

WELWYN HATFIELD BOROUGH COUNCIL
CABINET PLANNING AND PARKING PANEL – 13 JANUARY 2020
REPORT OF THE CORPORATE DIRECTOR (RESOURCES, ENVIRONMENT AND
CULTURAL SERVICES)

REVIEW OF THE PARKING SERVICES WORK PROGRAMME 2019-2021

1 Executive Summary

- 1.1 Throughout the year, the Council receives a great deal of requests for parking restrictions and/or improvements. These come through via a range of channels and are recorded on the Parking Services Investigation List for consideration for a future parking work programme. The work programme is prominent and important in planning the way the Council manages the residents and businesses of the borough varied challenges and expectations. It is also central in focusing the efficiency and priorities of the Parking Services team's future parking assignments.
- 1.2 Up to the 10th December 2019 the Council had received 683 parking requests from residents and businesses, which are recorded on the Investigation List. Of these, 242 requests will be addressed under the areas which are already on the current Parking Services Work Programme. Leaving 441 requests to be considered for a future work programme.
- 1.3 CPPP to discuss the current 2019-21 Work Programme, taking into consideration the ward requests up to 10th December 2020, (detailed in the table in section 3.3) and the requests of residents from Pine Grove, Brookmans Park

2 Recommendation(s)

- 2.1 Due to the number and large scale of the projects, plus the time it can take to complete any given project. The Panel recommends to Cabinet, taking into consideration the growth for a new officer to include The Comet and High View areas to extend the Work Programme from one year to two years, 2020-2022.
- 2.2 That the Panel considers the inclusion of Pine Grove to the work programme and if so, recommends to Cabinet for this project to take priority over all the other projects.

3 Explanation

Current Work Programme 2019/21

- 3.1 Based on the recommendation of Cabinet Planning and Parking Panel, Cabinet agreed the current Work Programme in July 2019, which consists of the following wards:

Table 1

Ward	% Completed
Handside	50%
Hatfield Central	80%
Hatfield East	80%
Part of Hatfield South West (Aldykes area)	80%
Hatfield town centre car park (including multi-storey)	30%
Essendon	50%
Old Hatfield	30%
Peartree	Not started
Salisbury Village	Not started

- 3.2 Each of the above Wards in the 2019-21 programme are at different stages of the consultation process, as highlighted at the time, the completion of each project is dependent on the outcome of the consultation process, but these projects will not all be completed before the end of 2019/20.
- 3.3 Table 2 shows Parking Services current list of outstanding requests from residents, businesses and Councillors for changes to the current parking restrictions by Ward. Please note that the majority of these will have been added before the Ward boundaries were changed:

Table 2

Ward (Highlighted Wards are on the current 2019/21 work programme)	No of requests
Hatfield South West	117
Aldykes project	38
Sherrards	71
Handside	69
Peartree	57
Hollybush	48
Howlands	45
Hatfield East	36
Welwyn East	34
Panshanger	32
Welwyn Green and Hatfield South	
Welham Green	4
Hatfield South	24
Hatfield Villages	27
Welwyn West	26
Brookmans Park and Little Heath	
Brookmans Park	10
Essendon	6

Little Heath	4
Haldens	13
Northaw and Cuffley	
Northaw	6
Cuffley	7
Hatfield Central	9
Total	683

*correct up to and including the 10th December 2019

- 3.4 The reason for this review is that the Council has received a large number of requests across the borough, including from some residents in Pine Grove, Brookmans Park for their area to be added to the work programme. They have reported that there is a safety concerns associated with the expansion of Chancellors School, which they feel would be partly resolved if there was a resident parking permit scheme in operation.
- 3.5 As this has been raised as a safety concern, Hertfordshire County Council have been involved and have carried out a Road Safety Review in Pine Grove, involving Traffic Management Officer from the Police, Senior Road Safety Engineer and other officers of the County Council's Safety Routes to School Team. The outcome of the Road Safety Review was that the concerns by residents were unfounded. An officer from Hertfordshire County Council is available at CPPP on the night, should Members have any questions regarding the Road Safety Review.
- 3.6 Residents in Pine Grove were consulted by Welwyn Hatfield Council on parking proposals in 2015. This was mainly in response to concerns around safety at the junction of Chancellors School and Pine Grove. At the time the majority response from the residents was for single yellow lines opposite the junction with the road to the school and the introduction of 'school keep clear' marking on the same junction. Residents were also asked if the restrictions went far enough, of the 31 responses only 12 stated that they did not go far enough. Based on the majority of residents accepting the proposed changes no further consultation with residents or the school were carried out.
- 3.7 If the Panel refers to Table 1, which shows the current work programme; then the Panel needs to be mindful if they were to agree to include Pine Grove and make this a priority, then other Wards which have been waiting for consultation over a number of years will be further delayed to enable resource to consult resident on further parking proposals in Pine Grove.

Table 2 shows the number of requests for changes to parking restrictions per Ward the Council has received and are waiting to be included on a future Parking Services Work Programme.

New Developments

- 3.8 The current team has four officers managing Traffic Regulation Orders (TRO)

who have a number of responsibilities, one of which is the consulting residents and other affected parties on changes to the parking controls in their area. Normally this includes a number of consultations to try and find the best scheme for the majority of residents who respond to the proposals. Ward/areas are added to the Parking Services Work Programme, these are then allocated to officers within the team.

- 3.9 As part of the 2020/21 budget setting and based on discussion at CPPP previously, there is a growth for one additional permanent full-time officer to assist with the work programme. If the budget proposal is agreed by February Full Council, Parking Services will be able to start recruiting for this officer from April 2020. This officer will help with new developments which have 106 contributions for parking consultations. The initial projects for this officer will be The Comet and High View Developments in Hatfield. Officer's are proposing that these will be added to the Work Programme 2020-22 (**Appendix A**).

4 Legal Implication(s)

- 4.1 TROs are created under the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984. Consultations follow a statutory legal process as set out in The Local Authorities' Traffic Orders (Procedure) (England and Wales) Regulations 1996. No other legal implications are inherent in relation into the proposals in this report.

5 Financial Implication(s)

- 5.1 The cost of TRO works recommended in this report will be funded through existing Parking Services revenue and capital budgets.

6 Risk Management Implications

- 6.1 Changing the parking conditions in the above-mentioned roads could generate negative publicity. Some parking may be displaced into nearby roads.
- 6.2 It is standard procedure to monitor new parking restrictions for the first 6 months after they are implemented. During this period, all reports of safety issues or parking displacement will be recorded. If any significant safety issues are discovered during the monitoring period, Parking Services where possible will investigate and carry out the appropriate remedial action.
- 6.3 Adding Pine Grove to the work programme may result in a negative impact from residents in those Wards, which will be further delayed.
- 6.4 The amount of yellow lining and parking control continues to increase, and this increase may in due course require additional budget to ensure lining and signage is appropriate for enforcement.

7 Security & Terrorism Implications

- 7.1 There are no known security & terrorism implications inherent in relation to the proposals in this report.

8 Human Resources

- 8.1 The draft 2020/21 budget have included a growth for one additional permanent full-time officer to assist with the work programme. If the budget is agreed by

Full Council is February, Parking Services will be able to start recruiting for this officer from April 2020.

- 8.2 There are no other known Human Resources implications inherent in relation to the proposals in this report.

9 Communication and Engagement

- 9.1 When making any changes to parking restrictions there is a statutory consultation process set out in the Local Authority Traffic Orders (Procedures) (England and Wales) Regulations 1996 which the Council needs to adhere to.
- 9.2 This includes consulting directly with all affected parties and a number of statutory consultees which include the Ward Councillors, the relevant County Councillor, Police and Hertfordshire County Council.

10 Health and Wellbeing

- 10.1 There are no known Health and Wellbeing implications in relation to the proposals in this report

11 Procurement Implications

- 11.1 There are no known procurement implications inherent in relation to the proposals in this report.

12 Climate Change Implication(s)

- 12.1 There are no known climate change implications inherent in relation to the proposals in this report.

13 Link to Corporate Priorities

- 13.1 The subject of this report is linked to the Council's Corporate Priority Protect and Enhance the Environment, and specifically to the achievement to Deliver Effective Parking Services
- Protect and enhance the environment and deliver effective parking services;
 - Help build a strong local economy – Revitalise our town centres and other shopping precincts and;
 - Engage with our communities and provide value for money

14 Equality and Diversity

- 14.1 Equality Impact Assessment (EIA) has not been carried out. The creation of Traffic Regulation Orders requires further statutory consultation. An EIA will be completed during this process.

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Background papers to be listed (if applicable)

