

Paper Petition Details

Against One Way System on Gilliat Road

We, the undersigned, residents of Gilliat Road, petition against one way system on Gilliat Road.

This petition was received on 1st July, 2015.

This petition was passed to the Senior Engineer – Transport on 1st July, 2015

This petition was responded to by the Senior Engineer – Transport on 6th July, 2015

Final Results

Number of Signatures	32
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Council Response

Thank you for submitting the petition opposing the one way traffic scheme on Gilliat Road.

We have considered your request for the council to reverse the decision to implement one way traffic flow on Gilliat Road, and on this occasion we have decided to continue with the implementation of the scheme. The reason that the scheme was put forward is because Gilliat Road and Carrington Road are both roads with a narrow carriageway and substandard pavement widths. It has been observed that on a regular basis vehicles travelling in opposing directions meet, with one vehicle either mounting the pavement or reversing to a clearing to allow the other pass.

Furthermore, there are 90 degree bends on these 2 roads, which result in poor forward visibility of oncoming traffic. The introduction of one way traffic flows on these streets alleviates these issues and improves road safety in the area. Furthermore, as a result of this scheme we are able to reconfigure the 2 wheels up parking bays on the southern kerb line between No's 30 and 60 Gilliat Road to allow residents better access from their properties as complaints have been received that vehicles are parked in obstruction of front gates etc. Furthermore, when we undertook the informal consultation, the results were 19 (16%) residents for the proposal, and 13 (11%) against. 87 (73%) of residents did not respond. For these reasons, we made the proposals to the local members who supported the introduction of the scheme and the necessary legal process was followed and signage purchased etc.

You have raised a number of issues in your correspondence, which I have responded to below:

1: Please address the issue raised where one resident has 12 cars (we believe this is a council tenant) - making the street 1 way will not increase car parking space.

Unfortunately, we cannot control how many vehicles a household owns or parks on the highway without introducing a residents permit scheme. The purpose of the scheme is not to increase the number of parking spaces, but to improve road safety and ensure residents have adequate access to the highway from their properties.

2: Increasing the space on the pavement and moving the lines further into the road WILL cause for residents living on the ODD numbers side will not be able to get their cars in the drive, and if they do it will mean causing damage to their cars as well as their properties.

We will ensure that the parking bays are marked in a way that will not obstruct vehicles from exiting their driveways. Please be advised that we can only keep access to the highway clear for those residents that have dropped crossings.

3: Many people on this road often have work done on their house as they like to keep a nice appearance of their property and the Saturday just passed a resident had a delivery of building materials and the lorry had to use a crane to offload - this meant the lorry had it stabilizers on the ground and could not move - this lorry was there for 36 minutes. So if the road is one way it would mean that we would have to wait 36 minutes in order to pass - god forbid there was ever an emergency. In addition to this a car came and he and the lorry driver almost came to blows - if this was one way SBC would be responsible for causing these problems where people knock the life out of each other. Two hours later the resident had another delivery and it was another lorry which was parked up for the best part of 1 hour - need I say more?

I understand that vehicles may need to service the properties from time to time, however if they require to block the road they will need to contact the council to ensure adequate provisions are put in place to divert traffic. This would be the case if the road operated 2 way traffic flow as well and one way. If works/deliveries are necessary on Gilliat Road and the correct process is followed, the council can assist to ensure disruption is kept to a minimum.

4: We understand that some council officials have spent some time on Gilliat Road observing the traffic flow and also this aided the decision to make it one way - it is all well and good sitting on a street corner for a few hours - this is far from living on the road and seeing it from the residents perspective, not just some SBC rep feeding back the flow of traffic.

The Slough Borough Council Transport Team have made the decision to implement this scheme based on the observations outlined above. Although we understand that this may cause slight inconvenience to the residents, however as the highway authority we are required to make decisions in the interests of road safety as well as considering the residents. The area in question is relatively small, and there is a suitable route for residents to access Gilliat Road without causing significant delays in journey time.

Slough Borough Council are implementing this scheme under an experimental traffic regulation order so that we can monitor and review the scheme when it is in its infancy, and this also gives us the ability to react quickly and make changes if we find the scheme is not working for any reason. We will accept representations from residents within the first months of the scheme's implementation, and we can then make a decision based on these representations whether we make the scheme permanent, make changes or remove the scheme all together.

I hope this information helps.