

MYRTLESIDE CLOSE, NORTHWOOD - PETITION ASKING FOR A PARKING MANAGEMENT SCHEME

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

1. HEADLINE INFORMATION

Summary	To inform the Cabinet Member that the Council has received a petition organised by The Myrtleside (Northwood) Company Limited asking for a Parking Management Scheme for Myrtleside Close, Northwood.
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 Myrtleside Close, 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.

Reasons for recommendations

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 has been submitted by a property management company signed by 43 residents of Myrtleside Close, Northwood. In a covering statement the lead petitioner states:

"Myrtleside Close, Northwood currently experiences high levels of daily commuter parking causing significant parking congestion in the Close.

The top end of the roadway is mainly affected by the excessive commuter parking at present however, we would recommend the restrictions are applied to the whole road to avoid the problem being shifted from top to bottom."

2. The lead petitioner then goes on to helpfully suggest residents would like to see the following parking provisions implemented;

On the right hand side of the close as you enter we would propose:

Waiting restrictions - Single yellow line restriction Mon-Sat 10-11am and 3-4pm

On the left hand side as you enter we would propose:

Parking Management Scheme - Permit holders only Mon- Sat 10-11am and 3-4pm.

The proposed restriction times are currently in force in the neighbouring road, The Glen"

3. Myrtleside is a residential road situated just a short walk from Northwood Town Centre, Northwood London Underground Station and is close to the London School of Theology. As the petition correctly states, many of the surrounding residential roads such as The Glen already benefit from a Parking Management Scheme. A location plan is attached as Appendix A. Following a site visit to Myrtleside Close it appears that some properties at the start of the Close benefit from private off-street parking and garages. The second section of the close which was developed later has some parking areas but these appear not to be allocated and from the Council's records appear to be part of the adopted highway.

4. The Cabinet Member will recall that, in 2008, the Council implemented 48 metres of double yellow lines on the southwest side of Myrtleside Close from the junction of Green Lane in order to deter non-residential parking on both sides of the road that restricted access for the larger refuse and emergency service vehicles.

5. However, as the Cabinet Member will be aware, since the beginning of the year the Council has received four petitions from roads in Northwood requesting measures to address non-residential parking, so the issue appears to be a growing local concern.

6. It is therefore recommended that the Cabinet Member listens to the petitioners' concerns and if appropriate, adds this request to the Council's extensive parking scheme programme for further consultation when resources permit.

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 parking scheme in Myrtleside 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

None at this stage.

Relevant Service Groups

None at this stage.

6. BACKGROUND PAPERS

None.