

Joint Transportation Board

16 June 2025

Part 1 - Public

Matters for Decision



Cabinet Member	Cllr Martin Coffin, Cabinet Member for Finance, Waste and Technical Services
Responsible Officer	Robert Styles, Director of Street Scene, Leisure and Technical Services
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Parking Action Plan – Phase 15 (informal consultation)

1 Summary and Purpose of Report

- 1.1 This report covers the progress of the current phase (Phase 15) of the Borough's Parking Action Plan, specifically the outcome of the informal consultation and the next steps for each location.

2 Corporate Strategy Priority Area

- 2.1 Efficient services for all our residents, maintaining an effective council.
- 2.2 Parking provision and management is a key part of maintaining the free flow of traffic on the roads and needs to be balanced to provide different users amenity parking.

3 Recommendations

- 3.1 Members are asked to review the consultation responses for each location and the proposed recommendations, and consider whether the proposals should proceed, be altered or abandoned. Should Members wish locations to proceed, then we will take the proposals to formal consultation and the invitation of objections.

4 Introduction and Background to the Development of the Parking Action Plan

- 4.1 The Borough Council has for many years divided requests for changes to parking restrictions into separate Phases of the "Parking Action Plan", or for wider areas as discrete "Parking Reviews".

4.2 The current procedure for requesting and progressing 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 if appropriate and to move to formal consultation.
- Report to Joint Transportation Board following formal consultation with recommendations to approve/abandon proposals.
- Install approved schemes.
- Review of impact of proposals after 12 months if required.

5 Phase 15

- 5.1 We carried out informal consultation on the 23 locations that form Phase 15. The details of each location and a summary of the responses received are shown in Annex 1 and the plans of each location are shown in Annex 2.
- 5.2 This informal consultation started on 18th Feb 2025 and closed on 16th March 2025.

6 Consideration of the validity of objections

- 6.1 Kent County Council's standard documents provide some indication as to what constitutes a "valid objection" – that an objection "must explain the impact on traffic in the locality to be valid", and it is advised that Members consider this criterion when assessing objections.

7 Risk Assessment

- 7.1 The comprehensive assessment and consultation process applied to Parking Action Plans provides the assurance that the Borough Council has the will and ability to adapt proposals brought forward, 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 the Council correctly and effectively manages 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.

8 Legal Implications

- 8.1 The powers allowing the Borough Council to carry out parking management activity are contained in the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, supplemented by formal agreement with Kent County Council as the Local Highway Authority, in respect of its powers under the Traffic Management Act 2004. In particular section 122 of the Road Traffic Regulation 1984 Act imposes a general duty on local authorities exercising functions under the Act to secure the expeditious, convenient and safe movement of vehicular and other traffic (including pedestrians) and the provision of safe and adequate parking facilities on and off the highway.
- 8.2 The Borough Council carries out parking enforcement under an Agency agreement with Kent County Council by way of a Traffic Regulation Order, under the terms of the Road Traffic Act 1988 (and its amendments), the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 and the Traffic Management Act 2004.
- 8.3 Changes to parking charges are made via an Amendment Orders to the Council's on and off-street parking Traffic Regulation Orders, using the procedures set out in the Local Authorities' Traffic Orders (Procedure) (England and Wales) Regulations 1996 and will reflect any temporary amendments to procedures introduced to address Covid-19 restrictions. The proposals have followed and exceeded the requirements of the Local Authorities' Traffic Orders (Procedure) (England & Wales) Regulations 1996.
- 8.4 The matters raised in this report are considered to be routine, uncontroversial or not legally complex.

9 Cross Cutting Issues

9.1 Climate Change and Biodiversity

- 9.1.1 A moderate source of emissions is likely to be maintained at current levels or increased. Use of private motor vehicles remains a major source of carbon emissions.

9.2 Equalities and Diversity

- 9.2.1 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.

Background Papers	None
Annexes	Annex 1 – Phase 15 - List of sites and recommendations

	Annex 2 – Phase 15 - Plans Annex 3 – Location summaries Annex 4 – Consultation responses
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