

LAVENDER RISE, WEST DRAYTON - PETITION REQUESTING OFF-STREET PARKING AND TRAFFIC CONTROL FOR HEAVY GOODS VEHICLES

Cabinet Member(s)	Cllr Keith Burrows
Cabinet Portfolio(s)	Planning, Transportation & Recycling
Officer Contact(s)	Caroline Haywood, Residents Services
Papers with report	Appendix A

1. HEADLINE INFORMATION

Summary	To inform the Cabinet Member that a petition has been received asking for off street parking and traffic control for Heavy Goods Vehicles.
Contribution to our plans and strategies	The request can be considered as part of the Council's annual programme of road safety initiatives.
Financial Cost	There are no financial implications in relation to the recommendations of this report.
Relevant Policy Overview Committee	Residents' & Environmental Services
Ward(s) affected	West Drayton

2. RECOMMENDATION

Meeting with the petitioners, the Cabinet Member:

- 1. Discusses their request for off street parking and traffic controls for Heavy Goods Vehicles.**
- 2. Subject to the outcome of the above, asks officers to arrange a speed and vehicle survey at location(s) suggested by the petitioners and reports the results back to the Cabinet Member and local Ward Councillors.**
- 3. Subject to 1 and 2, asks officers to undertake further investigations under the Road Safety Programme and report back to him.**

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

These can be identified from the proposed detailed discussions with the petitioners.

Policy Overview Committee comments

None at this stage.

4. INFORMATION

Supporting Information

1 A petition with 29 signatures which represents 25 of the 70 (36%) properties in the road, has been submitted to the Council from residents of Lavender Rise, West Drayton requesting off street parking and measures to deter heavy goods vehicles from using the road.

2 Lavender Rise is a residential road with access onto Stockley by-pass, which links the M4 motorway with Uxbridge and West Drayton. Lavender Rise forms part of the U5 bus route and leads to local shops on Mulberry Parade, a Sainsbury's local and a care home for elderly residents. Lavender Rise falls within West Drayton Ward. A plan of the area is shown on Appendix A to this report.

3 In a covering statement the lead petitioner states *"Lavender Rise was originally a local residential road. It is now a major traffic route with buses and heavy goods vehicles accessing and exiting the Stockley by-pass. This is resulting in congestion at some times of the day and speeding late at night and early morning. Residents have experienced several accidents and the road is unsafe for residents to parking as there is damage to parked cars every day. Attempts to provide off road parking have been thwarted by the Council where this removes any of the grassed amenity areas. Where people have parked on the grassed amenity areas to keep their vehicles safe they have been issued with parking notices. Residents object strongly to being unable to protect their property safely and to uncontrolled heavy traffic using this residential road when it should be directed to major roads. Residents therefore request controls be put on heavy traffic and fines issued for those breaking this control. They also request that residents be allowed vehicular access to their properties for off road parking even where this crosses grassed areas. Tree planting can be carried out to offset the loss of grass and provide amenity landscaping in another form."*

4 In order to assist with investigations concerning the speed of vehicles and lorry movements, it is suggested that the Cabinet Member may be minded to ask officers to commission an independent 24 hour / 7 day vehicle speed and traffic surveys at locations agreed by the petitioners and relevant Ward Councillors.

5 These surveys could take the form of Automatic Traffic Counters (ATCs) which as the Cabinet Member will know, are pairs of rubber tubes laid across the carriageway and attached to a road-side data recorder. These types of surveys are the most reliable means of measuring traffic volumes, types and speeds over a 24-hour, seven day a week basis. The data captured will help inform any possible options to address residents' concerns.

6 Of the 70 properties in Lavender Rise some benefit from off-street parking facilities. Following a petition received from residents of the road, a footway parking scheme was introduced in the road in January 1992 that allowed vehicles to park with two wheels on the footway. Petitioners have asked that the Council allows residents to have drive ways across the

grassed areas in front of their properties which have been refused in the past. Officers from the Highways Planning Team have reviewed this request and they have advised that while they understand residents' desire to have driveways, they cannot support the loss of this grassed area and therefore the Council will not approve applications for access to off-street parking.

7 It is therefore recommended that the Cabinet Member meets the petitioners and listens to their concerns and decides if this request should be added to the Council's Road Safety Programme for further investigation.

Financial Implications

There are no financial implications associated with the recommendations to this report. If after further investigation any measures are subsequently approved by the Council, 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 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 set out above, noting there are no direct financial implications arising from the recommendations.

Legal

There are no special legal implications for the proposal to discuss with petitioners their request for off street parking and traffic control for Heavy Goods Vehicles in Lavender Rise, West Drayton, 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 property implications resulting from the recommendations set out in this report.

6. BACKGROUND PAPERS

Nil.