

Petitions Update Report

Petition No.	Description	Presented (date)	Presented (by)	Responsible Director	Status
561	Ask the Council to reconsider a previous rejection of applying Residents Parking to Richmond Road.	23/2/2022	Council	Julie Rogers	The Council undertook a Public Consultation in 2018 to provide a Parking Permit Area (PPA) for residents of Richmond Road. The majority of representations received objected to the scheme and as a consequence the Portfolio Holder decision was to not proceed, the budget allocation being reinvested to other parking schemes. Since 2018, the Council have adopted new policies for area wide intervention measures. The Richmond Road area currently does not meet the intervention threshold compared to other areas but will continue to be assessed to ascertain if the location can be considered within a future works programme, or if the Council need to consider intervention to protect the public from risk of injury or where serious deterioration of the network might occur.
562	Keep Thurrock's park and open spaces free of car parking charges	3/5/2022	Online	Julie Rogers	The Council has carefully considered the benefits and impacts of introducing charges at Thurrock's parks and open space car parks. Due to a lack of income from these car parks, they have not been maintained to the same standard as charged car parks. In many instances the surfaces are damaged and uneven. Remedial work on the car parks will be undertaken prior to charges being levied. This will ensure that in future these car parks are maintained to the same high standards as others. The lack of parking enforcement also means these car parks do not receive regular patrols leaving these areas more prone to abandoned vehicles, fly tip, traveller incursions,

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				<p>ASB and nuisance behaviour. In addition to the generation of income from the parking areas, the additional objectives to be achieved through these changes include: improve the car park environment, to the benefit of motorists and pedestrians, reduce obstructions/hazards to pedestrians and motorists, improve car park security and safety for users, reduce ASB in the areas and increase turnover of vehicles and ensure fair access to all users.</p> <p>There is an expectation that Civil Enforcement Officers, whilst undertaking their normal enforcement duties in car park areas will also carry out routine inspections and report any faults or defects for remedial works. A recent survey and inspection of these unrestricted car parks has identified extensive remedial works are required to bring the standards to an acceptable level. The Council will be at risk of frequent insurance and compensation claims if these essential works are not carried out. The introduction of parking charges not only improves the quality and safety of the sites, but provides a revenue stream for the service. It is important to note that income from Parking Charges and Parking Enforcement is ring-fenced. This means that the income generated is required to be re-invested in either parking enforcement or maintenance of parking related infrastructure such as the surfacing of car parks, signs and lines to enable drivers to be aware of parking restrictions or other measures that can make our roads safer for all users. Implementing these schemes will also ensure the car parks receive regular enforcement patrols which will</p>
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				<p>deter and reduce crime and ASB at these locations and encourage and empower residents to make use of the facilities provided. Notwithstanding this, the Council has a legislative obligation to consult the Public on these changes through the Traffic Regulation Order process for on street and off-street parking places. This process will require a Statutory Consultation Period for anyone to make representations on the proposals. Furthermore, any representations made will be included in a report for the Council's Portfolio Holder for Highways & Transportation to make an informed decision on each location going forward. As this process has yet to be undertaken, whilst the Council investigates each site for the TRO process, no further comment can be made. However, as lead petitioner, once the TROs are published, you will be informed of the consultation period and what you will need to do to make any representation. The improved surfacing and safety of the sites is anticipated to be of benefit for all. As with all Council managed car parks appropriate provision for Blue Badge holders will be ensured.</p>
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