
Meeting of Executive Members for City Strategy and the Advisory Panel

14th January 2008

Report of the Director of City Strategy

PETITION - HIGHCLIFFE COURT, CLIFTON

Summary

1. This report brings to the attention of the Advisory Panel the receipt of a petition (see Annex A) that requests action be taken to tackle various traffic related issues in Highcliffe Court.

Background

2. Highcliffe Court is an adopted public highway situated just off Clifton Green close to the local shops. Double yellow lines are in place for a distance of approximately 25m from the junction with Clifton, which prevent vehicles parking too close to the junction enabling safe access and egress from the cul-de-sac for drivers. The rest of the street is unrestricted.
3. The petition and covering letter raise a number of issues regarding use of Highcliffe Court by drivers, however with the exception of drivers who cause an actual obstruction, drivers are not contravening any restrictions and the road cannot be made for the exclusive use of those who live there. Parking in this street has been raised previously as a problem, but the site visits and assessment made did not indicate that additional waiting restrictions were necessary. Further site visits have been made and these confirm the earlier assessment. Hence, although there may be occasions when non-residential parking creates difficulties for residents, the implementation of additional restrictions would create more frequent inconvenience for residents and their visitors as the amount of parking availability would reduce whilst the number of drivers using the street for short term parking needs would remain much the same.
4. Highcliffe Court is not on the list of streets to be investigated for a residents parking scheme, as this has not been requested by residents. It should also be noted that because the street is close to commercial / non-residential premises, including the adult rehabilitation workshop, in order to achieve a balance of the needs of the wider community any formal parking bays put forward would include spaces with a maximum stay of 60 minutes for non-permit holders.
5. Because this street is close to retail properties that attract short term parkers a possible solution to the occasional access obstruction issue is the placing of a white bar marking across the garage accesses. Although this marking has no legal backing it does highlight a need to keep clear of an access, even for short durations of stay, and can therefore be quite successful. The extent of the bar

marking proposals are shown on the plan in Annex B. This action will not have any adverse effects on residents ability to park.

6. Whilst many of the drivers that enter the street may be seeking a parking space there may be some who turn in expecting the road to be a through route and therefore add unnecessarily to the traffic movements in the street. There is an existing no through road sign in place, which is quite visible from the main road when heading out of the city. However, when heading towards the city it is not as visible to drivers. An instruction has therefore been issued for an additional sign to be placed on an existing lamppost on the out of town side of the junction to inform drivers that the side road is a cul-de-sac. This should reduce the number of drivers who turn into the road expecting it to be a through route.

Consultation

7. No consultation has been carried out with local residents.
8. Ward Members have been advised of this petition and have made no comments on the matter.

Options and Analysis

9. The options available are set out below:
 - A. Note the action taken to resolve the concerns raised.
This is the recommended option.
 - B. Introduce waiting restrictions in much of the street.
This option is not recommended for the reasons given above.

Corporate Priorities

10. Considering this matter is part of our focus to meet the needs of our communities.

Implications

11. There are no Financial, Human Resource, Equality, Legal, Crime and Disorder, IT, Property or other implications associated with the recommendations in this report.

Risk Management

12. In compliance with the Council's risk management strategy there are no risks associated with the recommendations in this report.

Recommendations

13. To note the action taken and proposed by officers and that the lead petitioner is informed of this.
14. Reason: To respond to the petition.

Contact Details

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Report Approved**Date** 4/12/2007**Specialist Implications Officers:** None**Wards Affected:** Clifton**All**

For further information please contact the author of the report

Background Papers: NONE**Annexes:**

Annex A – An extract from the petition.
Copy of the lead petitioners letter.

Annex B - Plan showing proposed bar markings.