

REGINALD ROAD, NORTHWOOD - PETITION FROM RESIDENTS ASKING FOR A CONSULTATION ON OPTIONS TO MANAGE THE PARKING IN THEIR ROAD

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	Appendix A - Location plan Appendix B - Summary of responses

1. HEADLINE INFORMATION

Summary	To inform the Cabinet Member that the Council has received a petition from residents of Reginald Road, Northwood asking the Council to consult on options to manage the parking in their road.
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 Reginald Road, Northwood.
2. subject to the outcome of the above, asks officers to add the request to the Council's extensive parking programme for further informal consultation in a possible area agreed with local Ward Councillors.

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 20 signatures has been submitted to the Council from residents of Reginald Road, Northwood which represents 18 out of the 64 households (28%) in the road. However, in a covering letter the lead petitioner states:

"I petitioned every house in Reginald Road regarding the parking situation on Saturday 18 June. Not the best time to do it, as only 21 residents in the whole street were at their properties at the time!

However, of those 21 people, 20 were in favour of looking at options on restricting non-residents parking, especially commuters and the large number of trade vehicles. Some of these people were very irate at the lack of consideration shown by some of those vehicle owners.

Only one person was totally against the idea of any restrictions."

2. Reginald Road is a residential road situated just a short walk from Northwood town centre and London Underground Station. As many of the surrounding residential roads already benefit from a Parking Management Scheme, Reginald Road provides an attractive place to park for non-residents using the station or local amenities.

3. As the Cabinet Member will recall in February 2014, the Council undertook an area wide informal consultation with residents in the area adjoining the existing parking scheme on options to manage parking in their roads. A letter, information leaflet, questionnaire and reply paid envelope was delivered to every property in the area indicated on the plan shown in Appendix A. 39 residents out of 64 households, including Ross Haven Close (61%) responded to this consultation. Of these, 36 indicated they were happy with the current parking situation and only three indicated support for a residents' permit parking scheme. A summary of all the responses to this consultation are attached as Appendix B to this report.

4. As the majority of residents from Reginald Road 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.

5. As the Cabinet Member is aware, the Council has previously received a petition from residents of High Street, which is close to Reginald Road, also concerned with all day non-residential parking. It would therefore appear that the parking situation in the area may have changed and subject to the outcome of discussions with petitioners the Cabinet Member may

be minded to add this request to the Council's extensive parking scheme programme for further consultation.

6. As the Cabinet Member is aware, experience has shown that if a parking scheme is considered for one or two roads in an area, non-residential parking could transfer more widely. It is therefore suggested that subject to the outcome of the petition meeting, Ward Councillors are asked for their views on a suitable wider consultation area.

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 noted above.

Legal

There are no special legal implications for the proposal to discuss with petitioners their request for a consultation on options to manage the parking on Reginald Road, Northwood, 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

None at this stage.

Relevant Service Groups

None at this stage.

6. BACKGROUND PAPERS

None.