

Cabinet Member for City Services

19 November 2018

Name of Cabinet Member:

Cabinet Member for City Services – Councillor J Innes

Director Approving Submission of the report:

Executive Director of Place

Ward(s) affected:

Bablake, Binley & Willenhall, Cheylesmore, Foleshill, Henley, Upper Stoke,

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 November 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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Contributor/approver name	Title	Directorate or organisation	Date doc sent out	Date response received or approved
Contributors:				
Rachel Goodyer	Traffic and Network Management	Place	8/11/18	8/11/18

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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
18/18 & E144 - Request for the Installation of Speed Bumps along Avon Street	259	Councillor Auluck	Determination	Mobile vehicle-activated speed limit signs to be deployed and data collected from the signs used to monitor the situation. Petitioners to be referred to Community Speed Watch.	November
E141 - Create a safer environment for children when attending Edgewick School	8	N/A	Determination	Request for pedestrian phase at traffic lights will be considered by the Urban Traffic Management Control Team for inclusion in a future year's programme.	November
E134 - Speed Restriction along Woodway Lane	10	N/A	Determination	Most of Woodway Lane is already subject to a 30mph speed limit. The speed limit on the cul-de-sac section at the northern end is 20mph. The road will continue to be monitored as part of the annual collision review and considered for inclusion in a future year's programme if prioritised. Petitioners to be referred to Community Speed Watch.	November
E139 - To Improve Safety at the Junction of Abbey Road and London Road	212	N/A	Determination	As part of this year's Local Safety Scheme programme, average speed cameras are being installed on London Road from its junction with Allard Way to its junction with the A46. This should help to address the petitioners' concerns regarding speeding. There are currently no proposals to signalise the junction. However, it will continue to be monitored as part of the annual collision review.	November
24/18 - Residents Parking at Radford House, Brownhill Green Road	11	Councillor Williams	Determination	Location is not suitable for a Residents Parking Scheme as off-street parking is available and there are no large attractors nearby that would generate high levels of all-day parking by non-residents. If additional parking for residents of Radford House is required, petitioners to be advised to contact Whitefriars who own the block of flats and the adjacent land.	November

28/18 - Residents Parking for Churchill Avenue	86	Councillor Kaur	Determination	A determination letter was issued in April in response to previous petition on this issue, stating that Residents' Parking Scheme would not solve problem as majority of parking on Churchill Avenue is by residents. We are not able to consider a petition received within 6 months of a determination letter being issued in response to a petition on the same subject.	November
47/17 - Extension of the Residents Parking Scheme for the Remainder of Benedictine Road	32	Councillor Bailey	Determination	Request meets Residents Parking Scheme criteria (proportion of households in support and availability of parking during weekday daytime). Extension of scheme to be advertised once residents of Monks Croft have been consulted to see if they wish to be included in the scheme.	November
E143 - Speed Bumps on Yarningale Road	11	N/A	Determination	Currently no proposals to lower or remove the speed cushions on Yarningale Road, which were installed following requests from local residents. Condition of cushions will continue to be inspected on a 3-monthly basis.	November
30/18 - Springfield Road, Request for Residents Parking	14	N/A	Holding	Parking survey to be conducted.	November