

North Road Pedestrian Safety

I would like to present a petition to the council, requesting improved safety measures at the North Road Junction. If you are not familiar with North Road it is off the very busy A36 trunk road from Salisbury. A number of residents have had 'near misses' trying to cross because:

- you have to look in three different directions to cross it.
- at peak times, there is no break between cars. People travelling to Bath University and King Edward's School use this route, as well as many others.
- cars joining the slip road from the A36 are moving fast and there is a blind corner at the bottom of the North Road hill.

Crossing the road proves difficult for both the young and old. Mothers with pushchairs struggle with the blind corner, parents worry about newly-independent children judging the distance and speed of cars; some elderly residents say they have to use taxis because they cannot walk fast enough to cross either North Road or the Warminster Road. A few parents also told me that they drive their children to school because they feel that these two roads are dangerous for walkers. This compounds the problem for pedestrians. In addition, some residents have had 'near misses' on the very narrow section of pavement just before the turning to North Road.

Solutions put forward by local residents include:

- Putting traffic lights at this junction (Drivers also say the road is equally hazardous for cars trying to join and leave the A36)
- Moving the island, so that pedestrians don't need to look in three different directions (diagram attached).
- Widening and reshaping the pavement.
- A zebra crossing.
- Making the Warminster Road safer to cross and extending the traffic light system at Sydney Place to allow walkers to bypass North Road.

64 local households from Minister Way and St Christopher's Close have signed this petition. The petition has also been signed by an additional 19 people who use North Road on a daily basis.

To summarise, we are concerned about the danger of crossing the junction at North Road. We ask the Council to install suitable pedestrian safety measures. Thank you.

KIM DONOVAN