

Cabinet Member for City Services

8 April 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:

Cheylesmore, Foleshill, Henley, Lower Stoke, Radford, Sherbourne, Upper Stoke, Westwood, Woodlands

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 18th 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 May 2019.

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)

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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 Road Safety Manager	Place	27/03/19	28/03/2019
Caron Archer	Principle Officer - Traffic Management	Place	27/03/19	29/03/2019

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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
56/18 - Residents Parking Scheme for Blondvil Street	35	Councillor Bailey	Holding	Parking surveys to be undertaken.	May
E169 - To implement traffic calming measures along Eastern Green Lane	8	N/A	Determination	Lower Eastern Green Lane has traffic calming in place. Upper Eastern Green Lane does not meet the Local Safety Scheme criteria (1 personal injury collision in the last 3 years). The petition organiser will be provided with details of the Community Speed Watch scheme.	May
E165 – Traffic calming measures on Broad Lane between Banner Lane & Coventry Road	77	Submitted by Councillor Male	Determination	The majority of this section of Broad Lane lies within Solihull. The section within Coventry (from the junction with Astoria Drive) does not meet the Local Safety Scheme criteria (2 personal injury collisions in the last 3 years).	May
E166 - Road Safety Measures on Junction at Blackberry Lane and Kare Road	163	N/A	Determination	As part of planning process, a speed survey was undertaken in November 2017. This showed that the existing vision splay at the junction is compliant with national standards for the measured speeds on Blackberry Lane. There have been no recorded personal injuries at the junction in last 3 years. We do not install mirrors on the highway, as they can distort the reflected image, sunlight or headlights can reflect and dazzle other drivers, it is difficult to judge the speed of vehicles reflected in the mirror. Maintenance and vandalism issues can also arise.	May

45/18 - Restricted Parking Zone around Hill Farm School St Augustine's School and St Augustine's Sports Centre	41	Councillor M Mutton	Determination	Experimental Traffic Regulation Order to be advertised on cul-de-sac section of Heathcote Street and St Augustine's Walk: residents' parking past this point (Mon-Fri 8-6) except in marked bays (lay-by opposite St Augustine's Walk).	May
E160 - Traffic Calming Measures on Barker Butts Lane and Moseley Avenue	27	N/A	Holding	Issues raised currently being investigated.	May
60/18 - Traffic Calming Measures and a 20mph Zone for Sheriff Avenue	14	Councillor Lapsa	Determination	Sheriff Avenue does not meet the Local Safety Scheme criteria (1 personal injury collision in the last 3 years). The petition organiser will be provided with details of the Community Speed Watch scheme.	May
59/18 - Against the Double Yellow Lines at the Bend on Ena Road	64	N/A	Determination	The double yellow lines were implemented in the summer of 2018 in response to a request from Waste Services. No objections to the proposals were received. The restriction applies to the back of the pavement; the area outside no. 1 is not suitable for parking due to the adjacent pedestrian accesses, in particular to the play area. Therefore, no amendment to the restrictions is proposed.	May
61/18 – Reduce Speeding Vehicles Along Hinckley Road	10	Councillor Maton	Determination	Monitoring is being undertaken of the existing Average Speed Enforcement scheme on Ansty Road. Locations for additional schemes will be considered as part of the annual collision reviews.	May
62/18 – Residents Parking Scheme for Church Lane (Walsgrave Road End)	8	Councillor McNicholas	Holding	Parking surveys to be conducted.	May

64/18 Residents Parking Scheme for The Mount, Cheylesmore	74	Councillor Bailey	Holding	Parking surveys to be conducted across wider area due to numerous petitions and potential for transference of parking.	May
69/18 – Residents Parking Scheme Purefoy Road, Cheylesmore	31	Councillor Bailey	Holding	Parking surveys to be conducted across wider area due to numerous petitions and potential for transference of parking.	May
70/18 – Problems with parking & access to Coundon Street	12	Councillor Kelly	Holding	Parking surveys to be conducted.	May