

PETITION REQUESTING A RESIDENTS' PARKING SCHEME FOR SCHOOL ROAD, HARMONDSWORTH

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

1. HEADLINE INFORMATION

Summary	To inform the Cabinet Member that the Council has received a petition from residents requesting a residents parking scheme for School Road, Harmondsworth.
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 no financial implications 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 residents only parking in School Road, Harmondsworth.**
- 2. Subject to the outcome of the above, asks officers to add the petition request to the Council's Parking Programme for further investigation when resources permit.**

Reasons for recommendation

Discussions with petitioners will allow the Cabinet Member to fully understand their concerns and whether it is considered appropriate to add the request to the Council's extensive parking 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 in two parts with a total of 21 signatures has been received from residents living close to School Road, Harmondsworth asking for a residents' permit parking scheme. In an accompanying statement the lead petitioner states *"British Airways and people from the school park up on the kerb so any services cannot get through, also I cannot park outside my house and sometimes have nowhere to park"*.
2. School Road is a residential road and as the name of the road implies, provides main vehicular and pedestrian access for Harmondsworth Primary School and also pedestrian access onto Harmondsworth Recreational Ground. The road has a carriageway width of approximately 5.7 metres with a footway of 2 metres either side. A location plan is attached as Appendix A to this report.
3. The Cabinet Member will be aware that last year an extension to the Heathrow Parking Management Scheme was implemented in roads close to School Road. This was as a result of a review undertaken in 2012 where residents of the parking scheme introduced in 2011 were asked their views on the operational aspects of the scheme and roads on the periphery were asked if they would like their road included.
4. The responses received at the time from School Road indicated that the majority of residents were happy with the current parking arrangements. However, a number of nearby roads including Candover Close, High Street, Moor Lane and Wilton Close all supported the introduction of managed parking which was subsequently implemented in September 2013. Hatch Lane was subsequently included in the Parking Management Scheme in January 2014.
5. It has often become apparent where parking schemes have been introduced, that the residents in adjoining roads which perhaps do not suffer unduly from non-residential parking decide not to be included. However, following inclusion of nearby roads residents experience parking transfer and approach the Council to be part of the scheme. As the Heathrow Villages parking scheme has recently expanded, residents have unfortunately witnessed the transfer of parking and have therefore petitioned the Council.
6. It is therefore recommended that the Cabinet Member discusses with petitioners their concerns and if it is considered appropriate decides to add the request to the future parking scheme programme. It is also suggested that, subject to the outcome of the petition evening, Ward Councillors are asked for their views on a suitable consultation area because, as the Cabinet Member is aware, experience has shown that it is likely parking could easily transfer to the unrestricted roads close by.

Financial Implications

There are none associated with the recommendations to this report, however if the Council was to consider the introduction of parking restrictions in the area around School Road 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 concerns and look at possible solutions to mitigate these concerns.

Consultation Carried Out or Required

None at this stage.

5. CORPORATE IMPLICATIONS

Corporate Finance

Corporate finance has reviewed the report and concurs with the financial implications stated above in relation to the recommendations to meet with the petitioners and review their request.

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.

Should the outcome of the informal discussions with petitioners require that officers add the request to either the Council's overall parking programme or the Council's Road Safety Programme for subsequent investigation there will 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.

Corporate Property and Construction

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

Relevant Service Groups

None at this stage.

6. BACKGROUND PAPERS

Nil