

# OFFICER REPORT TO LOCAL COMMITTEE (ELMBRIDGE)

# PETITION RESPONSE – PARKING IN 3 STATION APPROACH, HINCHLEY WOOD

# **19 SEPTEMBER 2011**

# **KEY ISSUE**

To update members on the conclusions reached in respect of the petition submitted to the Committee.

#### SUMMARY

This report provides a response to the petition received following a public question at the Local Committee on 20 June 2011, requesting that parking be allowed in 3 Station Approach between 08:00 and 09:30.

# OFFICER RECOMMENDATIONS

# The Local Committee (Elmbridge) is asked to:

(i) Note the contents of this report.

#### 1 INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND

1.1 Members are advised that the following petition with 432 signatories was received for the Committee's consideration on 13 June 2011:

"We, the undersigned, confirm that:

We believe it to be in the interests of patients of Lantern Surgery for parking to be allowed in 3 Station Approach between 8.00am and 9.30am for a maximum of 30 minutes and that this would not be detrimental to the more general community."

#### 2 ANALYSIS

- 2.1 The lead petitioner, Doctor Leary of Lantern Surgery, submitted a public question to at the Local Committee's meeting in June 2010 on the same subject.
- 2.2 Dr. Leary stated that his parking request was being made on behalf of the 3600 patients who attend the Lantern Surgery. He made the case that almost all of his patients were local residents but that outside his surgery parking is forbidden until after 9.30 am to (quite rightly) prevent commuters parking there rather than at the station car park. The doctor stated that the area is very quiet with a small green square surrounded by small local shops and many residential flats for the elderly and that presently his practice's older and more disabled patients can find it very difficult to attend early appointments as they have to park some significant distance away to avoid the risk of a ticket. He perceived that for some of these patients the distance is too great. Unfortunately many do not qualify for 'blue badges' but do still have difficulty attending surgery at this time. He therefore requested that the present restriction be changed so that parking would be allowed from 8.00am to 9.30am but for a maximum of 30 minutes. This would then mean that patients could park, see their GP, return to their vehicle and then leave the area. Commuters would still be 'blocked' and as far as he could understand no-one would suffer. He requested that the Committee give this request sympathetic consideration.
- 2.3 The Chairman responded that requests for changes to parking controls were reviewed on a regular basis by the County Council's Parking Team. This process entails officers visiting all the locations where requests have been made and assessing the importance and potential benefits of introducing any changes. The Parking Task Group discusses the outcome of these assessments and officers then present a report to this Committee with recommendations about what changes should be made. Given the number of requests that are received, it is only possible to implement a limited number of changes that are deemed to be the highest priority. The site visits for the 2011 parking review are taking place during June and July. Station Approach in Hinchley Wood, and the

request to install limited waiting bays near the surgery, was already on the list and is one of the locations that officers will be looking at. The report on the outcome of the review is scheduled to be presented to the Committee at its meeting in November.

#### 3 CONSULTATIONS

3.1 Officers consult with the Parking Task Group, when considering the assessments of all the requests received. Whichever locations are prioritised for implementation would be subject to the formal advertisement and statutory consultation process necessary for making changes to the relevant traffic regulation orders.

## 4 FINANCIAL AND VALUE FOR MONEY IMPLICATIONS

4.1 There are none arising from this report.

#### 5 EQUALITIES AND DIVERSITY IMPLICATIONS

5.1 There are none arising from this report.

#### 6 CRIME AND DISORDER IMPLICATIONS

6.1 There are none arising from this report.

## 7 CONCLUSION

7.1 The response is noted.

## **8 WHAT HAPPENS NEXT**

8.1 The Committee will await the presentation of the report on the outcome of the parking review that is scheduled to be discussed by the Committee at its meeting in November.

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BACKGROUND PAPERS: None

# ITEM 5b