

ITEM NO. 4 – A 59 NORTHWAY

PETITIONER STATEMENT - MR CARROLL

WORD COUNT 640

I am local resident and I have concerns about the busy junction of the A59 junction with Kenyons Lane, L31.

I have been in conversation with Sefton Council Highways dept (SCH) and our local councillor, John Sayers for over a year now. John Sayers shares my concerns whilst SCHs do not. As quite simply, there have been no serious or fatal collisions, therefore they will not make his junction safe.

SCHs have stated that they carried out traffic measurements in 2016 and deemed the 60mph/40mph/20mph junction safe as the volume of traffic and pedestrians was not high enough. Therefore, it doesn't require safety measures. My first question is, does the volume of traffic or pedestrians dictate if something is safe or not?

Our concern is that there is no assisted pedestrian crossing at this junction. Travelling along the A59 towards Liverpool, you will notice that every crossing upto Switch Island has an assisted pedestrian crossing in the form of bridges, pelican crossings and even a tunnel. Yet, A59/Kenyons Lane has nothing and in my opinion is the most dangerous junction.

At this junction, three very different speed limits meet, causing major hazards. At the A59 towards Ormskirk the limit increases from 40mph to 60mph immediately after the junction, causing drivers to increase their speed to 60pmh plus on approach to the junction. In the opposite direction, it decreases from 60mph to 40mph which I have witnessed to be even more dangerous as drivers dont not slow down to 40mph after crossing the junction. And in all honesty, whilst travelling in the 60mph zone towards Maghull, vehicles travel in excess of 70mph, and they often continue this speed into the 40mph. But this is apparently safe.

Kenyons Lane has a 20mph on both sides as It is deemed to be a vulnerable road with risks. Yet, the A59 60/40mph road it crosses the "vulnerable" 20mph zone does not have any safety measures. In my opinion, it appears that SCHs has placed this junction in the "to hard to do box" even though it is by far, the most dangerous

These hazards are extremely difficult to anticipate when attempting to cross the junction. Adding to the existing hazards, there is no pause in between each cycle. As soon as one ATS turns red another one turns immediately green, making it almost impossible to cross safely. Also, when crossing the A59 it is Impossible to see into either side of Kenyons Lane due to the high hedges, so it is literally "take a chance" to cross when Kenyons Lane lights are green. Viability is less than limited.

In combination with these major risks, on either side of the A59 are numerous vulnerabilities. Large housing estates on both sides, Children's playgrounds on both sides, which includes a park and playground on the junction itself. The grass in this park is less than 8 meters from the actual junction. St Thomas Primary School on

Keynons Lane and Lydiate Primary School where parents attempt to cross their children to walk to school and an assisted living home (Keynons Lodge). Also a shell Garage with a local shop inside. People from each housing estate attempt to cross the A59 at Keynons Lane to access all of the above locations and each time risking their lives. And with all due respect, this is not an exaggeration.

I refuse to cross this road while with my 3 and 4 year old as I have experienced a large number of near misses. I'm forced to walk 15 minutes to the pelican crossing at Dodds Lane. And as previously mentioned, this particular junction has an assisted crossing, although I see less risks than the junction of Keynons Lane.

The petition is still live and currently sits at 470 signatures. Lets be proactive in protecting our local community, including the drivers who use the junction.

Kind Regards

Mr David Carroll