

QUESTION NO. 1

Councillor White to ask the Chair:

Improving Crescent Road Road Safety

Headteachers, the police and parents have all raised road safety concerns with me about the volume of traffic mixing with school pupils on Crescent Road. In the last year a car has turned over, a student was involved in an accident with a car and I have spoken to 2 people who have been clipped by cars while walking along Crescent Road on the school run. This is clearly unacceptable. Green councillors have lobbied for passing places, bollards and permit parking to help with the situation, but more is clearly needed.

Will the Lead Councillor for Strategic Environment, Planning and Transport commit to a senior transport planner meeting with myself and the 3 local headteachers to agree further actions to improve road safety on Crescent Road

**REPLY** by the Chair of the Traffic Management Sub-Committee.

I invite Councillor Page, the Lead Councillor for Strategic Environment, Planning and Transport to make the response on my behalf.

**REPLY** by the Councillor Page, Lead Councillor for Strategic Environment, Planning and Transport:

I thank Cllr White for his question.

Cllr White is aware that we have set up the East Reading Area Study Steering Group to consider, among a number of issues, the problems created by rat-running traffic along Crescent Road.

Dealing with poor driver behaviour is always going to be difficult and the Council's powers to change this behaviour are very limited.

The Council's Education Asset Management Team meet with the schools in Crescent Road on a regular basis and, I am advised, that in the past a Transport Planner has been invited to join them. If the schools would like a Transport Planner to join them at a future meeting I am sure that Officers would be happy to oblige.

QUESTION NO. 2

Councillor White to ask the Chair:

Tackling Air Pollution with On-Street Electric Vehicle Charging Points

Reading has some very polluted roads which cause health problems like asthma attacks. Electric vehicles are part of the solution to this problem. Recently while out on the doorstep I have noticed an increase in people with drives charging electric vehicles.

Much of Reading, however, is terraced housing with no drive and on street parking. There are a number of companies though, who have developed innovative solutions for charging vehicles on street in residential areas. One company which was drawn to my attention has developed some kit which attaches to a lamppost converting it to an electric vehicle charging point. The company pays the installation cost and so this type of solution is cost free to the council, but would further promote electric vehicle ownership.

Will the Lead Councillor for Strategic Environment, Planning and Transport agree to a pilot of this technology in Reading to help improve the towns health ? If not how does he envisage electric vehicle usage will work in areas with no drive ways in the near future ?

**REPLY by the Chair of the Traffic Management Sub-Committee.**

I invite Councillor Page, the Lead Councillor for Strategic Environment, Planning and Transport to make the response on my behalf.

**REPLY by the Councillor Page, Lead Councillor for Strategic Environment, Planning and Transport:**

I thank Cllr White for his question.

We have recently put in a bid to DEFRA to carry out a project to install charge points in streets with no off-street parking and where residents express an interest in owning electric vehicles. We expect to hear back within the next few weeks whether or not we have been successful.

We are already in contact with a commercial enterprise that is keen to trial their technology within Reading. Through this we are offering expressions of interest from residents who live in a location where this is feasible. Unfortunately this technology is not suitable where lamp columns are located at the rear of the footway which is typical in many of our terrace streets.

The conditions of the trial are that there are no trailing cables or cable covers that are likely to move and create a trip hazard.

Residents keen to engage with us on this idea should contact the Council's Senior Environmental Health Officer, Ross Jarvis ([ross.jarvis@reading.gov.uk](mailto:ross.jarvis@reading.gov.uk)) and the relevant officers will then respond.

QUESTION NO. 3

Councillor White to ask the Chair:

Pay and Display at Leisure Centres

At the last Traffic Management Sub-Committee there was a proposal to introduce pay-and-display at additional leisure centres across the town including my local one - Palmer Park.

There was understandable concern especially from sports clubs, stadium users and gym users as to how this will work for them. Green Councillors share these thoughts and think it would be good to have this information before the statutory consultation.

Can the Lead Councillor for Strategic Environment, Planning and Transport confirm if any progress has been made on how pay-and-display will work for sports clubs, stadium users and gym users in areas like Palmer Park ?

**REPLY by the Chair of the Traffic Management Sub-Committee.**

I invite Councillor Page, the Lead Councillor for Strategic Environment, Planning and Transport to make the response on my behalf.

**REPLY by the Councillor Page, Lead Councillor for Strategic Environment, Planning and Transport:**

I thank Cllr White for his question.

The report considered by the Traffic Management Sub-committee on 11<sup>th</sup> January 2018 asked for approval to carry out (statutory) consultation on the introduction of a managed parking scheme including charges for three leisure car parks. It is the statutory consultation, yet to be commenced, that will provide a platform for people to formally make comment or object to the proposals.

The Sub-committee decision on 11<sup>th</sup> January agreed with the recommendation to carry out statutory consultation but with a revised tariff that extends the free period to 2-hours with hourly incremental charges of 50p thereafter (50p up to 3-hours, £1 up to 4-hours etc). It has never been the intention to charge over-the-counter users of the leisure facilities for parking. For other users, officers have been asked by to consider permit or season-ticket type options.

Prior to the statutory consultation there will be a period of informal consultation specifically to allow users of the facilities to share their thoughts. In the meantime I, the Chair of TMSC and the Lead Member for Culture, Sport and Consumer Services have agreed to meet with representatives of a number of sports clubs to discuss the proposals.