

Leicester
City Council

WARDS AFFECTED
Coleman

**FORWARD TIMETABLE OF CONSULTATION AND MEETINGS:
OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY MANAGEMENT BOARD**

7th May 2009

**PETITION TO COUNCIL RECEIVED 17th February 2009;
REQUEST TO REMOVE DOUBLE YELLOW LINES FROM FRENCH ROAD**

Report of the Service Director Regeneration, Highways & Transportation

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To deal with a petition submitted to officers on 17th February 2009 by Mr. J. Sader on behalf of residents of French Road. The petition contained no printed text and comprised a list of 13 names, addresses and signatures from residents of French Road. A hand written covering letter states "Further to my recent letter regarding the double yellow lines on French Road. The lines are causing an inconvenience for the whole street to park there cars. I appreciate the houses have driveways but theres not enough space for more than one car on the driveway. I understand the lines are there for some reasons but we can only park outside our house I have paid many parking fines before. I would like you to look into this and get back to me please. The whole street has signed the petition."

2. SUMMARY

- 2.1 French Road is a mixed residential and industrial road located in Charnwood Ward. The road is 180 metres long with a carriageway 6.1 metres wide that carries two way traffic flow. Frontage onto the road comprises 24 residential properties, large factory units and the local library. The 360 metres of kerbside space is split into three categories, 235 metres is subject to a no waiting at any time restriction designed to ensure the safe passage of traffic and provide space for loading & unloading, 29 metres outside the Library is subject to a one hour waiting limit 9.30am-4.00pm Monday to Friday with unrestricted parking at other times, the remaining 96 metres is unrestricted. The restrictions were fully reviewed in 2007 and are considered appropriate to the nature of the road.

3. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 3.1 That the decision of the Service Director to respond to this petition by the letter sent to Mr. Sader be supported.

4. REPORT

- 4.1 A petition was submitted to Officers on 17th February 2009 by Mr. J. Sader on behalf of 13 residents of French Road. Officers acknowledged receipt of the petition by letter dated 23rd February 2009 and informed the Service Director for Democratic Services

that the petition had been received. The “previous letter” referred to is believed to be a challenge to a parking fine received by Mr. Sader, the challenge was not allowed and the fine was subsequently paid.

- 4.2 There have been a variety of waiting restrictions on French Road since 1978, including the limited waiting restriction outside the Library. A full review of restrictions in that part of the City was undertaken in 2006 / 7 when it was concluded that additional double yellow lines were required to protect private accesses and to ensure the safe passage of traffic on the highway. The additional restrictions were advertised in the local press and by notices posted on the street, several objections were received including one from Mr. Sader. The objections were considered by Officers, by Development Control Committee on 17th October 2006 and a decision to overrule the objections was subsequently made by the Service Director. The present restrictions came into force on 12th March 2007. A plan is attached as Appendix 1 showing the restrictions in the street.
- 4.3 The review of restrictions in that part of the City resulted in many additional waiting restrictions being introduced and there was a significant adverse public reaction when the lines and signs were introduced on the streets.
- 4.4 The Service Director responded to the many adverse comments by engaging outside contractors to re-examine the area and to recommend where additional on street parking could be accommodated. The contractors found small pockets of additional parking could be accommodated at various locations but concluded that the restrictions on French Road were entirely appropriate to the nature and use of the road and that no further on street parking could be provided on that street. Revised restrictions were introduced in nearby streets on 10th November 2008.
- 4.5 Since January 2007, when the Council became responsible for the enforcement of waiting restrictions, a total of 74 parking fines have been issued on French Road.
- 4.6 Officers have visited French Road following receipt of the petition and have verified that the present use of the road is unchanged from when the existing restrictions were introduced. Given that those restrictions have been the subject of an independent assessment and have been found to be appropriate to the nature of the road Officers cannot recommend that any further changes to waiting restrictions should be undertaken.
- 4.7 French Road has 18 unrestricted car parking spaces with a further 6 spaces limited to one hour waiting during weekdays but unrestricted at other times. The 24 residential properties have an estimated ten off street parking places provided and there are a significant number of off street parking places associated with the factory units. The existing double yellow lines are arranged to protect the access to those off road car parking places as well as keeping traffic on the road moving.
- 4.8 In these circumstances the Service Director agreed to send a letter to Mr. Sader that set out the Councils position and explained that there are no plans to remove any of the waiting restrictions from the street at the present time (Letter attached as Appendix 2)

5. FINANCIAL, LEGAL AND OTHER IMPLICATIONS

5.1. Financial Implications

There are no financial implications arising from the contents of this report.

5.2 Legal Implications

There are no legal implications arising from the contents of this report..

6. OTHER IMPLICATIONS

OTHER IMPLICATIONS	YES/NO	Paragraph references within the report
Equal Opportunities	No	
Policy	No	
Sustainable and Environmental	No	
Crime and Disorder	No	
Human Rights Act	No	
Elderly/People on Low Income	No	

7. BACKGROUND PAPERS – LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972

Not applicable

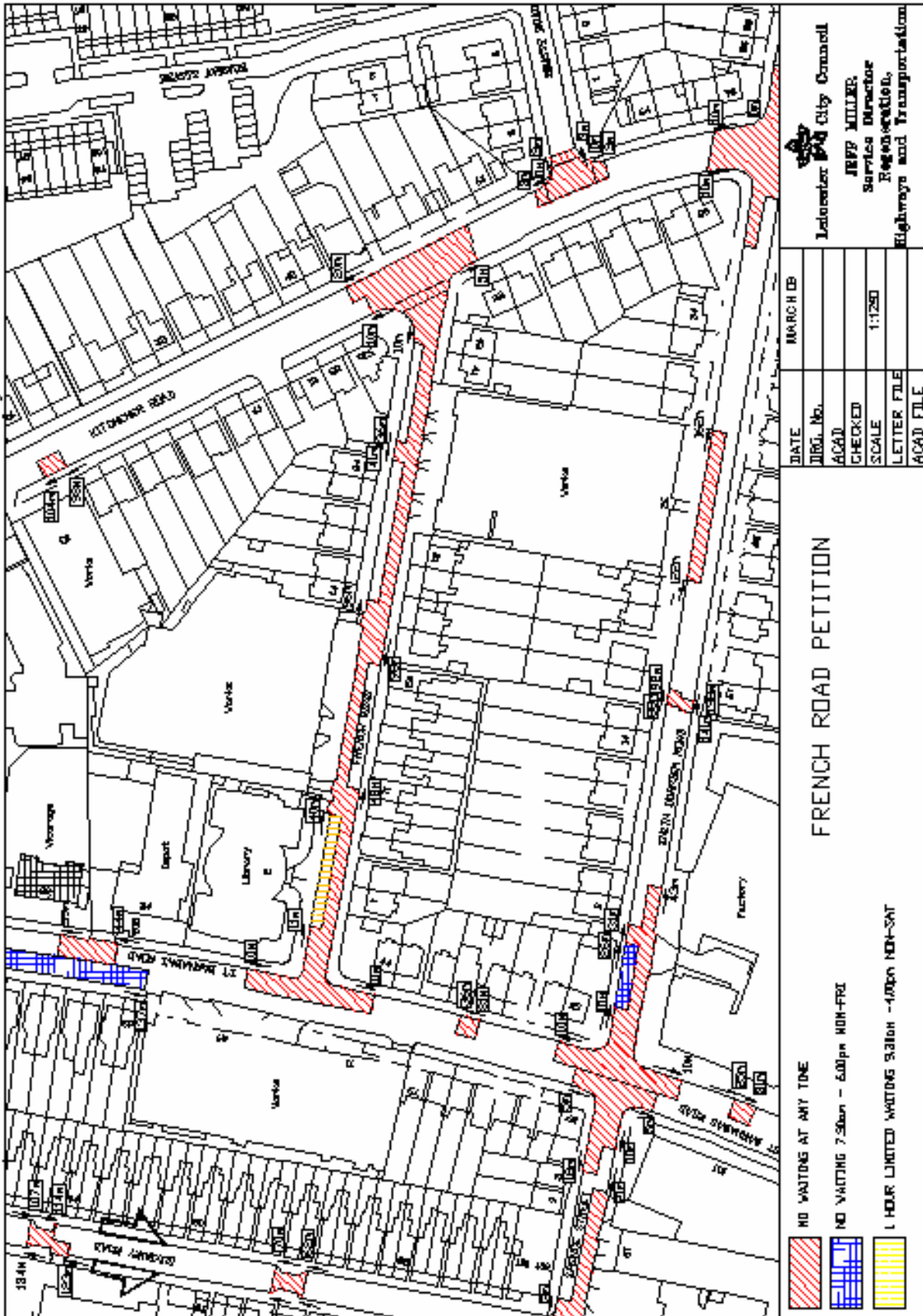
8. CONSULTATIONS

Not required

9. REPORT AUTHOR

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Ext 392134

APPENDIX 1



APPENDIX 2

Please ask for: Mr. P. Commons
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Our ref. HT/TF/PC/00210/2772
Date: 8th April 2009

Mr. J. Sader
27 French Road
Leicester
LE5 4AH

Dear Mr Sader

PETITION REQUESTING THE REMOVAL OF WAITING RESTRICTIONS, FRENCH ROAD

I refer to your letter received on 17th February and the enclosed petition with 13 signatures, requesting the removal of waiting restrictions from French Road which I acknowledged receipt of by letter on 23rd February.

Jeff Miller, the Service Director for Regeneration Highways & Transportation following discussions with the Lead Member has asked me to write to you in response to your petition.

The present waiting restrictions on French Road were introduced in 2007 to meet the Council's obligation to ensure that roads are maintained for their main purpose which is the safe passage of Traffic. We are aware that you and several of your neighbours made formal objections to the proposed waiting restrictions and that after considering those objections the Council made the decision to overrule them and to introduce the restrictions.

Revised restrictions were introduced in many streets in your part of the City at that time and many complaints were received on the basis that too many restrictions had been imposed. In response to those complaints the Service Director engaged an outside Consultant to revisit the whole area. As a result small sections of waiting restriction were removed from several streets but the consultants conclusion with regard to French Road was that the restrictions in place were the minimum necessary to enable the safe passage of traffic. On receipt of your petition Officers have visited French Road again and confirmed that the traffic and parking situation is unchanged.

In these circumstances I am sorry that the Council will not remove any of the waiting restrictions that are marked on French Road and will continue to carry out enforcement of those restrictions.

The Service Directors decision to deal with your petition in this manner will be considered by the Overview and Scrutiny Management Board at its meeting at 5.30pm on 7th May 2009 at the Town Hall, Leicester. Members of the public are welcome to attend the meeting to witness the debate but are not allowed to take part. Thank you for sending us your petition, if you have any queries arising from the contents of this letter or if you require further information please contact me on direct line 0116 2232134.

Yours sincerely

Paul Commons
Team Leader Traffic Regulation

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