

PETITION REQUESTING RESIDENTS' ONLY PARKING IN WOODHOUSE CLOSE, HAYES

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

1. HEADLINE INFORMATION

Summary	To inform the Cabinet Member that the Council has received a petition requesting residents' only parking to be introduced in Woodhouse Close, Hayes.
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	Pinkwell

2. RECOMMENDATION

That the Cabinet Member:

1. Discusses with petitioners and listens to their request for residents' only parking controls in Woodhouse Close, Hayes.
2. Decides if the request for parking restrictions in Woodhouse Close, Hayes should be added to the Council's future parking scheme programme for further investigation and more detailed consultation with residents.
3. Subject to 2 above, seeks the advice of the Ward Councillors on the most appropriate extent for any such consultation.

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 23 signatures has been submitted to the Council requesting residents' parking to be considered in Woodhouse Close, Hayes. Within the petition heading the lead petitioner explains the difficulties that residents are experiencing with non-residential parking relating to commuter parking, due to the close proximity of the Hayes and Harlington Station.
2. Woodhouse Close is a residential road off Dawley Road and approximately a 10 minutes walk from Hayes town centre and Hayes and Harlington Station. The location of Woodhouse Close is indicated on the plan attached as Appendix A.
3. It is apparent that the majority of residents support the introduction of parking restrictions, as this petition has been signed by all but two of the residential properties in Woodhouse Close.
4. The Cabinet Member will be aware that over the past few years parking restrictions have been introduced in roads closer to Hayes Town Centre following requests from residents of roads in the area. These restrictions were developed through consultation with residents and Ward Councillors and have been successful in preventing all-day non-residential parking. However, as a result it is likely that parking has now been displaced into other roads in the surrounding area including Woodhouse Close where most residents have little or no off-street parking facilities.
5. It is therefore 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 Woodhouse Close and possibly 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 Woodhouse Close, 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 has to address these concerns.

Consultation Carried Out or Required

If the Council subsequently investigates the feasibility to introduce parking restrictions in Woodhouse Close, 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 recommendation 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.

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

None.