

READING BOROUGH COUNCIL

REPORT BY EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR FOR ECONOMIC GROWTH & NEIGHBOURHOOD SERVICES

TO:	TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT SUB-COMMITTEE		
DATE:	15 SEPTEMBER 2021	AGENDA ITEM:	4a
TITLE:	PETITION RECEIPT: REQUEST FOR PARKING FOR PERMIT HOLDERS ONLY IN PALMER PARK AVENUE		
LEAD COUNCILLOR:	TONY PAGE	PORTFOLIO:	STRATEGIC ENVIRONMENT, PLANNING AND TRANSPORT
SERVICE:	TRANSPORT	WARDS:	PARK
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1. PURPOSE OF REPORT AND EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- 1.1 To report to the Sub-Committee the receipt of a petition, requesting that the Resident Permit Parking restrictions on Palmer Park Avenue be changed to Resident Permit Parking only. This would be in place of the current restrictions that allow visitor (non-permitted) parking for up to 2 hours between 8am and 8pm.
- 1.2 The report recommends the investigation and development of this request within the 2021B Waiting Restriction Review Programme.

2. RECOMMENDED ACTION

- 2.1 That the Sub-Committee notes the report.
- 2.2 That the request is investigated and developed as part of the 2021B Waiting Restriction Review programme.
- 2.3 That the lead petitioner be informed accordingly.

3. POLICY CONTEXT

- 3.1 The provision of waiting/parking restrictions and associated criteria is specified within existing Traffic Management Policies and Standards.

4. THE PROPOSAL

Current Position

- 4.1 The Council has received a petition requesting that the parking restrictions on Palmer Park Avenue be changed to Resident Permit Parking only.

The petition contains 72 signatures.

- 4.2 The restrictions in Palmer Park Avenue have been in place for many years and permit up to 2 hours of parking, free-of-charge and without the need to display a permit, between 8am and 8pm daily. At all other times the vehicle must have a valid zone 14R parking permit.

Palmer Park sits within the same parking zone as its surrounding streets, which were introduced as part of the East Reading Resident permit parking scheme. This scheme was introduced with a combination of restrictions, which included permit parking only in some streets and others enabling daytime limited parking. This combination was intended to be a good compromise between maximising capacity, while balancing parking flexibility for visitors.

- 4.3 A restriction that implements Resident Permit Parking only will require every parked vehicle to have a valid parking permit. Residents will, therefore, need to arrange visitor permits for friends and family and tradesperson permits (or similar) in advance, should they require any maintenance work on their properties.

Options Proposed

- 4.4 It is recommended that this request be investigated and a proposal developed within the 2021B Waiting Restriction Review Programme. It is considered that the requested alteration is sufficiently small-scale to sit within the remit of this programme, which will investigate other requests for alterations to parking restrictions boroughwide.

This programme commences with the initial report of requests for alterations later in the agenda for this meeting. The requested alterations to the Palmer Park Avenue restrictions does not yet feature in this Waiting Restriction Review report, but should the Sub-Committee agree to the recommendations of this report, the request will be included in the next development stages for the programme.

Other Options Considered

- 4.5 None at this time.

5. CONTRIBUTION TO STRATEGIC AIMS

- 5.1 None directly arising from the recommendation of this report. However, the recommendation is to place the request within the 2021B Waiting Restriction Review Programme, which will contribute to the strategic aims of that overall programme, as described in the report later in this agenda.

6. ENVIRONMENTAL AND CLIMATE IMPLICATIONS

- 6.1 The Council declared a Climate Emergency at its meeting on 26th February 2019 (Minute 48 refers).
- 6.2 There are no proposals arising from this report, which are considered to have any environmental or climate implications. The impact of the Waiting Restriction Review programme overall has been assessed as part of the report later in this agenda.

7. COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT AND INFORMATION

- 7.1 The lead petitioner will be informed the Committee decision, following publication of the meeting minutes.
- 7.2 The request will be investigated alongside those in the 2021B Waiting Restriction Review programme and will receive the same engagement processes as reported in the later agenda item for this programme.

8. EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT

- 8.1 Under the Equality Act 2010, Section 149, a public authority must, in the exercise of its functions, 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 It is not considered that an Equality Impact Assessment (EIA) is relevant as the recommendation of this report is not deemed to be discriminatory to persons with protected characteristics.

9. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

- 9.1 None arising from the recommendations of this report.

10. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 10.1 None arising from the recommendations of this report.

11. BACKGROUND PAPERS

- 11.1 None.