

Cabinet Member for City Services

12 March 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:

Bablake, Cheylesmore, Foleshill, Longford, Lower Stoke, St Michael's, 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 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 - Amendments to the Constitution – Proposed Amendments to the Petitions Scheme report

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 April 2018.

5. Comments from Director of Finance and 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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Contributor/approver name	Title	Directorate or organisation	Date doc sent out	Date response received or approved
Contributors:				
Colin Whitehouse	Head of Traffic and Network Management (Acting)	Place	01/03/18	02/02/18
Rachel Goodyer	Traffic and Road Safety Manager	Place	01/03/18	01/03/18
Caron Archer	Principle Officer - Traffic Management	Place	01/03/18	01/03/18

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

Petition Title (date received / closed)	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
31/17 - Request for Double Yellow Lines at the Top Corner of Ashington Grove (20/12/17)	24	Councillor Bailey	Determination	A waiting restriction on a bend must be applied on both sides of the road. Double yellow lines to be proposed as part of next waiting restriction review planned for March.	April
25/17 - Signage and Traffic Control Measures for Watery Lane (29/11/17)	46	Councillor Birdi	Determination	Additional warning signage and SLOW markings to be installed.	April
34/17 - Request for Double Yellow Lines at Junction of Benedictine Road and The Monks Croft (29/01/18)	18	Councillor Bailey	Determination	Grass island is not adopted highway or under Council ownership. Restriction would not apply to island, therefore no further action proposed.	April
35/17 - Request for Double Yellow lines and Disabled Parking Bays Outside St Alban's Church, Mercer Avenue (15/2/18)	84	Councillor Bains	Determination	Waiting restriction between North St and Coventry St not appropriate as it would displace parking to neighbouring residential roads. Double yellow lines for junction protection at junction of Mercer Ave and North St to be proposed as part of next waiting restriction review planned for March.	April
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	Holding	Parking surveys to be arranged.	March

38/17 - Request for Parking Permits on Momus Boulevard (26/2/18)	13	Councillor R Singh	Determination	Section requested is too small for Residents' Parking Scheme. Parking survey of whole of Momus Boulevard determined that the level of parking available did not meet the criteria for a Residents' Parking Scheme. Therefore, no further action is proposed.	April
E100 - Install Filter Light on Junction of Bell Green Road and Sewall Highway (26/01/18)	6	N/A	Determination	Time between green light phases to be increased on trial basis to allow more time for turning traffic to clear junction, subject to effect on junction capacity.	April
E102 - Parking Permits for Residents on Churchill Avenue (21/01/18)	22	N/A	Determination	Parking issues described result from parking by residents; therefore a Residents' Parking Scheme would not resolve the situation. Letters will be sent to all properties with a disabled bay to check that they still meet criteria.	April
11/17 – Speeding in Swanswell Street (14/7/17)	19	Councillor O'Boyle	Determination	CCTV monitoring has not identified any vehicles travelling the wrong way along Swanswell Street. Does not meet criteria for safety scheme (no recorded personal injury collisions in the last three years). Therefore no further action is proposed. Refer to Community Speed Watch initiative.	April
22/16 – Parking concerns and Request to Extend the Restricted Parking Hours at Kenpas Highway Parade to 10pm (21/9/16)	210	Councillor Blundell	Determination	Parking surveys undertaken on Friday and Saturday evenings. Minimum of one space available on all occasions and good turnover of vehicles recorded. Therefore, no further action proposed.	April