

# Paper Petition Details

## Accident on 24<sup>th</sup> March, 2014 – 235 Rochfords Gardens

It is a known fact that the tendency of some of the residents/tenants of Rochfords Gardens is to drive at much higher speed than the normal speed in the residential areas.

On 24<sup>th</sup> March 2014 such incident took place where by there was a major accident due to a vehicle being driven at a very high speed such that the vehicle in question went out of control in spite of the fact that the road condition was good and without any sharp bends and collided with house number 235 damaging the outer wall creating a big hole in the wall. The damage was such that the cracks appeared in the wall on the upper floor and it was considered that the structure may not be safe.

The adjacent house, number 233, was also damaged. It was very fortunate that no one was hurt either within the house numbers 233 and 235 or outside the houses on the pavement. If at all there was an injury it could have been life threatening. At times children are seen playing/cycling on the pavement.

Perhaps you would have read about the accident in a local newspaper as well as web-site at "sloughobserver.co.uk"

It is our proposal that the residents of Rochfords Gardens would like to have measures implemented to reduce the speed such as speed ramps and speed limited to at least 20 mph. Any other measures to reduce the speed in Rochfords Gardens will be much appreciated.

**This petition was received on 1<sup>st</sup> April, 2014.**

**This petition was passed to the Engineer Traffic Engineering on 1<sup>st</sup> April, 2014.**

**This petition was responded to by the Engineer Traffic Engineering on 3<sup>rd</sup> April, 2014.**

**This petition was responded to by the Engineer Traffic Engineering on 29<sup>th</sup> April, 2014.**

### Final Results

Number of Signatures	91
----------------------	----

### Council Response

Holding Response:

In response to this petition it had been arranged for a speed survey to be carried out for 7 days starting from 3<sup>rd</sup> April, 2014. The survey will record all traffic in a 24 hour period for the full 7 days. The data will then be sent back to the Council which usually takes a couple of weeks and then contact will be made with the lead petitioner and the Ward Councillors' to discuss the results.

Final Response:

A speed survey was carried out on Rochfords Gardens for 10 days beginning on 4<sup>th</sup> April, 2014 and finishing on 14<sup>th</sup> April, 2014. The results are as follows:

**Northbound**

The average speed was 19.7mph

2% of vehicles were exceeding the speed limit of 30mph.

**Southbound**

The average speed was 20.8mph.

5% of vehicles were exceeding the speed limit of 30mph.

This result means that, compared with other sites in Slough, it would not make Rochfords Gardens a high priority for a traffic calming scheme. The majority of traffic is already travelling well under the speed limit of 30mph and does not need additional physical speed reduction measures (speed humps) at this time. The petition that was submitted to the Council (dated 26<sup>th</sup> March, 2014) asks for a 20mph speed limit but it is clear from the survey results that the average speeds are already at this level.

In light of the current severe financial cuts imposed upon the Council by Central Government, the Road Safety team must target extremely limited resources at sites within the borough which have a proven history of injury accidents and significant numbers of drivers exceeding the speed limit.

Whilst in no way trivialising the recent road traffic collision where a car collided with a property in Rochfords Gardens, this does appear to have been a one-off incident. There is only one other recorded injury accident in the whole estate for the last 5 years – compared to other sites in Slough, this is a very positive record. Thames Valley Police attended the recent collision and may consider charging the offending motorist if appropriate. However, at the request of residents and Councillors, the Road Safety Team will shortly be putting up a Vehicle Activated Sign in Rochfords Gardens to remind anybody exceeding the speed limit to slow down. The sign will be in place for approximately 6 weeks as experience has shown that they are less effective after that time.