

**Notice of Motion to Council**

**Thursday 17th October 2019**

**Pavement Parking and Pavement Obstruction**

**Proposed by Cllr S Akers-Smith and Seconded by Cllr S Brookfield**

This Council requests that Cabinet give consideration to developing a borough wide policy on pavement parking and a separate borough wide policy on pavement obstruction, which should be sufficiently flexible to recognise the varied needs and demands within different areas of the Borough. Council further calls on the Cabinet to bring a draft policy on pavement parking to a future meeting of Full Council for debate.

**Background:**

In September the Department for Transport recommended to Parliament that a ban on pavement parking should be legislated for and enforced across England. The legal process for a countrywide ban is currently happening in Scotland and Wales and there has been a ban in London since 1974, 45 years ago.

In 2016 Cheshire East inspirationally were the first borough council to sign up to Cycling UK's Space for Cycling, which is about prioritising and protecting cyclists. A similar move to be the first borough in the UK to ban pavement parking not only sends out the message that we prioritise pedestrians over vehicles, it will improve the lives of all residents who want to be more active and walk more, pavement parking prevents this from happening and also has a significant effect on the mobility impaired and the partially sighted which causes them to feel even more vulnerable than they already are.

This one single borough wide act will enhance the lives of over 380,000 people especially vulnerable road users including wheelchair users, mobility scooter users, visually impaired, carers, children and families; everybody. If Cheshire East Council are serious about reducing carbon emissions and having a positive impact on climate change, passing this motion would make a significant contribution to making life safer for residents, protecting those that need our protection and encouraging people to use their cars less, which would have an impact on climate change.

Not everybody has a car, can't afford one and doesn't want one, but everybody has to get around, and protecting those who want to actively travel needs to be a priority. Everybody has to walk or be mobile, now more than ever, a ban on pavement parking will give people real choice to be more active. Pavement obstruction in addition to pavement parking has an impact on the ability of vulnerable pedestrians in particular to navigate and travel safely. Therefore a separate policy to look at pavement obstruction is to be considered

**RESOLVED AT COUNCIL:**

That the Motion be referred to Cabinet.