

Highways Committee

8 March 2017



Durham City South East High Yard/Church lane Parking & Waiting Restrictions Order

Report of Ian Thompson Corporate Director Regeneration and Economic Development Councillor Neil Foster, Portfolio Holder for Regeneration and Economic Development

1. Purpose

- 1.1. In accordance with part 3A of the Council's Constitution, Members are asked to make a decision in principle only which will then guide the Corporate Director in the exercise of delegated decision making. The final decision is therefore one for the Corporate Director, under delegated powers.
- 1.2. To advise Members of objections received to the consultation concerning changes to the proposed traffic regulation order in Durham City South East.
- 1.3. To request that members consider the objections made during the consultation period.

2. Background

- 2.1 Following the successful implementation of Civil Parking Enforcement in County Durham which concluded in June 2013, enforcement of all waiting restrictions is now undertaken by the County Council.
- 2.2 The County Council are committed to regularly reviewing traffic regulation orders to ensure that the restrictions held within them are relevant and appropriate.
- 2.3 Initial discussions regarding the existing waiting restrictions within the town were held between the County Council and local councillors in June 2016. This led to an initial consultation exercise being undertaken with statutory consultees and directly affected frontagers. Several objections were received at this time.

- 2.4 The proposed amendments that were consulted on at this point were:
- (i) Introduction of 'no waiting at any time' restrictions on High Yard (the rear of Church Lane).
- 2.5 The overall aim of the proposals is to improve accessibility to the garages to the rear of Church Lane. In addition to this we will be preventing the footways from being obstructed by parked vehicles on both sides of High Yard.
- 2.6 The proposals were advertised formally on site and in the local press between the 15th of December 2016 and 5th of January 2017.
- 2.7 11 objections have been received to the proposed scheme. These objections were received during both the informal and formal consultation periods and have been summarised below.
- 2.8 Councillor David Freeman was consulted on these objections and it was decided to proceed with the introduction of the restrictions.

3 Objection 1/2

Both objectors have been residents for many years and use the lane daily. They do not believe there is any problem in this location.

- The County Council and Local Members continue to receive complaints from other residents and garage users regarding obstruction in this area. It is hoped that the proposed restrictions will provide control to the parking at this location

4 Objection 3

The objector uses Church Lane to park when visiting friends that live in the adjacent flats. They claim that making the lane a 'No Waiting at Any Time' zone would be an inconvenience for them.

- Response – Whilst it may be an inconvenience when visiting friends, it is in the interest of road safety and to prevent unnecessary obstructions that the NWAAT is introduced. Pay and display parking is available on Hallgarth Street as an alternative.

5 Objection 4/5/6/7

Returned the Consultation Response Card stating they are opposed to the scheme.

- Response – No specific reasons were given as to why these residents were opposed.

6 Objection 8/9

Objectors 7 and 8 believe that the current white keep clear markings are sufficient and are happy as it is.

- Response – Whilst the advisory white markings have been successful to a point, obstructive parking still occurs at this location and it has been the generator of several complaints to the Strategic Traffic team and Local Member.

9 Objection 10

‘This would just push people into parking in the resident parking area.’

- Response – Non-residents / visitors would be entitled, as they are at present, to park in any adjacent permit / pay and display zone.

11 Recommendation

It is recommended that the Committee resolve that they are minded to agree to endorse the proposals having considered the objections and proceed with the implementation of the Durham City South East Parking & Waiting Restrictions Order, with the final decision to be made by the Corporate Director under delegated powers.

12 Background Papers

Correspondence and documentation on Traffic Office File and in member’s library.

Contact: Ben Buckley Tel: 03000 262734

Appendix 1: Implications

Finance - LTP Capital

Staffing - Carried out by Strategic Traffic

Risk - Not Applicable

Equality and Diversity - It is considered that there are no Equality and Diversity issues to be addressed.

Accommodation - No impact on staffing

Crime and Disorder - This TRO will allow effective management of traffic to reduce congestion and improve road safety

Human Rights - No impact on human rights

Consultation - Is in accordance with SI:2489

Procurement - Operations, DCC.

Disability Issues - None

Legal Implications: All orders have been advertised by the County Council as highway authority and will be made in accordance with legislative requirements.