

READING BOROUGH COUNCIL

REPORT BY EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF ECONOMIC GROWTH & NEIGHBOURHOOD SERVICES

TO:	TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT SUB-COMMITTEE		
DATE:	5 MARCH 2020	AGENDA ITEM:	5
TITLE:	RESPONSE TO PETITION REQUESTING TO CHANGE THE PARKING RESTRICTIONS ON DE BEAUVOIR ROAD, READING		
LEAD COUNCILLOR:	TONY PAGE	PORTFOLIO:	STRATEGIC ENVIRONMENT, PLANNING AND TRANSPORT
SERVICE:	TRANSPORT	WARDS:	REDLANDS
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1. PURPOSE OF REPORT & EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- 1.1 This report is in response to a petition, submitted to the Council on 30th December 2019.
- 1.2 The lead petitioner has provided the following background to the petition:

Currently the parking restrictions on De Beauvoir Road are '13R permits only or 2 hours free parking, with no return within 2 hours.' Due to reasons listed below, the parking restrictions on De Beauvoir Road are no longer fit for purpose and is causing a negative impact on the local residents, which the system is designed to protect:

- *Parking is restricted to one side of the road only. However, there is a large number of residents along the street due to terraced housing on both sides of the street.*
- *Parking spaces are used by people stopping to shop in the Cemetery Junction area. The big issue is Tesco Express (1-4 London Road) just around the corner from De Beauvoir Road, where parking spaces on De Beauvoir Road are used continuously for those stopping for a quick shop, which significantly reduces the amount of spaces available for local residents. When a space becomes available it is filled very quickly by the next person popping in to the shops. This means*

that residents are forced into parking a few streets away due to the lack of availability.

- De Beauvoir Road is a busy road which is used as a regular rat-run for traffic when the London Road is busy. Consequently, this means parking spaces are used more regularly than neighbouring streets because of the busy nature of the road.*
- Introduction of additional parking restrictions in the Redlands area has pushed more temporary parking back onto the street.*
- Families and young professional residents are turned away from living along the street due to the lack of parking. This is something that myself and neighbours have seen first-hand on a number of occasions.*

2. RECOMMENDED ACTION

2.1 That the Sub-Committee notes the report.

2.2 That amendments to the restrictions are considered as part of the next Waiting Restriction Review Programme as per item 4.2.

2.3 That the lead petitioner be informed accordingly.

3. POLICY CONTEXT

3.1 The provision of waiting/parking restrictions and road safety measures are specified within existing Traffic Management Policies and Standards.

4. BACKGROUND AND RECOMMENDATIONS

4.1 The petition requests that the restrictions on De Beauvoir Road are changed to 'permit holders only'.

4.2 Officers have considered the contents of the petition and recommend that these changes are considered as part of the next Waiting Restriction Review Programme.

5. CONTRIBUTION TO STRATEGIC AIMS

5.1 This proposal supports the aims and objectives of the Local Transport Plan and helps to deliver the following Council Priorities:

- Keeping Reading's environment clean and green.
- Ensuring the Council is fit for the future

6. COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT AND INFORMATION

6.1 The lead petitioners will be informed the Sub-Committee decisions, following publication of the meeting minutes.

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 proposing the introduction of any changes to waiting restrictions.

9. ENVIRONMENTAL & CLIMATE IMPLICATIONS

9.1 None arising from this report.

10. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

10.1 None arising from this report.

11. BACKGROUND PAPERS

11.1 'Petitions received: De Beauvoir Road / Wrenfield Drive' report, Traffic Management Sub-Committee, 9th January 2020