

## **WIRRAL COUNCIL**

### **HIGHWAY AND TRAFFIC REPRESENTATIONS PANEL – 8 JULY 2010**

#### **REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR OF TECHNICAL SERVICES**

#### **PETITION – STONEACRE GARAGE, NEW BRIGHTON**

##### **1.0 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

- 1.1 This report considers a 61 signature petition submitted in November 2009 regarding Stoneacre Garage, New Brighton.
- 1.2 The report concludes that there is no appropriate action that can be taken in relation to the petitioners concerns and recommends that the area continue to be monitored.

##### **2.0 BACKGROUND**

- 2.1 A petition containing 61 signatures was presented to a meeting of the Council on 2 November 2009.
- 2.2 The petition refers to Stoneacre Garage, which is situated at the junction of Rowson Street / Pickering Road, New Brighton and cites parking, obstruction, noise and pollution as particular problems related to the operation of the garage. A location plan is appended to this report.
- 2.3 The petition does not request any particular action in respect of those issues, other than to bring them to the attention of the Council and elected representatives.

##### **3.0 COMMENTARY**

- 3.1 Discussions with officers within Development Control indicate that Stoneacre Garage is not contravening any existing planning permissions for the site. They remain available to follow up on any specific complaints related to enforceable planning matters.
- 3.2 Officers from the Highways Enforcement team have visited the site and have not noted any actionable offences. They remain available to follow up on any specific complaints relating to enforceable highways issues.
- 3.3 I have also been in contact with Environmental Protection officers and I am advised that they have visited the garage on several occasions following concerns raised by residents but have not witnessed any actionable offences. They have advised that they are willing to follow up on any specific complaints of noise or other pollution.
- 3.4 The enforcement of untaxed or unsafe vehicles parked on the highway remains within the remit of Merseyside Police and is not within my power to enforce.

- 3.5 Parking in Pickering Road and other streets surrounding Stoneacre Garage has been the subject of a number of enquiries to the Technical Services Department over previous years and, in line with current policy, application forms for resident parking schemes have been sent out to residents. Our records indicate that no completed forms have been returned to the Department.
- 3.6 The lead petitioner has been given the option of applying for the provision of a resident parking scheme, but has not taken that opportunity.
- 3.7 It is worth pointing out that it would not be appropriate for me to propose the introduction of waiting restrictions of any type (including resident parking schemes) without fully considering the requirements of all road users, including local businesses, and designing a suitable scheme. This requirement is reflected within the existing criteria for resident parking schemes.
- 3.8 The lead petitioner has been advised of the above findings and was invited to withdraw the petition. He declined to do so and therefore, in accordance with the Council's Constitution, it is necessary to report the matter to your Panel.

#### **4.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

- 4.1 There are no implications under this heading arising from the recommendation of this report.

#### **5.0 STAFFING IMPLICATIONS**

- 5.1 There are no implications under this heading arising from the recommendation of this report.

#### **6.0 EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES IMPLICATIONS/EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT**

- 6.1 There are no implications under this heading.

#### **7.0 HEALTH IMPLICATIONS / IMPACT ASSESSMENT**

- 7.1 There are no identified issues under this heading for this report and its recommendation.

#### **8.0 COMMUNITY SAFETY IMPLICATIONS**

- 8.1 There are no implications under this heading arising from the recommendation of this report.

## **9.0 LOCAL AGENDA 21 IMPLICATIONS**

9.1 There are no implications under this heading arising from the recommendation of this report.

## **10.0 PLANNING IMPLICATIONS**

10.1 There are no implications under this heading arising from the recommendation of this report.

## **11.0 ANTI-POVERTY IMPLICATIONS**

11.1 There are no implications under this heading arising from the recommendation of this report.

## **12.0 SOCIAL INCLUSION IMPLICATIONS**

12.1 There are no implications under this heading arising from the recommendation of this report.

## **13.0 HUMAN RIGHTS IMPLICATIONS**

13.1 There are no implications under this heading.

## **14.0 LOCAL MEMBER SUPPORT IMPLICATIONS**

14.1 This report has implications for members in the New Brighton Ward.

## **15.0 BACKGROUND PAPERS**

15.1 A petition has been used in the preparation of this report.

## **16.0 RECOMMENDATIONS**

16.1 Panel is requested to:

- (1) Note the petitioners concerns regarding the impact that the operation of Stoneacre Garage has on them and the investigations that have been carried out by officers from various departments that have not noted any actionable offences at present.
- (2) Recommend that no further action be taken in relation to the petition, that the area continue to be monitored for any enforceable breaches of highways, planning or environmental legislation and that officers respond appropriately to any specific enforceable matters that are raised with them.

DAVID GREEN  
DIRECTOR, TECHNICAL SERVICES