



**OFFICER REPORT TO LOCAL COMMITTEE
(REIGATE AND BANSTEAD)**

PETITION RESPONSE

GRANGE CLOSE, MERSTHAM - PARKING

4 MARCH 2013

KEY ISSUE

To consider a petition requesting that parking in Grange Close, Merstham be restricted to residents only.

SUMMARY

A petition has been received, signed by 25* residents, with the following request:

“We, the undersigned residents and property owners with garage access in Grange Close, now feel that something must be done to restore safe access to our properties for pedestrians and drivers and request that parking is restricted to residents only in Grange Close and submit this petition to the Local Committee accordingly for their earliest consideration.”

*This petition does not meet the threshold of 30 signatures required under the Committee’s Local Protocol for Public Engagement, but is being received at the Chairman’s discretion.

The petitioner has provided the following background information:

“The recent parking restrictions introduced in School Hill, Quality Street, London Road North etc, have moved the on road parking problems to Grange Close, Merstham.

Grange Close is only a narrow cul-de-sac of 17 properties and together with these parked cars, two way traffic is impossible.

Access to our properties is difficult and has on occasions been impossible.

www.surreycc.gov.uk/reigateandbanstead

These cars are left daily, and sometimes overnight, by commuters using Merstham Station. Cars are also left for weeks at a time with, we assume, their owners going on holiday.

On occasions our dustbins have not been emptied due to restricted access. The police have also been called due to inconsiderate parking, and cars been abandoned.

Access is further difficult with parents using Grange Close and London Road South to drop off and pick up their children from Merstham Primary School by parking on the pavement, and making access to the main road (A23) dangerous. The council has recently painted double yellow lines to the corners of Grange Close, so must to a degree be aware of the problem.”

Response of the Parking Strategy and Implementation Team Manager:

The recent introduction of residents parking schemes and other restrictions in Merstham is likely to have changed parking patterns in the area to some extent. We generally review the effectiveness of new residents parking schemes about 6 months after implementation, when parking patterns have settled down, and this will be the case in Merstham. We will also look to see whether any additional restrictions are needed in surrounding roads such as Grange Close when we do this.

Properties in Grange Close have adequate off road parking and consequently a residents parking scheme may not be needed, however other restrictions that will help to reduce long term parking can be investigated and progressed to consultation as part of this process.