

HIGH STREET, NORTHWOOD - PETITION REQUESTING A PERMIT PARKING SCHEME

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| Cabinet Member(s) | Councillor Keith Burrows |
| Cabinet Portfolio(s) | Cabinet Member for Planning, Transportation and Recycling |
| Officer Contact(s) | Steven Austin Residents' Services Directorate |
| Papers with report | Appendices A & B. |

1. HEADLINE INFORMATION

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| Summary | To inform the Cabinet Member that the Council has received a petition from residents and businesses of High Street, Northwood asking for a Permit Parking Scheme |
| Contribution to our plans and strategies | The request can be considered as part of the Council's strategy for on-street parking. |
| Financial Cost | There are none associated with the recommendations to this report. |
| Relevant Policy Overview Committee | Residents' and Environmental Services. |
| Ward(s) affected | Northwood |

2. RECOMMENDATION

Meeting with the Petitioners, the Cabinet Member:

- 1. Discusses with petitioners their concerns with parking in High Street, Northwood.**
- 2. Subject to the outcome of the above, asks officers to add the request to the Council's extensive parking programme for further investigation.**

Reasons for recommendation

The petition hearing will provide a valuable opportunity to hear directly from the petitioners of their concerns and suggestions.

Alternative options considered / risk management

None at this stage.

Policy Overview Committee comments

None at this stage.

3. INFORMATION

Supporting Information

1. A petition with 44 signatures has been submitted to the Council from residents and people who work in High Street, Northwood. Of the 44 signatures, 18 indicate that they live in the High street, one lives in a nearby road and the remaining 25 work in High Street.

2. High Street, Northwood as the name suggests is a mixture of residential and commercial property. High Street (A4125) is classified as a borough main north-south distributor road that links Northwood Hills/ Pinner/ Ruislip to Watford and beyond.

3. In an accompanying statement the lead petitioner states; *"I have been instructed to pass on the enclosed petition by Mr Nick Hurd M.P and Councillor Carol Melvin. As you can see by all the response there is an overwhelming support for parking restrictions to be introduced and permits issued that will benefit both commercial and residential properties in the area (High Street). I have passed on the petition to Mrs Melvin and she will be in contact with yourself in due course"*

4. As the Cabinet Member will recall, the Council undertook an area wide consultation with residents on options to manage parking around High Street Northwood in November 2013. The consultation area is indicated on the plan attached as Appendix A to this report. At the same time businesses on the High Street were consulted on a possible "Stop and Shop" parking scheme that would provide 30 minutes free parking and attractive rates for Hillingdon Residents.

5. The responses to this consultation are tabulated in Appendix B of this report. However, at the time 30 residents of High Street indicated they were happy with the current parking arrangements, five indicated a preference for a waiting restriction and nine supported a Parking Management Scheme.

6. The majority of responses from business occupiers on a possible "Stop and Shop" scheme also indicated they were happy with current parking situation as 17 indicated "no change" and nine supported managed parking.

7. As the majority of residents and business from the High Street and all of the surrounding roads that were consulted did not support managed parking in their roads it was recommended that the parking arrangements in the area should remain as existing. It was also agreed that if the parking became an issue in the future then this decision should be reviewed in a future programme.

8. Although it has been suggested by the lead petitioner that there is now "overwhelming support for parking restrictions" the 18 signatures from residents of the High Street represents 14 out of the 205 households in this road. It is not clear from the petition whether the 25 signatures captured from businesses are the proprietors or staff, but they do however, represent 16 of the 50 commercial properties. 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 extensive parking scheme programme.

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 an opportunity 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 outlined above.

Legal

There are no special legal implications with the Cabinet Member to meet and discuss with petitioners their request for a Permit Parking Scheme in High Street, Northwood and to consider recommendation 2 above. 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. 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

None at this stage.

Relevant Service Groups

None at this stage.

6. BACKGROUND PAPERS

None.