

Cabinet Member for City Services

25 February 2019

Name of Cabinet Member:

Cabinet Member for City Services – Councillor P Hetherton

Director Approving Submission of the report:

Executive Director of Place

Ward(s) affected:

Bablake, Cheylesmore, Earlsdon, Radford, Sherbourne, Upper Stoke, Wainbody

Title:

Petitions Determined by Letter and Petitions Deferred Pending Further Investigations

Is this a key decision?

No. This report is for monitoring purposes only.

Executive Summary:

In accordance with the City Council's procedure for dealing with petitions, those relating to traffic management, road safety and highway maintenance issues are considered by the Cabinet Member for City Services.

In June 2015, amendments to the Petitions Scheme, which forms part of the Constitution, were approved in order to provide flexibility and streamline current practice. This change has reduced costs and bureaucracy and improved the service to the public.

These amendments allow for a petition to be dealt with or responded to by letter without being formally presented in a report to a Cabinet Member meeting.

In light of this, at the meeting of the Cabinet Member for Public Services on 15 March 2016, it was approved that a summary of those petitions received which were determined by letter, or where decisions are deferred pending further investigations, be reported to subsequent meetings of the Cabinet Member for Public Services (now amended to Cabinet Member for City Services), where appropriate, for monitoring and transparency purposes.

Appendix A sets out petitions received relating to the portfolio of the Cabinet Member for City Services and how officers propose to respond to them.

Recommendations:

Cabinet Member for City Services is recommended to:-

1. Endorse the actions being taken by officers as set out in Section 2 and Appendix A of the report in response to the petitions received.

List of Appendices included:

Appendix A – Petitions Determined by Letter and Petitions Deferred Pending Further Investigations

Background Papers

None.

Other useful documents:

Cabinet Member for Policing and Equalities Meeting 18 June 2015 report: Amendments to the Constitution – Proposed Amendments to the Petitions Scheme

A copy of the report is available at moderngov.coventry.gov.uk.

Has it been or will it be considered by Scrutiny?

No.

Has it been or will it be considered by any other Council Committee, Advisory Panel or other body?

No.

Will this report go to Council?

No.

Report title: Petitions Determined by Letter and Petitions Deferred Pending Further Investigations

1. Context (or background)

- 1.1 In accordance with the City Council's procedure for dealing with petitions, those relating to traffic management, road safety and highway maintenance issues are considered by the Cabinet Member for City Services.
- 1.2 Amendments to the Petitions Scheme, which forms part of the Constitution, were approved by the Cabinet Member for Policing and Equalities on 18 June 2015 and Full Council on 23 June 2015 in order to provide flexibility and streamline current practice.
- 1.3 These amendments allow a petition to be dealt with or responded to by letter without being formally presented in a report to a Cabinet Member meeting. The advantages of this change are two-fold; firstly, it saves taxpayers money by streamlining the process and reducing bureaucracy. Secondly it means that petitions can be dealt with and responded to quicker, improving the responsiveness of the service given to the public.
- 1.4 Each petition is still dealt with on an individual basis. The Cabinet Member considers advice from officers on appropriate action to respond to the petitioners' request, which in some circumstances, may be for the petition to be dealt with or responded to without the need for formal consideration at a Cabinet Member meeting. In such circumstances and with the approval of the Cabinet Member, written agreement is then sought from the relevant Councillor/Petition Organiser to proceed in this manner.

2. Options considered and recommended proposal

- 2.1 Officers will respond to the petitions received by determination letter or holding letter as set out in Appendix A of this report.
- 2.2 Where a holding letter is to be sent, this is because further investigation work is required of the matters raised. Details of the actions agreed are also included in Appendix A.
- 2.3 Once the matters have been investigated, a determination letter will be sent to the petition organiser or, if appropriate, a report will be submitted to a future Cabinet Member meeting, detailing the results of the investigations and subsequent recommended action.

3. Results of consultation undertaken

- 3.1 In the case of a petition being determined by letter, written agreement is sought from the relevant Petition Organiser and Councillor Sponsor to proceed in this manner. If they do not agree, a report responding to the petition will be prepared for consideration at a future Cabinet Member meeting. The Petition Organiser and Councillor Sponsor will be invited to attend this meeting where they will have the opportunity to speak on behalf of the petitioners.

4. Timetable for implementing this decision

- 4.1 Letters referred to in Appendix A will be sent out by the end of March 2018.

5. Comments from Executive Director of Resources

5.1 Financial implications

There are no specific financial implications arising from the recommendations within this report.

5.2 Legal implications

There are no specific legal implications arising from this report.

6. Other implications

6.1 How will this contribute to achievement of the Council's key objectives / corporate priorities (corporate plan/scorecard) / organisational blueprint / Local Area Agreement (or Coventry Sustainable Community Strategy)?

Not applicable.

6.2 How is risk being managed?

Not applicable.

6.3 What is the impact on the organisation?

Determining petitions by letter enables petitioners' requests to be responded to more quickly and efficiently.

6.4 Equalities / EIA

There are no public sector equality duties which are of relevance.

6.5 Implications for (or impact on) the environment

None.

6.6 Implications for partner organisations?

None.

Report author(s)**Name and job title:**

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Place

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Enquiries should be directed to the above person.

Contributor/approver name	Title	Directorate or organisation	Date doc sent out	Date response received or approved
Contributors:				
Rachel Goodyer	Traffic and Road Safety Manager	Place	14/2/19	14/2/19
Caron Archer	Principle Officer - Traffic Management	Place	14/2/19	14/2/19

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Appendix A – Petitions Determined by Letter and Petitions Deferred Pending Further Investigations

Petition Title	No. of signatures	Councillor Sponsor	Type of letter to be sent to petition organiser(s) and sponsor	Actions agreed	Target date for letter to be issued
E160 - Traffic Calming Measures on Barker Butts Lane and Moseley Avenue	27	N/A	Determination	Barker's Butts Lane between Moseley Avenue and Coundon Road is on the Local Safety Scheme list for consideration for inclusion in a future year's programme. Moseley Avenue will be added to the list for assessment for an advisory school-time 20mph limit.	March
Concerns about the Accidents at the Sharp Turn from Hadleigh Road to Brentwood Avenue	102	N/A	Determination	The location does not meet the Local Safety Scheme criteria (no personal injury collisions in last 3 years). However, new 'SLOW' carriageway markings will be installed on the approaches to the bend. The location will also be added to the list for deployment of a mobile vehicle-activated sign.	March
Traffic Calming on Lawrence Saunders Road	12	Councillor Hetherington	Determination	Lawrence Saunders Road does not meet the Local Safety Scheme criteria (3 Personal Injury Collisions in last 3 years). However, 'SLOW' carriageway markings and thermoplastic school warning markings will be installed on the road in the vicinity of the school. The location will also be added to the list for the deployment of a mobile vehicle-activated sign. Lawrence Saunders Road will continue to be monitored as part of the annual collision review.	March

23/18 - Keep Clear Road Markings along Providence Street and Road Narrowing at the Entrance to Earlsdon Street	14	Submitted by Councillor Williams and supported by Councillor Taylor	Determination	Providence Street does not meet the Local Safety Scheme criteria (no Personal Injury Collisions in the last 3 years). The road markings at the 'No Entry' have recently been refreshed. One of the 'No Entry' signs is facing the wrong way and this will be corrected shortly. There are no proposals to narrow the road at the junction with Earlsdon Street as this could obstruct turning vehicles.	March
52/18 - Ban Lorries and Vans which are Loading and Unloading Outside Coventry Turf and Landscaping, Avon Street	59	Councillor N Akhtar	Determination	Company to be contacted to remind them of their responsibilities. Petition organiser to be provided with contact details for Parking Services who can take action if delivery vehicles obstruct the pavement. The condition of the pavement has been inspected and found to be acceptable. However, the location will continue to be inspected periodically.	March
53/18 - St Christians Croft to be added to the Residents Parking Scheme for St Christians Road	8	Councillor Bailey	Holding	Parking surveys to be undertaken.	March
E167 – Stop Illegal Parking on the Corner of Benson Road / Halford Lane	7	N/A	Determination	Request for additional enforcement of existing restrictions has been forwarded to Parking Services.	March
E168 – Prevent Speeding on Beechwood Avenue	133	Councillor Taylor	Determination	Beechwood Avenue does not meet the Local Safety Scheme criteria (1 personal injury collision in the last 3 years). However, the section highlighted will be considered for the deployment of a mobile vehicle-activated sign. The petition organiser will also be provided with details of the Community Speed Watch scheme.	March

37/17 - Request for the 'Lay-By' Style Parking Bays on Cannon Hill Road between Junctions of Orlescote Road and Atherstone Place to be Residential Parking Scheme/Permit Holder Only	70	Councillor Crookes	Determination	Following consultation with affected residents, a residents' parking scheme consisting of the two lay-bys will be advertised as part of the next batch of changes to waiting restrictions. Each eligible household will be able to apply for up to 2 residents' permits and 1 visitor permit per property.	March
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