

Report to Cabinet Petitions Committee

6 September 2023

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| Subject: | Petitions Progress Report |
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1 Recommendations

That the Cabinet Petitions Committee approve the action taken or proposed as detailed in the third column below.

2 Reasons for Recommendations

To receive petitions and approve action taken/proposed in response.

3 How does this deliver objectives of the Corporate Plan?

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|  |  | <p>Petitions are one of the many ways in which people who live and work in the Borough can influence the decision-making process. Many of the issues typically raised by petitions underpin the Council's Vision. Petitions alert members and officers to current local issues and ensure that services are being targeted appropriately in delivering the Council's priorities.</p> |
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4 Context and Key Issues

Section 46 of the Localism Act 2011 removes the requirements for principal local authorities in England and Wales to make, publish and comply with a scheme for the handling of petitions made to the authority, with effect from 1 April 2012. At its meeting on 22 May 2012, the Council decided to retain a petitions scheme, although there was no longer a statutory requirement to have such a scheme.

5 Background Details

5.1 Petitions received since last reporting period

| Signatories | Subject | Action Taken/Proposed |
|--|---|--|
| 5.1.1 1109 – Residents of Sandwell | Request to protect the Albright Mosaic Mural located at Langley Baths | This matter is being investigated by officers and an update will be submitted to a future meeting. (Received 24 August 2023) |
| 5.1.2 80 – Residents in and around Gospel Oak Road, Tipton (Princes End) | Request for the creation of a car park on Gospel Oak Road | This matter is being investigated by officers and an update will be submitted to a future meeting. (Received 20/07/2023) |

5.2 Progress on outstanding petitions

| Signatories | Subject | Action Taken/Proposed |
|---|--|---|
| 5.2.1 146 - residents in and around Europa Close, West Bromwich (West Bromwich Central) | Concerns with the proposed cycle route between Europa Avenue and Sandwell Valley | Following representations made by the petitioners in relation to their concerns around the consultation process and the cycle route proposals, officers had submitted a report to Economy, Skills, Transport and Environment Scrutiny Board (ESTE). A further |



meeting of the Economy, Skills, Transport and Environment Scrutiny Board would take place in September 2023. An update will be submitted to a future meeting. (Received 1/11/2022)

5.2.2 175 – residents in and around Wellington Road, Tipton (Tipton Green)

Request for the easing of traffic problems on Wellington Road, Tipton

Petitioners raised concerns regarding parking problems in the area. A request to utilise a nearby pot of land in the area to ease parking was made. An update will be submitted to a future meeting. (Received 14/02/2023)

5.2.3 138 – residents of Thomas Cox Wharf and Alexandra Grange, Tipton (Great Bridge)

Request for the adoption of roads by Sandwell Council.

The responsibility to progress the adoption of any new roads on a development falls solely on the land owner (typically the Developer) who must initially offer any new roads to the Authority for adoption and, importantly, then enter into a legal adoption agreement with the Local Highway Authority (typically an agreement under Section 38 of the Highway Act). The Council has no powers to force a developer to enter into any adoption agreement. In this instance, the Developer gave the Authority every impression that they were going to enter into the necessary Section 38 agreement for adoption on numerous occasions and took discussions well beyond the cut off time allowable to undertake enforcement under Section 220. However, the Developer did not



complete the necessary Section 38 agreements for the adoption of the roads, or complete the necessary process.

Consequently, the roads on these sites were retained as private roads. Shaun Bailey MP, in support of residents, proposed a collaborative approach. Officers are undertaking further investigation into the matter and will respond to all of the issues raised. An update would be submitted to a future meeting. (Received 21/04/2023)

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| 5.2.4 | 16 – residents of Park Lane West, Tipton (Tipton Green) | Request for resident only parking spaces outside of 173-184 Park Lane West. | This matter is being investigated by officers and an update will be submitted to a future meeting. (Received 12/03/2023) |
| 5.2.5 | 211 – against the withdrawal of the No. 45 bus service, Yew Tree and Charlemont Estates, West Bromwich (Charlemont with Grove Vale) | Petition against the withdrawal of the No. 45 bus service, Yew Tree and Charlemont Estates, West Bromwich. | TfWM is now funding the 45 bus service which will continue to be operated by Diamond Bus and remains unchanged. TfWM have confirmed that the funding for this service will last until the end of October 2023. Further advice regarding the continuation of the service beyond that date will be available later in the year. (Received 28/03/2023) |
| 5.2.6 | 46 – Residents of Dartmouth Street, West Bromwich (West Bromwich Central) | Request for Parking Permit Scheme on Dartmouth Street, West Bromwich. | Following further discussions with petitioners, it was agreed that the Council's Highways department would begin work to consider the introduction of a resident parking scheme for Dartmouth Street. Time limits in relation to free |



5.2.7 97 – residents in and around Wolverhampton Road, Oldbury (Old Warley)

Concerns regarding road safety on the junction of Wolverhampton Road/Queensway

parking on the street would also be reviewed. An update would be provided to a future meeting. (Received 20/06/2023)

A study and outline business case is currently being developed for the corridor along the length of the A4123 by Transport for West Midlands. The study will consider improvements relating to road safety, walking, cycling and bus movement along the route and will be implemented in phases over a number of years. The junction of the Wolverhampton Road and Queensway will be considered as part of this route improvement scheme.

There is some capital funding available each year for the implementation of road safety improvements. These road safety improvement schemes are identified through casualty analysis, which is undertaken each year for the whole of the borough. The locations where treatable injury collisions are occurring, which have resulted in the most casualties, are prioritised for road safety intervention. The junction of Wolverhampton Road and Queensway currently sits 6th on the list of priorities and has not met the criteria for major funding during this financial year. However, the area will be considered for a road safety



scheme to enhance the signage along the Wolverhampton Road on the approaches to the junction with Queensway to offer additional warning to motorists. Options for blocking the junction on account of safety along Wolverhampton Road would also be considered. The head petitioner has been informed (Received 31/01/2023)

5.3 Petitions requiring final approval

| Signatories | Subject | Action Taken/Proposed |
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| 5.3.1 77 – residents in support of Warley Baptist Church, Oldbury (Old Warley) | Request for double-yellow or red lines on Castle Road East, Oldbury. | <p>Officers have made site visits and there are no issues with parking that have been identified. Observations were made of 4 no. traffic cones having been placed on the two entrances to the Church, thus trying to prevent vehicles parking. This in turn displaces vehicles onto the opposite side of the road with some vehicles parking partly on the footway.</p> <p>Officers vehicles were parked on the bend approaching the Church from Wolverhampton Road and buses had no difficulty in passing the vehicle.</p> <p>The petition states that people often only park for short periods, to drop off or pick up passengers. Double yellow lines (No Waiting at any time) would not prevent</p> |



people from loading or unloading passengers so the restriction would not have any direct impact on those who park for this reason, which are the majority of the visitors to the Church itself.

It is therefore recommended to close the petition. The Head Petitioner has been informed.
(Received 05/06/2023)

6 Source Documents

Copies of petitions from various groups of residents (exempt information).

