

Cabinet Member for Public Services

13 June 2016

Name of Cabinet Member:

Cabinet Member for Public Services – Councillor J Innes

Director Approving Submission of the report:

Executive Director of Place

Ward(s) affected:

All

Title:

Petitions Determined by Letter and Petitions Deferred Pending Further Investigations

Is this a key decision?

No – Although the matter affects more than two Wards of the City, 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 and road safety issues are considered by the Cabinet Member for Public 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, where appropriate, for monitoring and transparency purposes.

Appendix A sets out the petitions received since the previous meeting of the Cabinet Member for Public Services and how officers propose to respond to them.

Recommendations:

Cabinet Member for Public Services is recommended to 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 on 18 June 2015
Report: Amendments to the Constitution – Proposed Amendments to the Petitions Scheme

A copy of the report is available at modern.gov@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 Public 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 June 2016.

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:**

Martin Wilkinson
Senior Officer - Traffic Management

Directorate:

Place

Tel and email contact:

Tel: 024 7683 2062

E-mail: martin.wilkinson@coventry.gov.uk

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:				
Colin Knight	Assistant Director (Planning, Transport and Highways)	Place	31/05/16	02/06/16
Karen Seager	Head of Traffic and Network Management	Place	31/05/16	03/06/16
Caron Archer	Principle Officer - Traffic Management	Place	31/05/16	02/06/16
Tracy Cowley	Highways Technical Services Manager	Place	31/05/16	01/06/16
Jas Bilen	Human Resources Manager	Resources	31/05/16	01/06/16
Liz Knight	Governance Services Officer	Resources	31/05/16	01/06/16
Names of approvers: (officers and Members)				
Mark Williams	Lead Accountant	Resources	02/06/16	02/06/16
Sam McGinty	Solicitor, Legal Services	Resources	31/05/16	01/06/16
Councillor J Innes	Cabinet Member for Public Services	-	31/05/16	02/06/16

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

Petition Title	Councillor Sponsor	Type of letter to be sent to petition organiser(s) and sponsor	Actions agreed	Target Date for Determination Letter / CM Report
14/15 - Request for a Residents Parking Scheme in Poplar Road	N/A	Holding letter sent 23 February 2016	Request being considered as part of current review of Earlsdon Residents Parking Scheme and neighbouring roads.	Sept / Oct
26/15 – Safer Crossing from ASDA Store to Daventry Road Shops	N/A	Determination	No relevant reported personal injury collisions in last 5 years. Add to Perceived Safety Scheme list for prioritisation after adoption of revised criteria.	June
30/15 - Residents Parking Scheme at Glover Street and Double Yellow Lines at Junction with Lichfield Way	Councillor Bailey	Holding letter sent 23 February 2016	Request being considered as part of current review of Cheylesmore Residents Parking Scheme and neighbouring roads.	Sept / Oct
41/14 - Request to Prevent Parking on the Grass Verges at Princethorpe Way	Councillor Lakha	Determination	Proposed No Waiting at Any Time (double yellow lines) on southern side of Princethorpe Way north of Nene Close to be advertised in June and 5 bollards to be installed adjacent to vehicular access to rear of properties to prevent inappropriate parking.	June
43/15 - Speeding Traffic and Parking Issues in Sunningdale Avenue	Councillor Clifford	Determination	Average speed under 28mph. Therefore, does not meet Perceived Safety Scheme criteria. Monitor as part of annual collision review. Sunningdale Avenue / Holbrook Lane junction added to list of waiting restriction requests.	June
49/15 - Parking Controls in Cannon Park Road	Councillor Blundell	Determination	Consultation on proposed controlled parking zone under preparation.	June
50/14 - Request to Allow Parking on the Verges at Princethorpe Way	Councillor Lakha	Determination	Proposed No Waiting At Any Time (double yellow lines) on southern side of Princethorpe Way north of Nene Close to be advertised in June and 5 bollards to be installed adjacent to vehicular access to rear of properties.	June
55/15 - Request for Residents Parking Schemes in Burnsall Road, Burnsall Grove and Sir Henry Parkes Road	Councillor Andrews	Holding	Petition will be considered following conclusion of discussions with Covpress Ltd. regarding the possibility of additional staff car parking provision.	Tbc
58/15 - Resurfacing of Paxmead Close	Councillor Clifford	Determination	Defects identified on footway and highway to be repaired. Condition of remaining areas is satisfactory. Road will be kept on the Forward Planner.	18 April 2016

Petition Title	Councillor Sponsor	Type of letter to be sent to petition organiser(s) and sponsor	Actions agreed	Target Date for Determination Letter / CM Report
59/15 - Safety Concerns London Road at the Junction of Abbey Road	Councillor Bailey	Determination	Proposals currently under development, including junction improvements and measures to assist pedestrian movements and reduce speeds. Implementation subject to consultation and dependent on funding being available.	June
60/15 - Residents Parking Scheme for Conway Avenue, Duggins Lane, Station Avenue and Nailcote Avenue	N/A	Holding	Request being considered as part of recent consultation exercise and analysis of results.	July
61/15 - Residents Parking Scheme for King Edward Road	Councillor O'Boyle	Determination	Commence legal process to implement Residents' Parking Scheme.	June
62/15 - Road Traffic Measures for Templar Avenue by Templars Primary School	Councillor Skinner	Determination	Scheme currently under development, including proposed trial of child-shaped 'Billy bollards'.	June
64/15 - Request for Additional Parking on Slip Road at London Road	Councillor Bailey	Determination	Not a priority due to lack of resources. Consideration will be given to permitting residents to fund the works if they wish to do so. Works would be dependent on the outcome of a feasibility study.	June
65/15 - Benedictine Road, Request for Residents Parking Scheme and Double Yellow Lines at the Junction with Carthusian Road	Councillor Bailey	Holding	Request being considered as part of current review of Cheylesmore Residents Parking Scheme and neighbouring roads.	Sept / Oct
69/15 - Residents Parking Scheme, Lichfield Road	Councillor Bailey	Holding	Request being considered as part of current review of Cheylesmore Residents Parking Scheme and neighbouring roads.	Sept / Oct
72/15 and E179 - Improve Road Safety Measures on Princethorpe Way	Councillor Lakha	Determination	Additional road markings at the start of the 20mph Zone and school warning signage to be installed this financial year and a maintenance inspection conducted of Princethorpe Way. Installation of vehicle-activated signage will be considered for inclusion in a future year's capital programme.	June
E175 - Increase Car Parking Spaces in Morgan's Road	N/A	Determination	Not a priority due to lack of resources. Consideration will be given to permitting residents to fund the works if they wish to do so. Works would be dependent on the outcome of a feasibility study.	June

Petition Title	Councillor Sponsor	Type of letter to be sent to petition organiser(s) and sponsor	Actions agreed	Target Date for Determination Letter / CM Report
E178 - Install Vehicle Activated Speed Signs on Allesley Old Road West Bound by Maudslay Road Junction	Councillor B Singh	Holding	Speed survey to be undertaken.	June
E180 - Reduce Speed of Traffic along Kynner Way	N/A	Holding	Speed survey to be undertaken.	June
3/16 - Closure of the Side Gate to Templars Primary School at Monksfield Close	Councillor Mayer	Determination	Closure of the school gate has previously been ruled out after extensive investigation. Reasons cited include the need for an alternative access to the school for health and safety reasons. This is still the case. In addition, surveys have shown that the access is well used by pupils.	June
4/16 - Residents Parking Scheme at Monksfield Close between 8.30 – 9am and 3.20 – 4pm	Councillor Mayer	Determination	Consultation on controlled parking zone planned for June / July. Provisional date for scheme to become operational: September.	June