

## **LONDON BOROUGH OF HARROW**

**TO: CABINET (Special) - 18 November 2013**

**FROM: COUNCIL - 14 November 2013**

### **PETITION REFERRED TO EXECUTIVE – CAMBRIDGE ROAD CAR PARK**

- (i) In accordance with the Council's Petition Scheme, Council considered a petition which had initially been received at the meeting of Cabinet on 12 September 2013.
- (ii) The petition contained 3,352 signatures and its terms were read by Councillor James Bond as follows:

*"We, the undersigned, object to Harrow Council's intentions to withdraw the one hour free parking concession in the Cambridge Road Car Park. We also object to the plans to withdraw the one hour free concession for on-street parking and replace it with 20 minutes only free parking."*

- (iii) A debate was then held on the content of the petition. The comments made by Members are summarised as follows:
- If the 20 minute free parking across the borough was abolished it could lead to the economic recovery in North Harrow going into reverse;
  - There was no fairness in parking charges across the borough;
  - Free parking was key to the prosperity of shopping districts and centres;
  - The parking policy required rectification;
  - A parking system similar to Hillingdon Council was required;
  - North Harrow was an area that still had to be nurtured carefully;
  - Every area was unique and this had to be taken into account when implementing a parking system;
  - 20 minutes free parking across the borough was the best interim solution until a comprehensive parking system review had been conducted;
  - 20 minutes free parking did not necessarily increase the footfall in shopping districts and centres;

- There was evidence that abuse of the 20 minute free parking period took place with replacement tickets obtained regularly;
- Work had been conducted with Hillingdon Council to investigate whether a similar parking system could be utilised in Harrow;
- A cross party working group could be established to look at parking across the borough;
- Any changes to the parking system in the borough had to be fair and sustainable.

**RESOLVED: That the petition be referred to Cabinet for consideration.**

## **FOR CONSIDERATION**

### Background documents:

1. Petition submitted to the Cabinet meeting – 12 September 2013.
2. Council Summons – 14 November 2013.

### **Contact:**

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