

PETITION REQUESTING A PARKING MANAGEMENT SCHEME IN BEECHWOOD AVENUE, HILLINGDON

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

1. HEADLINE INFORMATION

Summary	To inform the Cabinet Member that the Council has received a petition requesting that a Parking Management Scheme be introduced in Beechwood Avenue, Hillingdon.
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	Yiewsley

2. RECOMMENDATION

That the Cabinet Member meets with the petitioners to:

1. Listen to their request for a Parking Management Scheme to be introduced in Beechwood Avenue, Hillingdon.
2. Subject to the outcome of the above, decide if the request for a Parking Management Scheme in Beechwood Avenue and the surrounding area **should be** added to the Council's future parking scheme programme for further investigation and a more detailed consultation, when resources permit this.

Reasons for recommendation

To allow the Cabinet Member to discuss with petitioners their concerns and if appropriate, to 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 27 signatures has been submitted to the Council requesting that a Parking Management Scheme be considered for the section of Beechwood Avenue, Hillingdon between its junctions with Ashwood Avenue and Colham Green Road. The lead petitioner has explained, within the petition heading, the difficulties that residents are experiencing with non-residential parking, in particular that associated with Hillingdon Hospital. The lead petitioner also raised concern about the recent extensions to the nearby Hillingdon Hospital Parking Management Scheme in Moorcroft Lane, which they claim has displaced parking into their road as a result.
2. The location of Beechwood Avenue and the boundary of the nearby Hillingdon Hospital Parking Management Scheme are indicated on the attached plan (Appendix A). As this road is on the periphery of an existing Parking Management Scheme and is close to Hillingdon Hospital and Colham Manor Primary School, it forms an attractive area for non-residents to park.
3. This petition has been signed by residents of 11 different properties in Beechwood Avenue, which represents approximately 22% of the total number of households in the road. However, the petition has been signed by the majority of residents who live in the even numbers at the beginning of the road, between the junctions of Colham Green Road and Ashwood Avenue.
4. The residents of Beechwood Avenue have been consulted on several occasions in the last few years, with a view to considering its inclusion in a possible extension of the Hillingdon Hospital Parking Management Scheme, within operational reviews of the existing parking scheme. The most recent of these consultations was carried out in August 2013, where upon the majority of residents who responded to the consultation indicated they would prefer no change to the current parking arrangements. As a result, no proposals for parking restrictions were developed for Beechwood Avenue and parking has remained unrestricted. However, the Hillingdon Hospital Parking Management Scheme was recently extended to include several other roads in the vicinity. Therefore, parking may indeed have transferred into Beechwood Avenue and other nearby unrestricted roads as a result.
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. A further informal consultation would then need to be undertaken with the residents of Beechwood Avenue, in order to establish the overall level of support for parking restrictions.

6. A similar petition has also been received from the residents of nearby Ashwood Avenue. This petition also requested inclusion in a possible parking scheme and is being considered separately. However, should the Cabinet Member decide that consultation should be carried out in both Ashwood Avenue and Beechwood Avenue, investigations for both roads could be combined along with any other nearby roads that the local Ward Councillors feel may benefit from parking controls.

Financial Implications

There are no financial implications associated with the recommendations to this report, however if the Council were to consider the introduction of parking restrictions in Beechwood Avenue or any other of the surrounding roads, 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 enable the Cabinet Member to discuss the concerns of the petitioners in detail.

Consultation Carried Out or Required

If the Council subsequently investigates the feasibility of introducing parking restrictions in Beechwood Avenue and the surrounding area, 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 above.

Legal

There are no special legal implications with regard to the proposal for the Cabinet Member to meet with petitioners to discuss their request for a Parking Management Scheme to be introduced in Beechwood Avenue, Hillingdon. This 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 that 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.

6. BACKGROUND PAPERS

- Cabinet Member report - Hillingdon Hospital Parking Management Scheme – Results of informal consultation on a possible extension to the scheme - 16 January 2014.
- Cabinet Member decision notice – 28 January 2014.