

## **NORTH ROAD / CRANMER ROAD, HAYES – PETITION REQUESTING THE REMOVAL OF EXISTING WAITING RESTRICTIONS**

**Cabinet Member**

Cllr Keith Burrows

**Cabinet Portfolio**

Planning, Transportation & Recycling

**Officer Contact**

Caroline Haywood  
Planning, Environment, Education and Community Services

**Papers with report**

Appendix A

### **HEADLINE INFORMATION**

**Purpose of report**

To inform the Cabinet Member of a petition requesting the removal of existing waiting restrictions on the junction of North Road with Cranmer Road, Hayes.

**Contribution to our plans and strategies**

The request can be considered as part of the strategy for on street parking controls and the Council's annual programme of road safety initiatives.

**Financial Cost**

There are none associated with this report.

**Relevant Policy Overview Committee**

Residents & Environmental Services

**Ward(s) affected**

Botwell

### **RECOMMENDATION**

**That the Cabinet Member:**

- 1. Considers the petitioners' request and discusses with them in detail their request to remove the existing waiting restrictions;**
- 2. Subject to the outcome of 1 above asks officers to reinvestigate the reduction of 'At Any Time' waiting restrictions as shown on Appendix A.**

## INFORMATION

### Reasons for recommendation

To allow the Cabinet Member to discuss in detail with petitioners their concerns. The successes of traffic measures which address speeding are largely acceptable to local residents. These can be identified with petitioners for further detailed investigation by officers within the Road Safety Programme.

### Alternative options considered / risk management

These can be discussed with petitioners.

### Comments of Policy Overview Committee(s)

None at this stage.

### Supporting Information

1. A petition with 23 signatures has been submitted to the Council from the residents of Cranmer Road and North Road, Hayes attached to a road safety programme form requesting the removal of waiting restrictions on the junctions of North Road with Tudor Road and Cromwell Road. The petition states *'it has been signed by at least 20% of the residents of Cranmer Road and North Road, who find these double yellow lines a total waste of tax payers money.'*
2. North Road and Cranmer Road are residential roads situated within Botwell Ward. Both roads are narrow and vehicles are allowed to park on both sides of the road. These vehicles reduce the carriageway which consequently only allows one-way traffic. Properties in North Road do not have off street parking facilities, while in Cranmer Road only a few properties have this facility. A plan of the area is shown on Appendix A.
3. The Council received two requests in 2010, one from a local ward councillor on behalf of residents regarding difficulty accessing Cranmer Road from North Road and the other directly from a resident when the fire brigade were not able to access the road to deal with a burning car at the end of the road. An investigation took place and officers observed vehicles parking on the junction restricting access and sightlines for vehicles exiting Cranmer Road. A proposal for 'at any time' waiting restrictions 10 meters on each arm of the junction of North Road and Cranmer Road was therefore drawn up. This was then taken through the legal statutory consultation process which took place from 10<sup>th</sup> November – 1<sup>st</sup> December 2010 which, as the Cabinet Member will be aware, involves the placing of advertisements in the local press and the display of public notices on site. During this period no objections were received and the restrictions were duly installed in April 2011. A plan of the waiting restrictions is attached as Appendix A.
4. In May 2011 the Council received concerns from a resident regarding the increased parking problems in Cranmer Road, close to its junction with North Road and requested the waiting restrictions be reduced to increase the parking provisions. The concerns were related to the fact that there is a high demand for parking in the road, as residents do not

have off street parking facilities. During the investigation it was found that there was plenty of available parking during the day, however in the evening the road was heavily parked. Nevertheless, if the restrictions were reduced or removed the safety on the junction would be greatly compromised and the risk of emergency vehicles not being able to access the road would be increased.

5. The Cabinet Member will be aware that the Highway Code stipulates that drivers should not park "within 10 metres of a junction" and that this is because of well known safety problems caused by vehicles parked inconsiderately at corners. Nevertheless, it is suggested that the Cabinet Member discusses with the petitioners their specific concerns with parking and endeavours to determine the best option to maintain safety on the junction.

## **Financial Implications**

There are none associated with the recommendations to this report, as feasibility studies can be undertaken with in house resources. However if the Cabinet Member subsequently considers the removal of the existing waiting restrictions suitable funding will need to be identified.

## **EFFECT ON RESIDENTS, SERVICE USERS & COMMUNITIES**

### **What will be the effect of the recommendation?**

The recommendations will identify the extent of the petitioners' concerns and look at possible solutions to mitigate these.

### **Consultation Carried Out or Required**

No further consultations have been carried out as a result of this petition.

## **CORPORATE IMPLICATIONS**

### **Legal**

There are no special legal implications for the proposal, which amounts to an informal consultation. A meeting with the petitioners is perfectly legitimate as part of a listening exercise, especially where consideration of the policy and factual issues are still at a formative stage. Fairness and natural justice requires that there must be no predetermination of a decision in advance of any wider non-statutory consultation.

Accordingly, the Council must balance the concerns of the objectors with its statutory duty to secure the expeditious, convenient and safe movement of vehicular and other traffic. The decision maker must be satisfied that responses from the public are conscientiously taken into account.

Should the outcome of the informal discussions with petitioners require that Officers include the Petitioners request in a subsequent review of possible options under the Council's Road Safety Programme and a consultation be carried out when resources permit there will need to be consideration of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, the Traffic Signs Regulations and General Directions 2002, which govern road traffic orders, traffic signs and road markings. If

specific advice is required in relation to the exercise of individual powers Legal Services should be instructed.

### **Corporate Property & Construction**

Corporate Property and Construction is in support of the recommendations in this report.

### **Relevant Service Groups**

None at this stage

### **BACKGROUND PAPERS**

- Traffic order advertised: 10<sup>th</sup> November 2010
- Petition received 9<sup>th</sup> December 2011