

PETITION REQUESTING A RESIDENTS' PERMIT PARKING SCHEME IN MERTON AVENUE, HILLINGDON

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

1. HEADLINE INFORMATION

Summary	To inform the Cabinet Member that the Council has received a petition requesting the introduction of a residents' permit parking scheme in Merton Avenue, Hillingdon.
Contribution to our plans and strategies	The request can be considered in relation to the Council's strategy for on-street parking controls.
Financial Cost	There are no financial implications associated with the recommendations to this report.
Relevant Policy Overview Committee	Residents', Education and Environmental Services Policy Overview Committee.
Ward(s) affected	Hillingdon East

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

Meeting with the Petitioners, the Cabinet Member:

- 1. Listens to their request for the introduction of a residents' permit parking scheme in Merton Avenue, Hillingdon.**
- 2. Subject to the outcome of the above, decides if the request for a residents' permit parking scheme to be introduced in Merton Avenue, Hillingdon and possibly roads in the surrounding area should be added to the Council's future parking scheme programme for further investigation and more detailed consultation when resources permit.**

Reasons for recommendations

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 24 signatures has been submitted to the Council. Included in a covering letter the lead petitioner has made the following statement:

"All of the signatures obtained, live between the junctions of Victoria Avenue and Merton Way, which is where most of the problems have occurred. Most of the residents who reside between Merton Way and Windsor Avenue have not had the same levels of issues and I would like to enquire whether the Residents' Permits would be able to cover the first half of the road if necessary.

I know that the residents in Richmond Avenue have also suffered with the same problems. When residents were given the vote several years ago, those residing in Victoria Avenue voted overwhelmingly to have Residents' Permits. For some of us, it was obvious that the parking issues would then move on to our roads, which is exactly what happened!

If the council put this to the vote again, could you please explain to all residents the facilities for visitors, (ie the book of temporary permits and the cost of these), highlight that the parking restrictions only apply during office hours and not evenings and weekends and the benefits of introducing such a scheme, which I highlighted on the petition.

Further to an email to your councillors last year, the council installed double yellow lines on the junctions with Merton Way and Victoria Avenue, which has greatly improved the safety and I believe that the installation of Parking Permits will improve on this to a greater extent."

2. The location of Merton Avenue in relation to the existing North Hillingdon Parking Management Scheme is indicated on Appendix A of this report. As the road is on the periphery of the existing scheme it forms an attractive area for non-residents to park. All of the signatures which form this petition are from residents who live towards the western end of Merton Avenue, Hillingdon and represent 12 individual households. As mentioned by the lead petitioner, it is the residents living towards this end of the road that are more likely to be experiencing difficulties with non-residential parking, whilst the residents at the opposite end of the road may currently have no such issues.
3. The Cabinet Member will be aware that previously, residents in this area were consulted to see if they would like to consider being included in a possible extension to the North Hillingdon Parking Management Scheme. However, proposals to introduce parking restrictions in Merton Avenue were never progressed due to the evident lack of support indicated by those who responded to the Council's consultations. Given that the previous consultations in this area

were carried out more than 10 years ago and further parking restrictions in other nearby roads have since been introduced, residents' opinions are likely to have now changed.

4. Therefore, it is recommended that the Cabinet Member discusses with petitioners their concerns and if considered appropriate, asks officers to add this request to the future parking scheme programme to see if residents would like to reconsider proposals for a parking scheme in Merton Avenue. As is common practice, investigations could be combined along with any other nearby roads that the local Ward Councillors feel may benefit from parking controls. The outcome of this future consultation can then be analysed in detail to see if would be possible to recommend proposing a scheme over a viable area.

Financial Implications

There are none associated with the recommendations to this report, however if the Council were to consider the introduction of parking restrictions in Merton Avenue, Hillingdon or any other of the surrounding roads, 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

If the Council subsequently investigates the feasibility to introduce parking restrictions in Merton Avenue, Hillingdon and the surrounding area, consultation will be carried out with residents to establish if there is overall support.

5. CORPORATE IMPLICATIONS

Corporate Finance

Corporate Finance has reviewed this report and concurs with the financial implications referred to above noting that there are no direct financial implications arising from the recommendations in the report.

Legal

There are no special legal implications for the proposal to informally consult residents on parking restrictions. Informally consulting residents 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.

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's recommendations. The decision maker must be satisfied that responses from the public are conscientiously taken into account.

If the decision maker recommends officers undertake a statutory consultation, the procedures that should be followed in this case are set out in the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 and The Local Authorities Traffic Orders (Procedures) (England and Wales) Regulations 1996 (SI 1996/2489).

If specific advice is required, Legal Services should be instructed.

Corporate Property and Construction

None at this stage.

Relevant Service Groups

None at this stage.

6. BACKGROUND PAPERS

Petition dated - 17th April 2018