

Cabinet Member for City Services

29 January 2018

**Name of Cabinet Member:**

Cabinet Member for City Services – Councillor J Innes

**Director Approving Submission of the report:**

Deputy Chief Executive (Place)

**Ward(s) affected:**

Cheylesmore, Foleshill, Sherbourne, St. Michael's, Upper Stoke, Wainbody, Westwood, Woodlands, Wyken

**Title:**

Petitions Determined by Letter and Petitions Deferred Pending Further Investigations

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**Is this a key decision?**

No. This report is for monitoring purposes only.

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**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:-

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 [modern.gov.coventry.gov.uk](http://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 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 February 2018.

## **5. Comments from Director of Finance and Corporate Services**

### **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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**Directorate:**

Place

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<b>Contributor/approver name</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Directorate or organisation</b>	<b>Date doc sent out</b>	<b>Date response received or approved</b>
<b>Contributors:</b>				
Colin Whitehouse	Acting Head of Traffic and Network Management	Place	17/1/18	17/1/18
Rachel Goodyer	Traffic and Road Safety Manager	Place	17/1/18	18/1/18
Caron Archer	Principle Officer - Traffic Management	Place	17/1/18	18/1/18

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

Petition Title (date received)	No. of signatures	Councillor Sponsor	Type of letter to be sent to petition organiser(s) and sponsor	Actions agreed	Target Date for Determination Letter / CM Report
23/17 - Improve the Signage and Road Safety Markings Outside the Entrance to Grange Farm Primary School (1/11/17)	203	Councillor Blundell	Determination	Request for additional double yellow lines at Barnack Avenue and opposite Hexworthy Avenue (mini-roundabout) to be included in next waiting restriction review planned for March.	February
E87 - Fine and Stop Vehicles Parking on Pavements (6/11/17)	11	N/A	Determination	<p>Actions agreed in response to previous petitions will continue to be implemented, namely:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• take action against offending vehicles where parking restrictions exist</li> <li>• support the Police who have the power to take action against vehicles obstructing the pavement where no parking restrictions exist</li> <li>• implement physical measures to prevent pavement parking as part of the verge protection programme, based on the priority of the scheme and the availability of funding</li> <li>• where a petition is received requesting a Traffic Regulation Order for a footway or verge parking ban on a specific road, investigate the problem and, if action is required, schedule any works based on the priority of the scheme and the funds available</li> </ul>	February
E91 Provision of a Zebra Crossing on Tile Hill Lane outside West Coventry Academy (22/11/17)	658	N/A	Determination	No further action proposed. Does not meet criteria for Safety Scheme (no personal injury collisions in last 3 years in vicinity of requested location).	February

E93 (258) Improve Road Signage (Give Way to Oncoming Vehicles) on Wolfe Road (8/12/17)	6	N/A	Determination	'Give way to oncoming vehicles' plate to be installed.	February
54/16: Reduce Speed on Eastbound Section of Allesley Old Road from Pickford Way to the Junction with Grayswood Avenue (9/1/17)	65	Councillor Gannon	Determination	Speed survey showed drivers were driving slower on inbound side. Collisions unlikely to have been affected by lower speed limit. Therefore, no change to speed limit is proposed. However, a mobile vehicle activated sign will be installed. Hedge by gap in dual carriageway has also been cut back.	February
E97 – Speed Reduction on Allesley Old Road as Vehicles Approach Pickford Way Roundabout (1/1/18)	13	N/A	Determination	Speed survey showed drivers were driving slower on inbound side. Collisions unlikely to have been affected by lower speed limit. Therefore, no change to speed limit is proposed. However, a mobile vehicle activated sign will be installed. Hedge by gap in dual carriageway has also been cut back.	February
E95 - Improve Road Markings and Dropping Off Facilities Outside Parkhill Primary School (17/12/17)	125	Councillor Lepoidevin	Determination	School-time waiting restrictions, including School Keep Clear marking, in place to enable pedestrians to cross safely. Therefore, no reduction in extent of waiting restrictions is proposed.	February
29/17 - Implementation of Residents Parking Scheme on Rowington Close and Implementation of 20mph zone for Newington Close and Rowington Close (15/12/17)	16	Councillor Gannon	Holding	Parking survey to be conducted.	April
72/16 - Residents Parking Scheme for Hartlepool Road, Redcar Road, Stockton Road and Stoney Stanton Road (27/4/17)	145	Councillor Welsh	Determination	Parking surveys undertaken, criteria met. Significant number of households signed petition. To commence legal procedure for Residents' Parking Scheme as part of next waiting restriction review planned for March.	February
73/16 - Residents Parking Scheme for Oldham Avenue between the Junction of Arch Road and Hocking Road (27/4/17)	46	Councillor Abbott	Determination	Parking surveys undertaken, criteria met. Sufficient number of households signed petition. To commence legal procedure for Residents' Parking Scheme as part of next waiting restriction review planned for March.	February

66/16 - Edyth Road, Request for Residents Parking (8/3/17)	50	Councillor Abbott	Determination	Parking surveys undertaken. Does not meet Residents' Parking Scheme criteria (availability of parking).	February
63/16 - Request for Resident's Parking Scheme for Freeburn Causeway (17/2/17)	44	Councillor Mayer	Determination	Parking surveys undertaken. Meets available spaces criteria. To consult residents to determine if 60% of households are in favour. If so, will commence legal procedure.	February
61/16 - Request for a Single Line Outside St Alban's Church, Mercer Avenue, Stoke (14/2/17)	84	Councillor Bains	Determination	Waiting restriction would not resolve issue as restrictions would apply to all vehicles. Therefore, no new waiting restrictions are proposed.	February
50/16 - Request for St Christian's Road to be Included in the Cheylesmore Residents Parking Scheme (20/12/16)	53	Councillor Bailey	Determination	Parking surveys undertaken. Sufficient number of households signed petition. To commence legal procedure for Residents' Parking Scheme as part of next waiting restriction review planned for March.	February
E25 - Permit Parking for Area Around Foleshill (25/12/16)	5	Councillor Kaur	Determination	Parking surveys undertaken. Not all roads meet parking availability criteria. Petition does not demonstrate any parking concerns on roads which met criteria. Therefore, no further action is proposed.	February