

To:	Housing & Technical Services	Subject:	Petition from Residents of Netherwood Road, Westfield, Cumbernauld regarding a Request for Car Parking
	Committee (Property Sub Committee)		
From:	Director of Housing and Property Services		
Date:	2 October 2002		
Ref:	TMcK/DD/VWG/10		

1.0 Introduction

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to advise committee of a petition received from residents of 2-18 Netherwood Road, Westfield, Cumbernauld who wish a piece of landscaped land within an adjacent residential car park to be removed and thereafter additional car parking provided.

2.0 Background

- 2.1 When the former Cumbernauld Development Corporation developed the residential area of Westfield during the 1970s, the car parking provided was based on the average level of car ownership per household and at that time was adequate for all residents.
- 2.2 Since its initial development, the level of car ownership in Westfield has increased in line with national trends, which has resulted in high levels of congestion within residential car parks throughout the area.

3 Current Position

- 3.1 There are nine houses located at the terraced block, 2-18 Netherwood Road. Six of these houses are privately owned, one tenant has applied to buy and two houses remain in Council ownership. All residents are concerned over the level of congestion caused by parked cars especially from early evening through to the next morning. The signatories of the petition have also stated that non-residents are parking cars adjacent to their houses.
- 3.2 The small off road car park, which runs parallel to the petitioners' houses, is split into two sections by a small soft landscaped area. The request received from the residents is that the Council removes this piece of land replacing it with an additional asphalt surfaced parking space.
- 3.3 As responsibility for management and maintenance of Council owned car parks lies with the Director of Planning and Environment, consultation took place between both departments on

the feasibility of such a project being undertaken and whether the proposal represented value for money.

- 3.4 The removal of the soft landscaped area in the opinion of the Roads Division of the Planning and Environment Department would result in the creation of one additional parking space. The cost of this work would be approximately £1,500, which would appear to be expensive given the limited benefit to be accrued.
- 3.5 The Planning and Environment Department do not have specific funding identified for one-off projects such as this and therefore if the work was to proceed, funding would have to be diverted from other urgent works. With this in mind, the Planning and Environment Department would only consider constructing additional residential parking where the parking problem was so acute that public safety would be prejudiced.

4 Recommendations

- 4.1 As the Planning and Environment Department is not in a position to fund the work requested by the petitioners, coupled with the fact that minimal benefit would be accrued by the creation of one additional parking space at a cost of £1500, it is recommended that this request be refused. Moreover, as private owners are involved in the submission of the petition, it would not be appropriate to commit funding from the H.R.A Revenue Repairs budget for this type of improvement work.
- 4.2 If, however, local residents from this or any other similar location which has off-road residential car parking, wish to embark on such a project through funding raised personally and privately, this be considered. The issue of formal approval of proposed works and future maintenance to be considered by the Council at the appropriate time.

5 Background Papers

- 5.1 Available from the Department.



Thomas McKenzie
Director of Housing and Property Services