

RUFFLE CLOSE, WEST DRAYTON - PETITION REQUESTING A RESIDENTS' PARKING SCHEME

Cabinet Member(s)	Councillor Keith Burrows
Cabinet Portfolio(s)	Cabinet Member for Planning, Transportation and Recycling
Officer Contact(s)	Gordon Hill Residents Services
Papers with report	Appendix A - Area Plan

1. HEADLINE INFORMATION

Summary	To inform the Cabinet Member that the Council has received a petition from residents of Ruffle Close asking for a residents' parking scheme.
Contribution to our plans and strategies	The request can be considered as part of the Council's strategy for parking in residential areas.
Financial Cost	There are none associated with the recommendations to this report.
Relevant Policy Overview Committee	Residents' and Environmental Services.
Ward(s) affected	West Drayton

2. RECOMMENDATION

Meeting with the petitioners, the Cabinet Member:

- 1. Listens to their concerns with the parking situation in Ruffle Close.**
- 2. Subject to the outcome of the above, asks officers to add the request to the Council's Parking Scheme Programme for future informal consultation.**

Reasons for recommendation

Discussions with the petitioners will allow the Cabinet Member to fully understand 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, signed by 28 residents of Ruffle Close, West Drayton has been received by the Council requesting a Residents' Parking Scheme operating 9-10am and 3-4pm to prevent commuters leaving their vehicles in the road and then walking to the nearby West Drayton station.
2. This petition represents 28 of the 41 households (65%) within Ruffle Close. Ruffle Close is a residential road within easy walking distance of the shops on the High Street and local rail station. A plan of the area is attached as Appendix A.
3. In an accompanying statement the lead petitioner also raised that a number of commuters park in Ruffle Close inconsiderately, blocking access to residents' driveways and narrowing the road, thus restricting access for residents and the emergency services.
4. As the Cabinet Member will be aware, other surrounding roads towards the station, namely Warwick Road, Furzesham Road and Bellclose Road, already benefit from a Residents' Parking Scheme which may be contributing to parking pressures on Ruffle Close.
5. The Cabinet Member will recall that this road was last consulted on possible inclusion in a Resident Parking Scheme in September 2011 as a possible extension to the WD2 Zone. Of the 41 households consulted 18 responded, eleven of which chose 'no change' and six indicated that they would support a Residents' Parking Scheme. In line with usual Council practice it was decided not to implement a scheme at that time based on the responses received to the consultation.
6. However it is possible that circumstances and views have changed in the intervening period, as the petition would appear to indicate.
7. The petitioners have specifically asked for a Parking Management Scheme and logically this would suggest inclusion within the West Drayton scheme however they have requested operational times that are unrelated to the existing scheme. It is therefore recommended that the Cabinet Member discusses with petitioners their concerns and if considered appropriate, ask officers to add this to the extensive parking scheme programme.

Financial Implications

There are no financial implications associated with the recommendations of this report.

4. EFFECT ON RESIDENTS, SERVICE USERS & COMMUNITIES

What will be the effect of the recommendation?

It will address the concerns of the petitioners.

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 set out above.

Legal

There are no special legal implications for the proposal to discuss with petitioners their request for a parking scheme in Ruffle Close, 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 at that time.

Corporate Property and Construction

There are no Corporate Property and Construction implications resulting from the recommendations set out in this report.

Relevant Service Groups

None at this stage

6. BACKGROUND PAPERS

Petition received