

# PETITION REQUESTING RESIDENTS ONLY PARKING IN OAKDALE AVENUE, NORTHWOOD HILLS

<b>Cabinet Member(s)</b>	Councillor Keith Burrows
<b>Cabinet Portfolio(s)</b>	Cabinet Member for Planning, Transportation and Recycling
<b>Officer Contact(s)</b>	Kevin Urquhart Residents Services
<b>Papers with report</b>	Appendix A

## **1. HEADLINE INFORMATION**

<b>Summary</b>	To inform the Cabinet Member that the Council has received a petition requesting residents' parking to be introduced in Oakdale Avenue, Northwood Hills.
<b>Contribution to our plans and strategies</b>	The request can be considered in relation to the Council's strategy for on-street parking controls.
<b>Financial Cost</b>	There are no financial implications associated with the recommendation to this report.
<b>Relevant Policy Overview Committee</b>	Residents' and Environmental Services.
<b>Ward(s) affected</b>	Northwood Hills

## **2. RECOMMENDATION**

That the Cabinet Member:

- 1. Discusses with petitioners and listens to their request for parking restrictions in Oakdale Avenue, Northwood Hills.**
- 2. Decides if the request for parking restrictions in Oakdale Avenue should be added to the Council's future parking scheme programme for further investigation and more detailed consultation with residents when resources permit.**

### **Reasons for recommendation**

To allow the Cabinet Member to discuss with petitioners their concerns and if appropriate add their request to the parking schemes programme.

## **Alternative options considered / risk management**

These will be discussed with petitioners.

## **Policy Overview Committee comments**

None at this stage

## **3. INFORMATION**

### **Supporting Information**

1. A petition with 37 signatures has been submitted to the Council requesting parking restrictions to be considered in Oakdale Avenue, Northwood Hills. In the covering letter the lead petitioner explains the difficulties that residents are experiencing with non-residential parking relating to local businesses, the nearby Jehovah Witness Kingdom Hall and commuter parking due to the close proximity of the Northwood Hills Underground Station and shops.
2. Oakdale Avenue is a narrow street that runs parallel to the rear of the properties along the eastern side of Joel Street, Northwood Hills between Pinner Road and Briarwood Drive. The properties that make up Oakdale Avenue are a mixture of residential flats, businesses and a meeting hall. The location of Oakdale Avenue is indicated on the plan attached as Appendix A.
3. This petition has been signed by 23 of the residential properties of Oakdale Avenue which represents approximately 74% of the total number of households in the road.
4. The Cabinet Member will be aware that past consultations for parking restrictions in Northwood Hills area received little support from the local community. The Cabinet Member will be aware of the sensitivities with the introduction of new Parking Management Schemes because of the risk that solving the parking issues in a single road may lead to displacement of the problem into an adjacent road. For this reason Parking Management Schemes are usually more suitable when they cover a carefully defined area with a number of roads. As a result the only parking scheme that has been introduced in this area in recent years is the 'Stop & Shop' Parking Scheme along Joel Street to provide short stay parking for the benefit of visitors to the town centre. However, it is appreciated that views can change over time and that the present petition has been supported by the majority of households in Oakdale Avenue.
5. It is recommended that the Cabinet Member discusses with petitioners their concerns and if considered appropriate, asks officers to add this request to the future parking scheme programme and carry out an informal consultation with the residents of Oakdale Avenue and possible other nearby roads agreed in liaison with local Ward Councillors to establish the overall level of support for parking restrictions. The outcome of this consultation would then be reported back to Ward Councillors and the Cabinet Member to assist the Council in making a decision on how best to proceed.

### **Financial Implications**

There are none associated with the recommendations to this report, however if the Council were to consider the introduction of parking restrictions in Oakdale Avenue, funding would need to be identified from a suitable source.

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

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

To allow the Cabinet Member to consider the petitioners request and available options the Council have to address these concerns.

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

If the Council subsequently investigates the feasibility to introduce parking restrictions in Oakdale Avenue, consultation will be carried out with residents to establish if there is overall support.

## **5. CORPORATE IMPLICATIONS**

### **Corporate Finance**

Corporate Finance has reviewed this report and confirms that there are no direct financial implications arising from 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 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. The decision maker must be satisfied that responses from the public are conscientiously taken into account.

Should there be a decision that further measures are to be considered then the relevant statutory provisions will have to be identified and considered.

### **Corporate Property and Construction**

There are no property implications arising from the recommendations set out in this report.

### **Relevant Service Groups**

None at this stage.

## **6. BACKGROUND PAPERS**

Nil