for a safe crossing to Hartfield Square on The Avenue in Eastbourne

---

**RECOMMENDATIONS:** The Lead Member is recommended to advise the petitioners that a potential scheme to implement pedestrian crossing facilities to Hartfield Square on The Avenue has been assessed through the approved High Level Sift process and has met the necessary criteria to be taken forward to detailed appraisal.

---

## **1 Background Information**

1.1. At the County Council meeting on 18 July 2023, a petition was presented to the Chairman by Councillor Rodohan on behalf of a group of concerned members of the public. The group are requesting that a safe crossing to Hartfield Square on The Avenue is provided by the County Council.

1.2. Standing Orders provide that where the Chairman considers it appropriate, petitions are considered by the relevant Committee or Lead Member and a spokesperson for the petitioners is invited to address the Committee. The Chairman has referred this petition to the Lead Member for Transport and Environment. A copy of the petition is available in the Members' Room.

## **2 Supporting Information**

2.1. The Avenue is covered by a 30-mph speed limit, as indicated by the system of street lighting. Hartfield Square is located on the western side of The Avenue between St Anne's Road and Eversfield Road. A location plan can be found at Appendix 1.

2.2. The Avenue is an A-class road and forms a main route into and out of Eastbourne town centre. There is a high level of frontage development which is made up of both business and residential properties. Hartfield Square is a park and garden with a children's play area. There is an existing uncontrolled crossing point on The Avenue to the south-western side of Hartfield Square. This is in the form of dropped kerbs with tactile paving and a central pedestrian refuge with tactile paving and illuminated bollards.

2.3. Crash data supplied by Sussex Police for the three-year period up to 31 July 2023 shows that there have been six crashes resulting in personal injury along the entire length of The Avenue. None of these crashes involved pedestrians. A crash data plan can be found at Appendix 2.

2.4. The County Council has a limited amount of funding to develop local transport improvements and needs to ensure that resources are targeted to those schemes which will be of the greatest benefit to local communities. To help prioritise the number of requests received for improvements, a process was developed to determine which schemes should be funded through the Integrated Transport Programme.

2.5. The request for a safe crossing to Hartfield Square on The Avenue has been assessed through the approved High Level Sift process to determine if it may be a priority for future consideration. This was a fairly broad assessment to include all types of pedestrian crossing

facilities (ranging from additional uncontrolled crossing points, to controlled crossings such as a zebra or signalised crossing). The benchmark score was met, and the scheme will now go forward for further detailed appraisal for possible inclusion within the draft Capital Programme. The programme will be considered for approval by the Lead Member for Transport and Environment at the end of March 2024.

### **3 Conclusion and Reasons for Recommendations**

3.1. It is recommended that the petitioners be advised that a scheme to improve pedestrian crossing facilities to Hartfield Square on The Avenue has met the necessary benchmark score to be considered for detailed appraisal and for possible inclusion within the Capital Programme.

3.2. The County Council's Infrastructure, Planning and Place Team will provide an update to Councillor Rodohan and the Lead Petitioner in February 2024 once the detailed appraisal process is complete.

#### **RUPERT CLUBB**

Director of Communities, Economy and Transport

Contact Officer: Victoria Bartholomew

Tel. No. 01424 724284

Email: [Victoria.Bartholomew@eastsussex.gov.uk](mailto:Victoria.Bartholomew@eastsussex.gov.uk)

#### **LOCAL MEMBERS**

Councillor Rodohan

#### **BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS**

None