

# 4(ii)(c)

## THE ROYAL BOROUGH OF KENSINGTON AND CHELSEA

COUNCIL – 28 June 2006

### REPORT BY DEPUTY LEADER AND CABINET MEMBER FOR PLANNING POLICY HOUSING POLICY AND TRANSPORTATION

### SLOANE SQUARE - RESPONSE TO PETITION AGAINST STAGGERED CROSSROADS PROPOSAL

This report provides information to Members in response to the petition presented to the Council meeting in March opposed to the staggered crossroads proposal for Sloane Square.

**FOR INFORMATION**

## **1 Background**

- 1.1 At the Council meeting on the 8 March 2006, Councillor Coleridge presented a petition of 3519 signatures under 13 differently worded prayers all opposed to the staggered crossroads proposal for Sloane Square. This included the petition of 939 signatures previously submitted to the Council last September and dealt with in my report to Council on the 30 November 2005.
- 1.2 Like the first petition, the latest has been organised by the 'Save Sloane Square Action Group' (SSS) who have continued to oppose the staggered crossroads option for the square. Officers' analysis of the petition is outlined in Appendix A, which details the prayers and includes a breakdown of signatures by prayer and ward. Of the 3519 signatures, 2137 were from outside the Royal Borough and 1382 were from 1113 addresses in the Royal Borough. A total of 476 signatures were from 318 addresses within the last Sloane Square consultation area.

## **2. Sloane Square proposals –current position**

- 2.1 My report in November outlined the background to the proposals for Sloane Square and my decision to take forward the detailed design of the option to change its layout because of the overwhelming support for it in the two previous public consultations. I also informed you that the SSS had submitted to the Council their alternative scheme for Sloane Square based on retaining the

gyratory and that I agreed it should be thoroughly assessed against the staggered crossroads layout and the existing gyratory.

- 2.2 In early April, the Leader wrote to the SSS with the main findings of the assessment, which effectively ruled out the alternative gyratory design as a viable scheme in traffic terms. However, he agreed that:
- a) officers would now develop another workable scheme based on a gyratory layout in Sloane Square with the SSS, and
  - b) this upgraded gyratory scheme would be consulted upon together with the staggered crossroads option.
- 2.3 The process for developing a workable alternative scheme based on a gyratory layout is currently being discussed with the SSS along with the method of consultation to ensure there is equitability in the presentation of the options and how views are canvassed.

### **3. Response to petition**

- 3.1 The analysis of the petition does not indicate there has been a significant shift against the staggered crossroads scheme within the last consultation area. The petition includes signatures from 318 addresses in the consultation area, 50 of which the Council received a response from in the last consultation, 24 of these having changed their minds in favour of the gyratory. The table below shows that if the petition numbers (within the consultation area) are combined with the consultation results, there is still a significant majority in the consultation area in favour of the staggered crossroads option.

Favoured Option	Consultation area results	With petition numbers added
Staggered crossroads	1023 (76%)	1002 (62%)
Gyratory	302 (22%)	594 (37%)
No opinion	28 (2%)	25 (1%)
Total	1353	1621

- 3.2 The next public consultation exercise will provide another opportunity to gauge local opinion on what should be done in Sloane Square. The petition prayers raise a number of key points that continue to be raised by those opposed to the staggered crossroads scheme, therefore I felt it appropriate to respond to these as outlined in Appendix B.

## **4 Programme**

- 4.1 The decision to develop an alternative gyratory option and to consult again on the proposals means that the original programme for the

project, which anticipated works starting in early spring 2007, will need to be extended. As Sloane Square is badly in need of improvement, I have asked the Director of Transportation and Highways to allocate more in-house resources to the project in an attempt to keep the project on track. The Council's firm intention is for a promised consultation exercise to take place in the autumn. The SSS has been informed of this and been asked to tailor their programme of work accordingly.

**FOR INFORMATION**

**Councillor Daniel Moylan**  
**Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Planning Policy, Housing**  
**Policy and Transportation**