

Cabinet Member for City Services

15 March 2023

Name of Cabinet Member:

Cabinet Member for City Services – Councillor P Hetherton

Director Approving Submission of the report:

Director of Transportation and Highways

Ward(s) affected:

Bablake, Cheylesmore, Earlsdon, Foleshill, Holbrook, Longford, Radford, Sherbourne, Westwood

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 to the report 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.

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 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 to the 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 April 2023.

5. Comments from the Interim Chief Executive (Section 151 Officer) and the Chief Legal Officer

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 the Council Plan (www.coventry.gov.uk/councilplan)?

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 change and the environment

None

6.6 Implications for partner organisations?

None

Report author(s)

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Enquiries should be directed to the above person.

Contributor/approver name	Title	Service	Date doc sent out	Date response received or approved
Contributors:				
Rachel Goodyer	Head of Traffic	Transportation and Highways	16/02/2023	06/03/2023
Caron Archer	Principal Officer – Traffic Management	Transportation and Highways	16/02/2023	17/02/2023
Caroline Taylor	Governance Services Officer	Law and Governance	16/02/2023	16/02/2023

This report is published on the council's website: www.coventry.gov.uk/councilmeetings

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

Petition No.	Petition Title	No. of signatures	Councillor Sponsor	Type of letter to be sent to petition organiser(s) and sponsor	Actions agreed
E21/22	Parking in Blackwell Road to be Permit Holders Only - Stop Non-Residents Parking	32	N/A	Holding	Parking surveys to be undertaken
E23/22	Residents Parking Scheme for Silverton Road	28	N/A	Determination	Petitions and consultation showed that less than 60% of eligible households are in favour of a residents' parking scheme; therefore, request will not be progressed any further.
29/22	Removal of Residents Parking Permit Scheme Sir Henry Parkes Road	71	Cllr Gittins	Holding	All households in both residents' parking zones to be consulted on the removal of the scheme. Support for removal from 60% of households will be required for request to be progressed.
31/22	Request for Bollards at Junction of Daintree Croft and Daventry Road	32	Cllr Bailey	Determination	Existing double yellow lines prohibit waiting on the pavement and road. Additional patrols by parking Enforcement to be requested. Petition organiser to be provided with direct number for Parking Services Team.
37/22	Traffic Calming Measures on Engleton Road / Moseley Avenue	8	N/A	Determination	Engleton Road and Moseley Avenue added to safety scheme programme. However, review of recorded personal injury collisions identified 49 roads or junctions where there have been six or more recorded personal injury collisions and those locations with the greatest number of personal injury collisions have to be prioritised. Moseley Avenue will also be added to programme for the deployment of temporary vehicle-activated speed limit signs. Improvements to crossing facilities on Moseley Avenue outside Moseley Primary School are also currently under development.

Petition No.	Petition Title	No. of signatures	Councillor Sponsor	Type of letter to be sent to petition organiser(s) and sponsor	Actions agreed
54/21	Road Safety Measures on Evenlode Crescent	74	Cllr Simpson	Determination	Speed surveys show that average and 85 th percentile speeds in both directions are below speed limit. Does not meet the criteria for inclusion in the safety scheme programme; review of recorded personal injury collisions shows two in last three years, both at junction with Southbank Ave. Since these occurred, Give Way signs have been replaced with new signs on yellow backing boards and double yellow lines on Evenlode Crescent have been extended on approaches to the junction. Improvements have also been made to road markings on Evenlode Crescent on the approaches to all side road junctions, including 'SLOW' markings and warning centre lines. All junctions have Give Way markings and all except Trensale Avenue have double yellow lines.
57/21	Pedestrian Crossing, Traffic Light, Zebra Crossing or a Lollipop Man on The Scotchhill	58	N/A	Determination	There was one recorded personal injury collision on The Scotchhill in the three years prior to the introduction of Average Speed Enforcement and no recorded collisions since. The junction with Sadler Rd does not meet the criteria for a controlled crossing and the road is not wide enough for a pedestrian refuge. The local school has not funded a School Crossing Patrol (SCP) at the site since SCPs became school-funded in 2016. There are existing school warning signs with flashing lights on both approaches and controlled pedestrian crossing facilities are to be installed at the junction with Beake Ave and Burnaby Rd in April/May 2023. 'SLOW' markings will be installed on the approaches to the Sadler Rd junction.

Petition No.	Petition Title	No. of signatures	Councillor Sponsor	Type of letter to be sent to petition organiser(s) and sponsor	Actions agreed
35/22	Calder Close/Frankpledge Road - unsafe junction	10	Cllr Bailey	Determination	Proposal for double yellow lines at the junction to be considered as part of the next waiting restriction review.
38/22	Request for double yellow lines - junction of Cromwell Lane, Penruddock Drive to Hidcote House junction	23	Cllr Lapsa	Determination	Proposal to extend double yellow lines on Penruddock Drive to be considered as part of the next waiting restriction review.