

# PETITION REQUESTING SCHOOL PERMITS FOR GLEBE PRIMARY SCHOOL AS PART OF THE ICKENHAM PARKING MANAGEMENT SCHEME ZONE IC2

<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 Directorate
<b>Papers with report</b>	Appendix A
<b>NOT FOR PUBLICATION</b> This report contains confidential or exempt information	N / A

## 1. HEADLINE INFORMATION

<b>Summary</b>	To inform the Cabinet Member that the Council has received a petition requesting school permits for Glebe Primary School.
<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 recommendations to this report.
<b>Relevant Policy Overview Committee</b>	Residents and Environmental Services.
<b>Ward(s) affected</b>	Ickenham

## 2. RECOMMENDATION

Meeting with the Petitioners, the Cabinet Member:

1. Discusses the request for a school permit scheme allowing parents to park in the roads close to Glebe Primary School.
2. Notes that it is not the Council's usual practice to introduce school permits as part of a Parking Management Scheme, but that there are a small number of locations across the Borough where such schemes have been adopted.

**3. Notes that the present scheme was created partly because of local residents' concerns about parking, some of which is associated with Glebe Primary School.**

**4. Instructs officers to monitor the amount of spare parking capacity in the roads close to Glebe Primary School three months after the Parking Management Scheme in the area becomes operational, then report back to local Ward Councillors and the Cabinet Member with results.**

#### **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 250 signatures has been submitted to the Council with the following heading:

*'A controlled parking zone (CPZ) is planned for the roads surrounding Glebe Primary School. When this comes into force many parents/carers will have huge difficulties collecting their children safely at the end of their school day. There are no public car parks in Ickenham.*

*Most of the parents/carers who use a car to drop off and collect their children do so because they live too far to walk. Most then have to go on to their place of work. They then leave work and drive straight back to school to pick their children up. If parent/carers do not have a safe place to park their cars whilst they collect their children from school, this will have a major impact on road safety for the children, parents and the residents.*

2. Petitioners are effectively asking the Council to consider the introduction of school permits to allow parents and guardians to park within a Parking Management Scheme which is soon to be introduced in the roads surrounding the school. Attached as Appendix A is a plan showing the location of Glebe Primary School and the extent of the planned extension to the Ickenham Parking Management Scheme.

3. As the Cabinet Member is aware the Council encourages parents and guardians to find alternative and sustainable modes of transport to get their children to and from school. To advise and assist with this activity, the Council's Road Safety and School Travel Team works closely with schools to develop their School Travel Plan. Indeed following a petition submitted by pupils from Glebe Primary School which the Cabinet Member considered at a special assembly at the school, a zebra crossing close to the school entrance and other road safety improvements in the area have been implemented. The Council's Road Safety and School Travel Team would like to engage

in further dialogue with the school and will continue with efforts to build a mutually beneficial relationship with the school.

4. Although it is not the Council's usual practice to introduce school permits as part of a Parking Management Scheme, there are a small number of locations across the Borough where such schemes have been adopted. The Council therefore already has existing policies in place for school permits which could be applied for Glebe Primary School if the Cabinet Member and Ward Councillors believe the extenuating circumstances are appropriate.

5. Currently only five schools have access to school permits; these are Hermitage, Newham, St Andrew's, St Mary's and Whitehall schools. The permits are usually valid for periods of 15 minutes either side of the start and end of the school day including the midday nursery start times. The cost of each permit is £20 per academic year or £13.50 for starting from the spring term, January, to the end of the academic year in July. The permits are usually only valid in specific roads within that parking zone that are relatively close to the school and where spare parking capacity has been identified.

6. Whilst the request for a School Permit Scheme could be considered it is not clear if this will be supported by the local residents in the area. Many residents when consulted on the proposed Parking Management Scheme specifically commented on the difficulties they were experiencing with finding a parking place close to where they live which they associated with commuter and school parking. Although a school permit scheme will allow parents to park within the Parking Management Scheme in some of the roads near to the school, parking on waiting restrictions will still be prohibited.

7. Clearly there is a risk of competing demands for the available space between residents and parents/guardians of the school children at Glebe Primary School. It is therefore suggested that the Cabinet Member meets with the petitioners in order to understand the detail of their concerns. Subject to the outcome of this discussion the Cabinet Member may be minded to instruct officers to monitor the parking capacity within the residents' permit parking scheme in the roads close to the school once it has been implemented and report back to him and local Ward Councillors with their findings.

### **Financial Implications**

There are none associated with the recommendations to this report however, if the Council were to consider the introduction of school permits for Glebe Primary School in the future 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**

None at this stage. However, before introducing school permits the Council must at the very least conduct statutory consultation as fundamental changes would need to be made to the Traffic Management Order for this parking scheme.

## **5. CORPORATE IMPLICATIONS**

### **Corporate Finance**

Corporate Finance has reviewed this report and concurs with the financial implications above.

### **Legal**

There are no special legal implications for the proposal to discuss with petitioners their request to review the current parking issues in the roads surrounding Glebe Primary School, 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. 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**

Petition received - February 2016