

Appendix 2a : Responses received in relation to The Mount Traffic Regulation Order

Comments of support

Received From	Comments
<p>Letter signed by 16 households of the Mount</p> <p>SUPPORT</p>	<p><i>2 residents who signed letter subsequently objected to the scheme and 2 wrote in their own letters of support bringing total to 12</i></p> <p>The driving force behind a number of residents requesting a parking zone has been the increasing numbers of non-Mount residents using our road as a free all day car park when they attend their place of work or study. Non-Mount residents park up on the pavement, against residents gates blocking driveways or hampering access. Larger delivery vehicles, refuse and recycling trucks experience extreme difficulty negotiating the Mount. The problem is particularly acute on the northern end where cars park right up to the corners on both sides, resulting in larger vehicles unable to negotiate the corner.</p> <p>Of greater concern are the safety issues posed by the situation, cars parked on the pavements force pedestrians onto roads. Many residents voiced concerns in the initial consultation process relating to lack of access posed for emergency vehicles when parking is at its worst.</p> <p>Reviewing the current proposal the attached signatories are strongly in favour of the proposed Controlled Parking Zone, there are some areas where we comment on and seek minor modifications, however we would not want consideration of these points to delay the implementation of the parking scheme as a whole.</p>
<p>Resident of The Mount</p> <p>SUPPORT</p>	<p>The large majority of residents in favour of the scheme are dismayed at the delay in getting the proposals implemented. The parking situation continues to deteriorate. Subject to a few points of detail the proposals seem an effective and overdue solution</p>
<p>Resident of The Mount</p>	<p>We fully support the proposal to implement waiting restrictions. Restrictions even the very mild restrictions proposed have been needed for a long time, to stop The Mount from being the all-day car park it is now.</p>
<p>Resident of The Mount</p> <p>SUPPORT</p>	<p>We fully support the proposals to implement waiting restrictions. It would stop The Mount being the free all day car park for non-residents that it is now, and the residents will be able to park in The Mount. It is very important to residents to have restrictions as soon as possible</p>
<p>Resident of The Mount</p> <p>SUPPORT</p>	<p>I am in favour of the proposal; the restrictions proposed seem sufficient to achieve the main objective to stop non-residents parking free all day.</p>
<p>Resident of The Mount</p> <p>SUPPORT</p>	<p>We wish to express our strong support for the above scheme. The number of RBH employees and others parking here all day, on and off the pavements and blocking accesses by parking too close to the corners, continues to increase purely because parking is uncontrolled. The zone as advertised is a low key solution suitable for our Conservation Area.</p>

Comments of objection to the proposed scheme, but would want to see an alternative scheme proposed

<p>Resident of The Mount</p> <p>OBJECTION TO PROPOSAL But would want to see another proposal re consulted on</p>	<p>We are writing to share a mild objection for the restricted parking zone to cover The Mount. Over the last few years and during the working hours parking activity in The Mount has increased, causing inconvenience and safety concerns. Therefore overall we support the residents view that something must be done. However the RPZ proposed we fear is too draconian but also ineffective and will be problematic for residents. We support the adoption of a mixed use scheme as a better solution to the RPZ advertised,</p>
<p>Resident of The Mount</p> <p>OBJECTION TO PROPOSAL But would want to see another proposal re consulted on</p>	<p>I wish to support the alternative proposal lodged by neighbours for a less restrictive parking regime</p>
<p>Resident of The Mount</p> <p>OBJECTION TO PROPOSAL But would want to see another proposal re consulted on</p>	<p>I concur with my neighbours and wish to attach my support to their proposals. I foresee lots of disappointed and disillusioned people. Please take care with your decision they will impact on us, and once in place will be difficult to alter.</p>
<p>Resident of The Mount</p> <p>OBJECTION TO PROPOSAL But would want to see another proposal re consulted on</p>	<p>Even though the timings on the bays are relatively modest, the RPZ will mean restrictions will cover the whole of The Mount every minute of every day with no waiting at any time. This is unnecessary considering the parking issues on The Mount mainly occur during term time between 830am-5pm Monday to Friday. These restrictions are too extreme for our requirements and completely unnecessary. A mixed use scheme with some unrestricted spaces would be far more appropriate.</p> <p>The RPZ does not allow for deliveries to drop off or disability vehicles to wait on The Mount without being in a designated bay, this will present a serious problem for residents.</p> <p>Visitors to The Mount will likely be unfamiliar with this type of parking restriction, which is designed to indicate where you are allowed to park rather than where you are not, This is counter-intuitive and goes against what people expect. Rather than solve our problems visitors will still park inappropriately because they will not understand the signs.</p> <p>The required signage will be difficult to see when entering The Mount because of the acute angle of entry.</p> <p>The lack of non-restricted parking means that all residents without off-road parking will have to apply for permits, they will have no choice. As The Mount is a closed cul-de-sac there is nowhere else that residents without off road parking will safely be able to park near their own home.</p>

Comments of objection to the proposed scheme

<i>Residents</i>	
Resident of The Mount OBJECTION	I believe the proposal is too restrictive and would much rather this remain a restriction free zone, we never have problems finding a space, yes it sometimes gets busy during theatre nights but this is not an issue.
Resident of The Mount OBJECTION	I do not agree with the proposals, the plan is far to restrictive, some of the proposed bays are too small to accommodate residents provision. Although not perfect at the moment my strong preference is for things to stay as they are.
Resident of The Mount OBJECTION	We write to register our objection to the proposed parking scheme, we wish to retain the status quo. We feel the scheme will be prejudicial to the best interests of the majority of residents, and result in a loss of 33 parking places across The Mount. If a resident is unable to park in one of the marked bays because these are occupied they will have to resort to parking further afield or illegally. This is not an acceptable state of affairs in our view and will far outweigh the benefits of restricting parking to one side of the street. We would therefore urge the Council not to alter the present arrangements.
Resident of The Mount OBJECTION	There are currently plenty of places where vehicles can park, the introduction of bay only parking will dramatically reduce the number of spaces available to both residents and visitors, as well as other community members and in my opinion will create havoc. There are simply not enough bays for all residents to park as well as visitors to the Theatre. The proposal allows for friends and family to park without a permit after 4pm there is still a huge issue in relation to the amount of parking space available within marked bays. If bays were introduced this would either make it impossible for our guests to park in The Mount or would displace residents elsewhere. The introduction of permit parking during the week will adversely affect our local community, staff from the hospital and schools park here during the day, which is when most residents are at work anyway, we should be welcoming them and not displacing the problem to other local streets.
<i>Theatre</i>	
Progress Theatre Management OBJECTION	Whilst the operation of the theatre will not be affected by the parking restrictions in terms of times we have concerns regarding the reduced capacity which will result from use of bays. We feel this will not only potentially impact our patrons but also the residents, who will find there will be fewer spaces for them. Although our car park is used to capacity during full houses, there is of course the risk that where our patrons need to use surrounding streets there will be greater competition for spaces. As such we oppose the proposal to move to restricted parking; however we are cognisant of the concerns of neighbours and as such will support the majority.
Theatre Patron OBJECTION	I wish to place on record my objection to the proposed parking restriction in The Mount, as a regular theatre goer at Readings foremost amdram venue, I can see serious implications of closing down parking areas around the Progress. Surely the local civic authority should be supporting such ventures and not hinder them
Theatre Patron OBJECTION	I am writing to object to the pending imposition of waiting restrictions in The Mount, as a frequent visitor to friends in the Mount and Progress Theatre, the scheme you are imposing will make it intolerable for all and have a serious effect for residents and theatre customers.
Theatre Patron OBJECTION	I am dismayed to be informed of the intention to restrict parking in The Mount. The proposed parking restrictions will threaten the operation of the Progress Theatre and the associated theatre training and youth workshops. Progress has been part of The Mount since 1950s which is most likely the longest period of residence of any other in the area. To condemn everyone in The Mount to draconian parking measures is really unfair; please reconsider the effects this proposal will have on the area and the credibility of the local council.

<i>Other road users</i>	
Employee of Royal Berkshire Hospital OBJECTION	I would like to log my objection as follows. As an employee of Royal Berkshire Hospital an essential user of these parking spaces I have been parking here for 6 years. I am unable to get a staff parking permit as priority is given to clinical staff working shifts. I have never heard a complaint from residents who object to me parking here, by restricting parking here drivers will be forced to park in areas further from the hospital. As the RBH is vital for the Reading area I am surprised that the council is actively making it difficult for staff to get to work.
Employee of Royal Berkshire Hospital OBJECTION	I am writing to express my concerns about the proposed parking restrictions in The Mount. I regularly park there due to shortage of space within my workplace (RBH) and am concerned where I could park in future. The residents do not park there during the day so why restrict others from parking there.
Employee of Royal Berkshire Hospital OBJECTION	I am a doctor at RBH and have been an essential user of the parking spaces within The Mount, due to the location of my house I cannot get a permit at the hospital; it is more convenient to park in The Mount. I kindly request you not to change the area into a RPZ as it would be more stressful for potential users like me.
Employee of Royal Berkshire Hospital OBJECTION	I wish to object to the proposed parking enforcement within The Mount. I am sure you are aware of the staff/patient parking problems at the RBH and this is one of the very few roads with free parking. I am surprised Reading Borough Council is actively making it difficult for staff to park in the area during week days.
Employee of Royal Berkshire Hospital OBJECTION	I read with disappointment and anger the notices that have been erected within the Mount. I work at RBH in the A&E and know of numerous other staff that use the road to park in whilst on duty. This is the only street within walking distance of the hospital to park. Time for these staff is critical and can be a matter of life or death. The few people who do use the road to park in whilst at RBH do not seem to impact on the residents. I hope the council will take into consideration the staff of the RBH and not the greed of wanting to earn more money by implementing costly fines.
Employee within Town Centre OBJECTION	I wish to register my disapproval to the proposal. As an individual who works in Reading it is becoming increasingly difficult to get into Reading and park without significant distance or sitting in a car for an extensive period of time. The Mount is one of the few places remaining where it is feasible to park and walk, by introducing these restrictions not only will it impact myself but also the residents (who I'm sure are against this) but also houses and streets in the close vicinity, as people who currently park in the Mount will then go to the next nearest area.