

READING BOROUGH COUNCIL

REPORT BY DIRECTOR OF ENVIRONMENT AND NEIGHBOURHOOD SERVICES

TO:	TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT SUB-COMMITTEE		
DATE:	16 SEPTEMBER 2015	AGENDA ITEM:	5A
TITLE:	PETITION HIGHLIGHTING PARKING PROBLEMS IN LOWER HAMILTON ROAD		
LEAD COUNCILLOR:	TONY PAGE	PORTFOLIO:	STRATEGIC ENVIRONMENT, PLANNING AND TRANSPORT
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1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- 1.1 To report to the Sub-Committee the receipt of a petition highlighting parking problems in lower Hamilton Road (from Wokingham Road to Crescent Road), Park Ward.

2. RECOMMENDED ACTION

- 2.1 That the Sub-Committee notes the report.
- 2.2 That the petition is received and officers investigate the issue and report back their findings to a future meeting of the Sub-committee.
- 2.3 That the lead petitioner be informed accordingly.

3. POLICY CONTEXT

- 3.1 The provision for resident parking and waiting restrictions is specified within existing Traffic Management Policies and Standards.

4. THE PROPOSAL

4.1 A petition has been received from residents of lower Hamilton Road (between Wokingham Road and Crescent Road), Park Ward relating to parking problems within the street.

4.2 The wording of the petition reads: *'We are concerned about the parking situation in lower Hamilton Road and recently held a consultation with all the residents to discover their views on sending a petition to the Council about some form of residents parking scheme, or similar, which will address the problems we have. We would be grateful if the Committee would consider this petition and hold a consultation in the area to look at the problems and consider ways forward.'*

Hamilton Road is long and narrow, as compared with many other roads in the Borough, and cannot accommodate vehicles parked on both sides (4-wheels in the road) as well as through traffic in single file. The result has been a growing use of pavement parking, which is now considered the norm. The impact of this is particularly hard on pedestrians, especially children, anyone who is slow, has a mobility or balance problem, as well as parents with buggies and people in wheelchairs. The other impact on many car owners here is the difficulty they often have in entering and leaving their properties by car because of vehicles obstructing their entrances. There has also been an instance when the fire engine has not been able to get up the road unimpeded.'

4.3 The petition is signed by four residents of Hamilton Road and concludes with a summary of the results, additional comments made by residents, the original letter and the reply slip.

4.4 The Sub-committee is asked to note the petition and officers will report back their findings to a future meeting of the Sub-committee.

5. CONTRIBUTION TO STRATEGIC AIMS

5.1 To promote equality, social inclusion and a safe and healthy environment for all.

6. COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT AND INFORMATION

6.1 The lead petitioner will be informed of the findings of the Sub-Committee.

7. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

7.1 None arising from this report.

8. EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT

8.1 In addition to the Human Rights Act 1998 the Council is required to comply with the Equalities Act 2010. Section 149 of the Equalities Act 2010 requires the Council to have due regard to the need to:-

- eliminate discrimination, harassment, victimisation and any other conduct that is prohibited by or under this Act;
- advance equality of opportunity between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it;
- foster good relations between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it.

8.2 The Council will carry out an equality impact assessment scoping exercise prior to submitting the update report to a future meeting of the Sub-Committee.

9. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

9.1 None arising from this report.

10. BACKGROUND PAPERS

10.1 None.