

Committee: **Lead Cabinet Member for Transport and Environment**

Date: **22 June 2015**

Report By: **Director of Communities, Economy and Transport**

Title of Report: **Petition calling on the County Council to introduce a controlled parking zone to the Rylstone Road area of Eastbourne.**

Purpose of Report: **To consider whether to consult on introducing permit holder parking to Rylstone Road and its surrounding streets.**

---

**RECOMMENDATION:** The Lead Member is recommended to advise the petitioners that the request will be considered as part of the next review of parking in Eastbourne. Consultation will need to take place to see if there is a desire from the wider community for such a scheme to be introduced.

---

## **1. Background Information**

1.1 At the County Council meeting in March 2015, Councillor Wallis presented a petition to the Chairman. The petition asks East Sussex County Council to introduce a controlled parking zone to the Rylstone Road area of Eastbourne. The full text of the petition can be found in Appendix 1.

1.2 A copy of the petition is available in the Members Room. Standing Orders provide that where the Chairman considers it appropriate, petitions are considered by the relevant Committee or Lead Member and a spokesperson for the petitioners is invited to address the Committee or Lead Member. The Chairman has referred these petitions to the Lead Member for Transport and Environment.

## **2. Supporting Information**

2.1 The cost of introducing a controlled parking zone in the Rylstone Road area of Eastbourne is estimated to be in the region of £20,000. This will be met from the relevant Parking Account if a scheme is installed. A new permit zone in this area could mean the issue of around 2700 permits, generating a potential revenue of approximately £67,500.

2.2 The controlled parking scheme in Eastbourne was introduced in 2008. The scheme was reviewed by WSP Consultants in 2010-11. Their recommendations were advertised in 2012. The installation of the changes was carried out in Summer 2013.

2.3 Further consultation took place in November 2013 following requests to extend the scheme to the Marine Parade, Marine Road, and St Aubyn's Road area. The feedback from this consultation did not show enough support to extend the controls to this area - 365 questionnaires were sent out, 49 responses were received. Of these, 27 said they would support permit parking in the area while 22 said they would not support the proposals. Rylstone Road is further out from the centre of Eastbourne than the Marine Parade, Marine Road and St Aubyn's Road area. Rylstone Road should not be treated in isolation, but instead the area should be looked at more holistically.

2.4 In November 2014, all requests received for changes to parking controls were assessed and those ranking highest are currently being consulted on. Only one request had been received from the Rylstone Road area. It was felt that the demand for the introduction of permit parking in this area was not strong enough for the request to be progressed as part of the current review.

2.5 The petition presented to the County Council in March 2015 has 31 signatures from residents of Rylstone Road and other surrounding streets and this shows a stronger desire for permit parking in this

area. The petitioners' request has therefore been added to the list for consideration in the next Eastbourne review. Initial investigations and assessments are expected to begin in November 2015 with the first round of consultation anticipated to be in March 2016.

2.6 Any new parking scheme can potentially impact on the availability of parking in the roads outside the immediate area. It is felt that the Marine Parade, Marine Road, and St Aubyn's Road area should also be included in any future consultation (Appendix 2) as the 2013 consultation did not show a high level of support for permit parking in this area.

2.7 If controlled parking is introduced in the area of Marine Parade, Marine Road, St Aubyn's Road and Rylstone Road, the number of parking spaces may be reduced as yellow lines may be necessary in strategic places in order to maintain safety, access and to ensure the safe passage of vehicles.

2.8 Some properties, such as blocks of flats with private off-road parking may not be eligible to apply for residents permits. For those properties which are eligible, the permits will be restricted to two per household. The cost of a permit in Eastbourne is £25 for the first permit and £75 for the second permit. Businesses requiring use of their vehicles throughout the day would be able to buy up to six permits. The expected cost is £220 per year per permit for one zone and £420 per year per permit for all zones. A business permit can be used in up to three vehicles. Parking spaces would not be reserved for individual residents and there would be no guarantee of a space if formal parking bays are introduced.

2.9 To effectively enforce a controlled parking area it is necessary to install new parking signs on posts. These posts will generally be galvanized steel, and will have to provide a minimum ground clearance of 2.1 metres from the footpath to the bottom of the sign. Although we aim to use existing street furniture where possible (such as lamp-posts) new posts and signs will be needed. These will be visually intrusive to the environment.

### **3. Conclusion and Reason for Recommendation**

3.1 Controlled parking must have the support of local residents and businesses. Any new parking scheme also needs to strike a balance for the needs of all users and requires extensive consultation. It is recommended that the petitioners' request is included for initial consultation as part of the next parking review in Eastbourne, scheduled to begin in November 2015.

3.2 If the initial consultation demonstrates a high level of support from local residents and businesses then it is recommended that the scheme is progressed to formal advertising. This will be open to further public consultation and objection, will need to follow the legal procedure, and could take around fourteen months to complete.

#### **RUPERT CLUBB**

**Director of Communities, Economy and Transport**

Contact Officer: Michael Blaney

Tel. No: 01424 726142

Email: [michael.blaney@eastsussex.gov.uk](mailto:michael.blaney@eastsussex.gov.uk)

#### LOCAL MEMBERS

Councillor Wallis

#### BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

None