

**TITLE: WYTELEAF CLOSE, RUISLIP – PETITION
REQUESTING TO PARK ON THE FOOTWAY****ITEM #****Cabinet Portfolio**

Planning and Transportation

Report Author

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Papers with report

Appendix A

HEADLINE INFORMATION**Purpose of report**

To inform the Cabinet Member that residents of Wyteleaf Close have submitted a petition to the Council requesting approval to park on the footway.

**Contribution to our
plans and strategies**

The request can be considered in relation to the Council's policy for parking on the footway.

Financial Cost

There are none associated with the recommendations to this report.

**Relevant Policy
Overview Committee**

Residents' and Environmental Services

Ward(s) affected

West Ruislip

RECOMMENDATION

That the Cabinet Member

1. **Considers the petition request and discusses with residents their concern with parking in Wyteleaf Close.**
2. **Approves Wyteleaf Close for the introduction of a Footway Parking Exemption Scheme subject to a further report following consultation with local residents on a detailed scheme layout.**
3. **Approves the suspension of Footway Parking Regulations in Wyteleaf Close providing parking takes place in accordance with the Council's criteria for footway parking.**

INFORMATION

PART 1 – MEMBERS, PUBLIC AND PRESS

Reasons for recommendation

To allow the Cabinet Member to discuss with petitioners in detail their concern with parking in Wyteleaf Close.

Alternative options considered

None as the petitioners have made a specific request for parking on the footway.

Comments of Policy Overview Committee(s)

None at this stage

Supporting Information

1. A petition with 47 signatures has been received from the residents of Wyteleaf Close requesting permission to park on the footway, which represents over half of the households in the road. The petitioners have signed to the following heading:

“When the cars are parked on this road it is impossible for any ambulance or delivery vehicles to go through. If allowed to continue it could have dangerous consequences.

We, there, request you consider allowing people to park the car half way up the footpath so that ambulance can go without hindrance any time”.
2. Wyteleaf Close is indicated on Appendix A and is effectively a cul-de-sac from the junction with Howletts Lane. It is a relatively recent residential development and all houses have off-street parking facilities. The width of footways is approximately 2 metres and the carriageway approximately 5.5 metres wide.
3. The width of carriageway could support the parking of cars on one side only and retain sufficient width for the passage of emergency vehicles. It would appear however that residents want to park on both sides of Wyteleaf Close probably outside their homes.
4. The Council’s criteria for the introduction of Footway Parking Schemes is that it can only take place on flexible surfaced footways such as tarmac and that a minimum of 1.5 metres must remain for the benefit and safety of pedestrians. A further criteria is that parking should not take place within 15 metres of a junction.
5. It is the usual practice to suspend the Footway Parking Regulations until a detailed design and consultation has been carried out. If the Cabinet Member does approve the resident’s request, it is recommended that withholding of enforcement only applies to those areas where it is permissible to park on the footway within the Council’s criteria as mentioned earlier in the report.

Financial Implications

The investigation, design and consultation of residents can be undertaken with in-house resources. However, if subsequently the Council were to consider formalising Footway Parking Exemptions a bid would be required to the made suitable funding.

EFFECT ON RESIDENTS, SERVICE USERS & COMMUNITIES

What will be the effect of the recommendation?

It will respond to the petitioners request in accordance with the Council criteria for Footway Parking.

Consultation Carried Out or Required

This would be carried out with residents when detailed plans have been drawn up.

CORPORATE IMPLICATIONS

Legal

The Council's power to make orders permitting and regulating parking on the street (including pavements) are set out in Part 1 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984. The consultation and order making statutory procedures to be followed where orders are required are set out in The Local Authorities' Traffic Orders (Procedures) (England and Wales) Regulations 1996 (SI 1996/2489).

Section 122 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 means that the Council must balance the views of any consultees with the statutory duty to secure the expeditious, convenient and safe movement of vehicular and other traffic.

The safety risks identified in this report are a relevant consideration in deciding whether to make an order. In considering the 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 were conscientiously taken into account.

The Cabinet member may, pending the completion of the statutory consultation for the proposed scheme, issue an executive direction not to enforce against parking infringements on Wyteleaf Close. However, an executive direction given by the Cabinet member would not override the statutory powers that the police have in relation to parking on foot paths and therefore it would be advisable for officers to inform the police of the Council's proposal not to enforce parking infringements at Wyteleaf Close pending the making of a formal parking order.

BACKGROUND PAPERS

Petition dated 26th May 2009