

Cabinet Member for City Services

9 September 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:**

Binley & Willenhall, Foleshill, Lower Stoke

**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:-

- 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 [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 to the report.
- 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 to the report will be sent out by the end of October 2019.

**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) Climate and the environment**

None

**6.6 Implications for partner organisations?**

None

**Report author(s)**

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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>				
Rachel Goodyer	Traffic and Road Safety Manager	Place	22/08/19	29/08/19
Caron Archer	Principle Officer - Traffic Management	Place	22/08/19	29/08/19

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

<b>Petition Title</b>	<b>No. of signatures</b>	<b>Councillor Sponsor</b>	<b>Type of letter to be sent to petition organiser(s) and sponsor</b>	<b>Actions agreed</b>	<b>Target date for letter to be issued</b>
E1/19 - Close the Exit from Chace Avenue to London Road	8	N/A	Determination	Chace Avenue provides an important access to the residential area and is also a bus diversion route. Therefore, there are no proposals to close the junction.	October
E4/19 - Turn Chace Avenue/ London Road into a Traffic Lighted T junction	58	N/A	Determination	Recorded personal injury collision history and traffic patterns at this junction do not justify the introduction of traffic signals. Therefore, no action is proposed.	October
15/19 - Request for Residents Parking for Churchill Avenue and Fisher Road	82	Councillor A S Khan	Holding	Parking surveys to be conducted.	October
62/18 – Residents Parking Scheme for Church Lane (Walsgrave Road End)	8	Councillor McNicholas	Determination	Residents’ parking schemes are only considered for a whole street or area where most residents do not have access to off-street parking. Most of the signatories have access to off-street parking. Therefore, there are no proposals to introduce a residents’ parking scheme at the Walsgrave Road end of Church Lane.	October
3/19 - Request for Residents Parking Permits for Bryn Road	38	Councillor B Kaur	Determination	Bryn Road meets residents’ parking scheme criteria (proportion of households in support and availability of parking during weekday daytime). Scheme to be advertised as part of next review of waiting restrictions.	October

62/18 - Residents Parking Permits for Matlock Road	21	Councillor B Kaur	Determination	<p>Parking surveys show that Matlock Road meets the parking availability criterion for consideration for a residents' parking scheme. All residents to be consulted to establish if proportion of households in support meets required threshold of 60%. The double yellow lines at the cul-de-sac end of the road are necessary to enable vehicles to turn around. Therefore, no reduction in the length of the lines is proposed.</p>	October
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