



# Northumberland

## County Council

### CRAMLINGTON, BEDLINGTON AND SEATON VALLEY LOCAL AREA COUNCIL

DATE: 21 JULY 2021

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#### PETITION FOR ADDITIONAL PARKING SPACES – MAYFIELD DALE, CRAMLINGTON

**Report of: Service Director - Local Services, Paul Jones**

**Cabinet Member: John Riddle – Local Services**

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#### **Purpose of report**

To acknowledge receipt of the petition received by Democratic Services requesting additional parking spaces at Thirston Drive, Thornley Avenue and Tindale Avenue in the Mayfield Dale area of Cramlington.

#### **Recommendations**

It is recommended that the Local Area Council note the content of this report and acknowledge receipt of the petition.

#### **Link to Corporate Plan**

How - “We want to be efficient, open and work for everyone”

Enjoying - “We want you to love where you live”

Connecting - “We want you to have access to the things you need”

#### **Key Issues**

1. A petition has been received requesting that additional parking spaces are provided in Mayfield Dale.
2. The petition, which was signed by 128 signatories, states that residents of Thirston Drive, Thornley Avenue and Tindale Avenue are struggling to park their cars in their streets as there is a lack of spaces.

3. The petition is requesting that existing grassed areas are converted into parking areas which signatories claim will make access safer and easier for residents and the emergency services.
4. The provision of parking for residential properties is not something that the County Council as Highway Authority has a responsibility to provide. There are many calls for funding for a wide variety of improvement schemes through the Council's Local Transport Plan (LTP) capital programme across the whole road network. Given the other higher priority calls on this funding that also offer greater benefits to a much wider number of road users, schemes which provide additional parking in residential areas are not funded through this programme. Many requests are received for this type of scheme and it would be very difficult to justify prioritising individual locations for treatment.
5. This type of scheme could however be considered through the Local County Councillor's Members Local Improvement Scheme allowance, or by the local Town or Parish Council if this issue was seen one of their priorities.

## **Background**

The County Council has received a petition stating that :-

"The residents of Thirston Drive, Thornley Avenue and Tindale Avenue are struggling to park their cars in their streets as there is a lack of spaces. We would like to make the grassed areas into parking spaces making access into the street safer and easier for residents and the emergency services."

Whilst we appreciate that parking in residential areas can be difficult, there are many similar residential streets which have requested additional parking. We acknowledge the concerns that have been raised for Mayfield Dale in this petition. The reality is that across the County there are many locations which were not designed to accommodate the increase in car ownership and households with multiple cars.

The provision of parking for residential properties is not something that the County Council as Highway Authority has a responsibility to provide. There are many calls for funding for a wide variety of schemes through the Council's Local Transport Plan (LTP) capital programme across the whole road network, such as: highway maintenance schemes, footway repairs and resurfacing, bridge maintenance, landslips, improvements to cycling and walking infrastructure and measures to improve road safety. Given the other calls on this funding, schemes which provide additional parking in residential areas that would only benefit a relatively small number of road users are not considered to be of sufficient benefit to be prioritised for allocation of funding through this programme. Many requests are received for this type of scheme and it would be very difficult to justify prioritising individual locations for treatment.

In considering the petition, colleagues from Housing Services were consulted. Although the estate was built at the time as council housing, ownership is now a mix of privately owned homes and retained council housing. As such the Housing Revenue Account is not able to fund public parking although it can and does consider estate-based improvements that will benefit tenanted properties such as hardstandings. Similarly, individual tenants can request permission to install their own parking provision, within the curtilage of the property.

The type of parking improvement scheme that the petition is requesting could be considered through the Local County Councillor's Members Local Improvement Scheme allowance, or by the local Town or Parish Council if this issue was seen as one of their priorities. A copy of this report has been passed onto the Town Council for their information.

### Implications

<b>Policy</b>	The response to the issues raised in this petition is consistent with LTP Policies.
<b>Finance and value for money</b>	None
<b>Legal</b>	None
<b>Procurement</b>	None
<b>Human Resources</b>	None
<b>Property</b>	None
<b>Equalities</b> (Impact Assessment attached)  Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> N/A <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	None
<b>Risk Assessment</b>	n/a
<b>Crime &amp; Disorder</b>	None
<b>Customer Consideration</b>	Petition identifies lack of parking causing problems for residents
<b>Carbon reduction</b>	n/a
<b>Wards</b>	Cramlington East

**Background papers:**

None

**Report sign off**

	Name
Finance Officer	N/A
Monitoring Officer/Legal	N/A
Human Resources	N/A
Procurement	N/A
I.T.	N/A
Director	Paul Jones
Portfolio Holder(s)	John Riddle

**Author and Contact Details**

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