

BLOSSOM WAY, WEST DRAYTON - PETITION REQUESTING A RESIDENTS PARKING SCHEME

Cabinet Member(s)	Councillor Keith Burrows
Cabinet Portfolio(s)	Planning, Transportation and Recycling
Officer Contact(s)	Gordon Hill Residents Services
Papers with report	Appendix A

1. HEADLINE INFORMATION

Summary	To advise the Cabinet Member that a petition has been received from residents living in Blossom Way requesting parking restrictions be introduced in Blossom Way, West Drayton.
Contribution to our plans and strategies	The request can be considered in relation to the Council's strategy for on-street parking controls.
Financial Cost	There are none associated with the recommendations to this report.
Relevant Policy Overview Committee	Residents and Environmental Services.
Ward(s) affected	Heathrow Villages

2. RECOMMENDATION

That the Cabinet Member:

1. **Meets and discusses with petitioners their request for a Parking Management Scheme and their concerns associated with existing parking behaviour.**
2. **Subject to the outcome of the discussions with petitioners, asks officers to add the request to the Council's overall parking programme for subsequent investigation in an area agreed with Ward Councillors.**
3. **Subject to the feedback from petitioners, asks officers in the Council's Anti-social Behaviour Team to investigate the allegations of antisocial behaviour by**

taxi drivers, taking necessary actions and referring back to the Cabinet Member.

Reasons for recommendation

Discussions with the petitioners will allow the Cabinet Member to fully understand the concerns and whether it is considered appropriate to add the request to the Council's Parking Programme.

Alternative options considered / risk management

None at this stage.

Policy Overview Committee comments

None at this stage.

3. INFORMATION

Supporting Information

1. A petition has been received from residents of Blossom Way, West Drayton asking for measures to address problems of all-day non-residential parking. In a covering letter attached to the petition the lead petitioner stated the following:
 - "1. There are two large hotels where people rather than pay parking charges, use Blossom Way as a parking lot. This also applies to people using it as off Airport Parking, where they leave their cars for days on end and in some cases weeks.*
 - 2. It is fast becoming a waiting area for taxis waiting, engines running, to pick up their fares from Heathrow Airport. This again is with total disregard to residents as invariably, their intercoms or music that can be heard very early or late into the night. It has been known that some drivers clean their cars whilst waiting, dumping rubbish onto the roads."*
2. Blossom Way is a residential road of about 85 properties off Cherry Lane which is located close to Junction 4 of the M4 and provides easy access to Heathrow Airport. Cherry Lane Primary School is situated close by as well as a number of large hotels which services the airport and a local business park.
3. The majority of residents who signed the petition live within the eastern arm of Blossom Way, which is the closest section of the road to the hotels. These properties are likely to be mostly affected by vehicles belonging to guests and staff from the nearby hotels.
4. Following a petition from residents of Blossom Way in January 1989 a scheme to allow footway parking was introduced. However, this only allows parking partly on the footway and does not restrict parking for residents only.

5. Petitioners have identified Residents' Parking as an option that could be considered but they have not indicated their preferred days and times they want the restrictions to operate. Therefore, it is possible to recommend that the Cabinet Member considers instructing officers to undertake an informal consultation to establish the overall level of support for a scheme. The area would be agreed with Ward Councillors and feedback from residents would help identify the times that they feel are most appropriate.
6. The petitioners have also highlighted inconsiderate behaviour by taxi drivers, including the noise and pollution problem this creates. The Cabinet Member may wish to instruct the Anti-social Behaviour Team to investigate these matters further and to take any enforcement action that may prove necessary.

Financial Implications

There are no financial implications associated with the recommendations to this report. If works are subsequently required suitable funding will need to be identified within the parking programme.

4. EFFECT ON RESIDENTS, SERVICE USERS & COMMUNITIES

What will be the effect of the recommendation?

To allow the Cabinet Member to discuss in detail with petitioners their concerns.

Consultation Carried Out or Required

None at this stage

5. CORPORATE IMPLICATIONS

Corporate Finance

Corporate Finance has reviewed this report and concurs with the financial implications set out above, noting that there are no direct financial implications associated with the recommendations set out above.

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, factual and engineering 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.

In considering any informal 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. 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.

In the Officer's report they suggest the Cabinet Member undertake informal consultation in relation to the preferred days and times the Petitioners would like the restrictions to operate. Should the outcome of the informal discussions with petitioners require that Officers add the Petitioners request to the Council's overall parking programme for subsequent investigation then there will be a need for the consultation and order making statutory procedures to be followed, which are set out in the Local Authorities' Traffic Orders (Procedures) (England and Wales) Regulations 1996 (SI 1996/2489). There will also need to be consideration of Highways Act 1980, 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.

Relevant Service Groups

None.

6. BACKGROUND PAPERS

Nil.