

# CEDARS DRIVE, UXBRIDGE - PETITION REQUESTING THE INTRODUCTION OF PARKING RESTRICTIONS

<b>Cabinet Member(s)</b>	Councillor Jonathan Bianco
<b>Cabinet Portfolio(s)</b>	Cabinet Member for Property, Highways and Transport
<b>Officer Contact(s)</b>	Steven Austin – Place Directorate
<b>Papers with report</b>	Appendix A – Location Plan

## HEADLINES

<b>Summary</b>	To inform the Cabinet Member that a petition has been received from residents of Cedars Drive, Uxbridge, requesting the introduction of parking restrictions.
<b>Putting our Residents First</b>  <b>Delivering on the Council Strategy 2022-2026</b>	This report supports our ambition for residents / the Council of: Live in good quality, affordable homes in connected communities.  This report supports our commitments to residents of: Safe and Strong Communities.
<b>Financial Cost</b>	There are no direct financial implications associated with the recommendations to this report.
<b>Relevant Select Committee</b>	Property, Highways and Transport Select Committee
<b>Relevant Ward(s)</b>	Hillingdon West

## RECOMMENDATIONS

That the Cabinet Member for Property, Highways and Transport:

- 1) Meets with petitioners and listens to their request for parking restrictions;
- 2) Notes the results of the previous consultations with residents of Cedars Drive;
- 3) Notes the allegations of illegal street trading and related issues which are outside the remit of parking management, and, dependent upon the further testimony of petitioners, considers asking officers in the Council's Antisocial Behaviour and Licensing teams to investigate these concerns separately, subject to appropriate engagement with ward members and the lead petitioner; and,

- 4) Subject to the above, asks officers to add the request for limited time waiting restrictions to the Council’s extensive Parking Scheme Programme and prepare proposals for an informal consultation in an area agreed with ward councillors.

**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.

**Select Committee comments**

None at this stage.

**SUPPORTING INFORMATION**

- 1) A petition with 33 signatures has been submitted to the Council by some residents who live on Cedars Drive, Uxbridge signed under the following heading:

*“Parking restrictions for Cedars Drive. Single yellow lines all along Cedars Drive”*

In an accompanying statement the lead petitioner has helpfully provided the following information:

*“We the residents of Cedars Drive in Hillingdon are petitioning to have parking restrictions put in place on Cedars Drive.*

*Why Parking Enforcement is needed:*

- *Cedars Drive is a narrow highway and parked vehicles make it difficult to enter/exit driveways*
- *Nearly every property has off street parking so the impact on residents is minimal*
- *During the week, a number of contractors park their vans/lorry on the road*
- *One resident appears to be running a car import/export business from his property, and parks a number of vehicles on the highway*
- *Displacement from Vine Land and Chetwynd Drive, which both have parking enforcement measures, is exacerbating the situation*
- *People who live far away park their vehicle on these roads, then catch the A10 bus to Heathrow to fly off on holiday for a week or two*
- *Some local businesses/venues, such as the RAF Cricket Ground, tell their visitors/customers to park on Cedars Drive*

*Proposed Solutions:*

*Introduce single yellow lines on the length of the road, with enforcement for two hours per weekday (Mon – Fri 1100 – 1300)*

*Please also see attached photos of the situation where emergency services were unable to get to the desired location due to the parking situation as well vehicles being parked on the street without number plates, without tax and without MOT.”*

- 2) Cedars Drive is a mainly residential road mostly comprising of semi-detached and detached houses and bungalows many of which appear to benefit from off-street parking provision. Uxbridge Road is just a short walk away which is served by the A10, 427, and N207 bus routes. A local shopping parade and other local amenities are all within close proximity. A plan of the area is attached as Appendix A.
- 3) As mentioned by the lead petitioner, some of the roads adjacent to Cedars Drive already benefit from managed parking, which was implemented in 2009 following both a formal and informal consultation with residents in the area.
- 4) The informal consultation concerned the possibility of either a Parking Management Scheme, limited time waiting restrictions or 'no change, to the current parking arrangements which were offered to residents. The entirety of Cedars Drive was included in this informal consultation including the southernmost section of road which is a mixture of private highway and Hillingdon Housing Tenancy land.
- 5) Of the 95 consultation packs delivered, 29 were returned, representing a return rate of 31%. Of the 29 responses from residents, 25 indicated they were happy with the existing parking arrangements, three said they would support waiting restrictions and only one supported a possible residents' parking scheme. The results were shared with the Cabinet Member and ward councillors at the time who, based on the results, decided not to progress a scheme for Cedars Drive and other roads where there was no majority in favour of managed parking.
- 6) In 2013, a petition was submitted to the Council signed under the following heading  
  
*“The residents of Cedars Drive wish to draw your attention to the continuous irresponsible parking by non-residents which causes havoc to regular users and in particular to service vehicles; i.e. Refuse collections, ambulances and fire services. We ask you to urgently consider introducing restricted parking regulations as soon as possible.”*
- 7) It was agreed with the Cabinet Member and ward councillors of the time, as well as the lead petitioner, that in this instance the Council would not formally hear the petition but in order to speed up the process, use intelligent intervention and add the request to the parking scheme programme for another informal consultation.
- 8) As a result of the above, the Council again consulted with residents of Cedars Drive and adjacent roads on whether they would now support any of the options previously offered to them in 2009.
- 9) The responses to Cedars Drive were more balanced on this occasion, with 22 responses supporting a Parking Management Scheme, six asking for waiting restrictions and 23 indicating they would prefer no change. Again, all the responses were annotated and shared with the Cabinet Member and ward councillors. As there was no clear majority on any of the options available, it was decided to take no further action to implement restrictions on Cedars Drive.

10) In 2017 a further petition was submitted by residents of Cedars Drive signed under the following heading:

*“Inconsiderate and non-residential parking in Cedars Drive, Attle Close, Mills Close and Bishops Close Introduction of a Parking Management Scheme”.*

11) Following discussions, an area for a further informal consultation was agreed with ward councillors. However, it was decided that on this occasion, only the properties in Cedars Drive that have frontages on the adopted highway should be consulted because, as the Cabinet Member will appreciate, it is only on adopted highway that the Council can implement legal and enforceable parking restrictions.

12) In 2018 a third informal consultation was undertaken in but this time the option offered to residents was simply whether they support being included in an extension to the nearby existing parking scheme or not.

13) The area for consultation was determined in liaison with ward councillors. Responses received to the consultation varied from road to road but overall, a total of 60 responses were received from 112 consultation documents delivered representing a high return rate of 54%.

14) Of the roads consulted, there was only clear majority in favour of a possible extension to the existing Parking Management Scheme from residents of Cedars Drive. Responses received from residents of Bishops Close were balanced so, following further discussions with the ward councillors of the time, officers were asked to develop a detailed design for a possible extension to the Hillingdon Hill Parking Management Scheme for formal consultation.

15) Following the above, statutory consultation on a detailed design was undertaken over a 21-day period. A plan of the proposed scheme was delivered to every household in Cedars Drive and Bishops Close along with a covering letter explaining the details of the proposals.

16) During the formal consultation period, seven comments were received from residents on Bishops Close, six of which objected to the scheme, and one submitted suggested amendments to the scheme. A further objection was received outside of the consultation period.

17) Eight residents of Cedars Drive took the opportunity to comment during the formal consultation. Of these five indicated support for a possible scheme whilst three objected to the proposals. All of the comments received during the consultation were reported to the ward councillors and the Cabinet Member of the time.

18) After careful consideration of the responses received, the ward councillors felt unable to support a possible extension to the Hillingdon Hill Parking Management Scheme given the mixed responses. It was therefore decided to maintain the existing parking arrangements in the area.

19) The present Cabinet Member and ward councillors may wish to consider the fact that consultation exercises have already been undertaken on several occasions, as detailed

above in this report, and on every occasion whilst options – some stemming from the petitioners themselves – have generally been viable, once these have been put to residents more widely, support has ultimately not been forthcoming for the options which have been offered.

20) It would appear from the simple fact that there have been a series of petitions that there is ongoing concern from some residents in the community that there are problems which they associate with 'parking' in general, but unfortunately there has evidently been far less agreement over the formal parking enforcement measures that the Council can legally and legitimately offer towards a solution.

21) It is noted that within the latest petition, as set out at the top of this report, there appear to be a number of particular concerns raised by the petitioners which step outside the more formal remit of parking management schemes; there have been allegations of illegal on-street trading, and claims that nearby businesses have been encouraging visitors to park in these roads. The Cabinet Member may feel in this context that there could be useful further dialogue between the petitioners, ward councillors and the Council's specialist Antisocial Behaviour and Licensing teams who may be able to act upon relevant information that could perhaps be provided outside the present petition process. Clearly the success of such work will be dependent upon the evidence available.

22) To conclude, in view of the submission of this petition, it is recommended that the Cabinet Member discusses with petitioners their request for the possible introduction of a limited time waiting restriction, and if appropriate asks officers to add the request to the future extensive parking scheme programme for further investigation and informal consultation, whilst also referring the other matters to appropriate teams as suggested in the recommendations above.

## **Financial Implications**

There are no direct financial implications associated with recommendations to this report. However, if the Council was to consider the introduction of managed parking in Cedars Drive and any possible surrounding roads, funding would need to be identified from a suitable source.

## **RESIDENT BENEFIT & CONSULTATION**

### **The benefit or impact upon Hillingdon residents, service users and communities**

To allow the Cabinet Member to consider the petitioners' request.

### **Consultation carried out or required**

None at this stage.

## **CORPORATE CONSIDERATIONS**

### **Corporate Finance**

Corporate Finance has reviewed the recommendations to this report and concurs with the financial implications as set out above.

## **Legal**

Legal Services confirm that there are no specific legal implications arising from this report.

## **BACKGROUND PAPERS**

Petition received.

## **TITLE OF ANY APPENDICES**

Appendix A - Location plan