

TITLE: WALTHAM AVENUE, HAYES – PETITION TO STOP OR RESTRICT NON-RESIDENTIAL PARKING

Cabinet Portfolio

Planning and Transportation

Report Author

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Papers with report

Appendix A

HEADLINE INFORMATION

Purpose of report

To advise the Cabinet Member that a petition has been received signed by residents of Waltham Avenue, Hayes pointing out their concern with non-residential parking in the road and asking the council for discussions on this matter so it can be prevented.

Contribution to our plans and strategies

The request will be considered in association with the council's strategy for on-street parking.

Financial Cost

There is none associated to the recommendations to this report

Relevant Policy Overview Committee

Residents and Environmental Services

Ward(s) affected

Pinkwell Ward

RECOMMENDATION

The Cabinet Member discusses with petitioners their issues regarding parking in their road and decides if a proposed parking scheme for Waltham Avenue and the environs can be added to the council's parking programme

INFORMATION

Reasons for recommendation

The petitioner's have requested dialogue with the council to discuss measures that can either stop or restrict parking by non-residents in their road. Subject to support of local residents, the Cabinet Member could decide to add a request to the parking programme for subsequent investigation of a Resident Parking Scheme or keep it on record until a wider area can be identified to make a parking scheme viable.

Alternative options considered

The residents could consider the introduction of short term waiting restrictions which would prevent "All day" parking but stop them from parking during the operational period.

Comments of Policy Overview Committee(s)

None at this stage

Supporting Information

1. A petition with 24 signatures has been received from residents in a section of Waltham Avenue asking the council "To stop or restrict non-residents parking their cars in Waltham Avenue". In a covering letter to the petition, the organiser points out the problem of non-residents parking is getting worse and this displaces local residents who like to park outside their homes. The petition organiser has asked for a dialogue with the council on this matter so "it can either be stopped or restricted".
2. Waltham Avenue has a junction with Dawley Road at its eastern end and is a cul-de-sac at its western end. In between it has junctions with the residential roads of Colbrook Avenue and Mildred Avenue. The location of the Avenue is indicated on Appendix A. The petitioners live at the eastern end of Waltham Avenue, either side of its junction with Colbrook Avenue. Although the petitioners suffer from non-residential parking, they do not indicate what is the main cause. It is possibly local employees on the adjacent Westland Estate, who either do not have parking or find it more convenient to park on street to avoid delays leaving the on site car parks.
3. The Cabinet Member will be aware that the Council have powers to introduce two measures to address on-street parking. One is the introduction of waiting restrictions and although these are predominately used to remove obstructive parking for safety reasons, many residential streets have asked for short-term waiting restrictions to prevent "All day" parking. However, these restrictions also stop residents from parking during the operational times and are generally only successful where there is sufficient off-street parking. The second option is the introduction of Residents Permit Parking Schemes. Within these parking bays are marked on the street and only permit holders can park during the scheme's operational hours. All residents living within the boundary of a scheme would be eligible to apply for a permit.
4. Although either of the two options could address the problem of non-residential parking in the eastern section of Waltham Avenue, any measures introduced will very likely have the affect of transferring the parking to other adjacent residential areas. The success of parking schemes is to address not only the concerns of the immediate residents who suffer from non-residential parking but also to deter transfer to other roads. It is suggested therefore the Cabinet Member discusses with petitioners their concerns with non-residential parking and decides if a scheme for Waltham Avenue and environs can be added to the council's parking programme for subsequent investigation.

Financial Implications

There are none associated with the recommendations to this report. However, if subsequently detailed design and statutory consultation is carried out on a proposed parking scheme, a bid would be required to be made for the necessary funds from the Parking Revenue Account surplus.

EFFECT ON RESIDENTS, SERVICE USERS & COMMUNITIES

What will be the effect of the recommendation?

To allow petitioners the opportunity to discuss directly with the Cabinet Member for Planning and Transportation their concerns with parking and subject to the Cabinet Members decision, a proposal can be added to the council's parking programme.

Consultation Carried Out or Required

None at this stage but should a proposed scheme advance to detailed design, consultation will be undertaken with the residents affected.

CORPORATE IMPLICATIONS

Corporate Finance

None at this stage

Legal

The proposals for the introduction of a Residents Parking Scheme in Waltham Avenue can be achieved by exercising powers under the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 and Highways Act 1980. On the basis of the information contained in this report, it does not appear that there are special legal implications for this particular matter. The client will be required to be mindful of the statutory procedures imposed upon the traffic authority for the making of Traffic Management Orders which spring from the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984. Officers are familiar with these procedures. In cases of doubt, Legal Services will be instructed. The decision maker must balance the relevant considerations to best give effect to the discharge of the statutory duty to secure the expeditious, convenient and safe movement of vehicular traffic and other traffic.

In considering any consultation responses, decision makers must ensure there is a full consideration of all representations arising including those which do not accord with the officer recommendation. The decision maker must be satisfied that responses from the public were conscientiously taken into account in finalising the officer's recommendation.

BACKGROUND PAPERS

Petition received 27th April 2009