

CORNWALL ROAD AND VICTORIA ROAD, RUISLIP – PETITION OBJECTING TO THE WAITING RESTRICTIONS

Cabinet Portfolio	Planning and Transportation
Officer Contact	Caroline Haywood ex 7879
Papers with report	Appendix A & B

HEADLINE INFORMATION

Purpose of report	To inform the Cabinet Member that a petition has been received from shopkeepers objecting to the installation of waiting restrictions.
Contribution to our plans and strategies	The request for waiting restrictions at the junction of Cornwall Road with Victoria Road, Ruislip has been considered in relation to the Council's strategy for Road Safety
Financial Cost	There is no financial cost in this report
Relevant Policy Overview Committee	Residents' & Environmental Services
Ward(s) affected	Manor

RECOMMENDATION

That the Cabinet Member:

1. Notes the petition and the objection to the waiting restrictions and listens to the concerns of the petitioners;
2. Ask officers to keep the proposal for the installation of waiting restrictions and pedestrian refuge under review until such time as the consultation for the Ruislip Manor 'Stop and Shop' scheme is complete.

INFORMATION

Reasons for recommendation

To understand the residents' concerns and wait for the outcome of the Parking Management Scheme consultation.

Alternative options considered

No other alternatives.

Supporting Information

1. The Council has received a petition with 435 signatures from shopkeepers and customers to the shops and four additional letters. The petitioners are objecting to the installation of the proposed waiting restrictions.
2. Cornwall Road and Victoria Road are both situated within Manor Ward. Victoria Road is a very busy road being the main route through Ruislip. It has a very high traffic and pedestrian flow due to the local shopping parade and being the main route. The parade of shops starts at this junction-heading north. Victoria Road is the bus route for the 114 linking Ruislip Station with Mill Hill Station via Harrow. Cornwall Road is residential in nature and is a quieter road with local traffic. The junction of Cornwall Road and Victoria Road is a roundabout, at present there are existing waiting restrictions between 8am – 9.30am and 4.30pm – 6.30pm Mon – Fri on the South west side from no 12 Victoria Road to No 138 Victoria Road. A location plan is shown on Appendix A.
3. The Council received a request through the councils road safety programme to improve pedestrian crossing facilities at the junction of Cornwall Road with Victoria Road, to help people cross to the shops at this junction.
4. Following a full and thorough investigation of this request, it was found during the site visit there was a high volume of pedestrians crossing at this point. Vehicles were observed parked on the junction. This was restricting sightlines for pedestrians trying to cross Cornwall Road especially people with pushchairs and the elderly. It was also noticed there was no dropped kerbs to aid pedestrian access.
5. The proposal that was drawn up to address these issues was to recommend installing a pedestrian refuge with dropped kerbs and tactile paving. To ensure access and the safety of pedestrians using the crossing point is maintained 'At Any Time' waiting restrictions were also proposed for a distance of 15 metres, as shown on Appendix B
6. The proposals were subjected to the usual statutory consultation procedures. Notice of intent was advertised on 17 December 2008 with a consultation period of 21 days. The petitioners are concerned with a loss of business if the waiting restrictions were to be installed, as customers will not be able to park directly in front of their shops. They understand the need for pedestrian safety to be improved but are concerned at the affect it will have on their businesses.
7. The waiting restrictions were proposed as part of a proposal to improve pedestrian crossing facilities and incorporated Rule 243 of The Highway Code 2007, which recommends that vehicles should not park or stop within 10 metres of a junction. The proposed restrictions are 5 metres longer than the Highway Code recommends, this is to ensure protection is given to pedestrians, whilst maintaining vehicle access past the proposed pedestrian refuge. The removal of the parked vehicles on the junction will reduce the accident risk compared with if the vehicles were allowed to remain.
8. The council has also received a letter from a local resident fully supporting the installation of a pedestrian refuge and waiting restrictions at this junction. They state ' The

cars parked in the area of this junction often make it very difficult to see if cars are turning into Cornwall Road from the roundabout, and the presence of the island will also help to slow cars down.'

9. The Council's Parking Management Team have also been consulting on a 'stop and shop' for Victoria Road from Cornwall Road to Pembroke Road incorporating parking bays and waiting restrictions along this length of Victoria Road. The scheme will increase access to the shops by incorporating designated parking areas for visitors to the shops. This will allow visitors to park for free for 30minutes.
10. In response to the Parking Management Scheme consultation it is recommended to put this proposal for waiting restrictions and pedestrian refuge on hold until the 'Stop and Shop' scheme is finalised.

Financial Implications

There is no financial cost with the recommendation of this report.

EFFECT ON RESIDENTS, SERVICE USERS & COMMUNITIES

What will be the effect of the recommendation?

That no decision will be made until completion of the 'Stop and Shop' scheme consultation.

Consultation Carried Out or Required

Consultation has been carried out on this proposal through a notice on site and in the local press. Local councillors have also been consulted.

CORPORATE IMPLICATIONS

Legal

No comments at this stage

BACKGROUND PAPERS

- Traffic order advertised 17th December 2008
- Petition received: 14th January 2009.
- Objection letter received: 17th December 2008
2nd January 2009.
- Letter of support received: 22nd January 2009