

TONBRIDGE & MALLING BOROUGH COUNCIL

JOINT TRANSPORTATION BOARD

25 September 2017

Report of the Director of Street Scene, Leisure & Technical Services

Part 1- Public

Matter for Recommendation to Borough Cabinet - Non-Key Decision (Decision may be taken by the Cabinet Member)

1 PARKING ACTION PLAN

Summary

The Borough Council has for many years divided requests for changes to parking restrictions into separate Phases of the “Parking Action Plan”.

This report covers the content of the next Phase (Phase 9) of the Action Plan and also reports on the future extension of the Parking Action Plan to enable further Phases.

1.1 Current/Future Phases

1.1.1 The list of locations recommended for consideration in Phase 9 (2017/18) of the Parking Action Plan is shown in Annex 1. A further list of requests is shown in Annex 2, for consideration in future plans.

1.1.2 The process for dealing with the future locations in Annex 2 needs to be considered. These requests for parking restrictions and changes to existing controls will require an extension to the Parking Action Plan and associated funding will be sought through the forthcoming review of the Capital Plan.

1.2 Current Procedure

1.2.1 The current procedure for promoting changes to parking restrictions is as follows

Request received and added to waiting list.

Sites collated into manageable phases

Approval for the next phase reported to Joint Transportation Board with recommendation to move to informal consultation.

Report to Joint Transportation Board on the outcome of informal consultation with recommendation to alter/adjust proposals and to move to formal consultation.

Report to Joint Transportation Board following formal consultation with recommendations to approve/abandon proposals.

Install approved schemes.

As required the review of proposals after 12 months.

1.3 Proposed Change to Procedure

- 1.3.1 Kent County Council has adopted a different approach to Traffic Regulation Order consultations. Its process differs in that when less than 5 objections to proposals are received during a formal consultation process; the consideration of those objections can be done by the County's Cabinet Member for Highways, rather than be reported for consideration to the relevant Highways Advisory Board.
- 1.3.2 Where there are no objections, the proposal proceeds for implementation.
- 1.3.3 This has helped streamline the processes involved in making changes to Traffic Regulation Orders.
- 1.3.4 It is suggested that the Borough Council look to adopt a similar process when considering the following specific circumstances and where proposals have received less than 5 valid objections at the formal consultation stage.

Introduction and removal of Disabled Persons Parking Facilities
 Amendments to restrictions following the installation of driveways
 Amendments to restrictions following changes to highway layout.

- 1.3.5 This consultation and decision could be then considered by the Chair of the Joint Transportation Board, in conjunction with the appropriate local Borough and County Member(s). Any decisions made by the Chair would be reported as an "information" item to the following Board.
- 1.3.6 Where a proposal attracts 5 or more objections then the matter would remain for the Board to consider in the normal manner.
- 1.3.7 Where a proposal receives no objections, the proposals should again proceed, but be reported as an information item to the next Board.

1.4 Phase 9 Consultation

- 1.4.1 Subject to Member comment it is proposed that the 27 sites and associated proposals in Annex 1 should now be taken forward for investigation and then to informal consultation.
- 1.4.2 The response to the informal consultation will be reported back to the November meeting of the Board, prior to progressing to formal consultation.

1.5 Parking Reviews

- 1.5.1 Separate to the Phased approach taken for some sites, we will be progressing the following areas as parking reviews.

Kings Hill
 Hildenbough
 Hadlow

- 1.5.2 These locations will require a significant level of resource and time and will progress on a different timescale to those sites on Phase 9.

1.6 Equality Impact Assessment

- 1.6.1 The decisions recommended through this paper have a remote or low relevance to the substance of the Equality Act. There is no perceived impact on end users.

1.7 Legal Implications

- 1.7.1 The on-street parking service is undertaken by the Borough Council on behalf of Kent County Council under terms of a formal legal agreement.

1.8 Financial and Value for Money Considerations

- 1.8.1 Funding to implement works associated with the Parking Action Plan phase 9 is provided within the Council's Capital Plan.

1.9 Risk Assessment

- 1.9.1 The assessment and consultation process applied to parking management should provide the assurance that the Borough Council has the will and ability to adapt the Parking Plans, in the light of comment and circumstances and to ensure that it achieves a best balance of local parking needs. A regular review of the schemes is crucial to ensure that we can correctly and effectively manage on-street parking in these areas as the proposals are either introduced for safety reasons or to provide a more appropriate balance of parking needs.
- 1.9.2 A major risk is that scheme proposals encounter significant lack of local support. This risk is mitigated by the considerable effort devoted to ensuring there is widespread consultation on proposals through informal consultation before any formal stage of consultation is reached. There is also care given to ensuring that schemes are adjusted and adapted in the light of comments and observations received from the local community, without compromising safety or the Council's commitment to deal appropriately with identified safety concerns.

1.10 Policy Considerations

- 1.10.1 Asset Management
- 1.10.2 Communications
- 1.10.3 Community
- 1.10.4 Customer Contact

1.11 Recommendations

1.11.1 It is RECOMMENDED that:

- i) the list of locations identified in Annex 1 be taken forward for investigation and informal consultation as Phase 9 of the Parking Action Plan.
- ii) the Parking Action Plan is extended to incorporate locations included in Annex 2 and funding be sought in the review of the Borough Council's Capital Plan.
- iii) that the revised process for considering changes to parking restrictions as outlined in the report be agreed and adopted.
- iv) The Parking Review for Kings Hill, Hildenborough and Hadlow be progressed.

The Director of Street Scene, Leisure & Technical Services confirms that the proposals contained in the recommendation(s), if approved, will fall within the Council's Budget and Policy Framework.

Background papers:

contact: Andy Bracey
Parking Manager

Annex 1 – List of locations for Phase 9 of the Parking Action Plan

Annex 2 – List of other locations where changes to parking restrictions have been requested

Robert Styles

Director of Street Scene, Leisure and Technical Services