

READING BOROUGH COUNCIL

REPORT BY DIRECTOR OF ENVIRONMENT AND NEIGHBOURHOOD SERVICES

TO:	TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT SUB COMMITTEE		
DATE:	5 November 2014	AGENDA ITEM:	8
TITLE:	RESIDENTS PARKING - EXTENSION OF RESIDENTS PARKING AREAS		
LEAD COUNCILLOR:	COUNCILLOR T.PAGE	PORTFOLIO:	STRATEGIC ENVIRONMENT, PLANNING AND TRANSPORT
SERVICE:	TRANSPORTATION & STREETCARE	WARDS:	ABBEY, BATTLE, CAVERSHAM, NORCOT, KATESGROVE, PARK, REDLANDS
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1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- 1.1 To inform the Sub-Committee of requests received from residents and ward councillors regarding the amendment or introduction of resident parking areas.
- 1.2 Appendix 1. List of amendments to or extension to RP areas.

2. RECOMMENDED ACTION

- 2.1 That the members of the Sub Committee note the report.
- 2.2 That in consultation with the Chair of the Sub Committee, that the Lead Councillor for Strategic Environment, Planning and Transport and Ward Councillors, that the Head of Legal and Democratic Services be authorised to carry out statutory consultation, for Patrick Road (01R), Barry Place (03R), Cholmeley Terrace/Regent Street (12R), St Bartholomew's Road (14R) and to re-advertise Upper Redlands Road, Redlands Road and Whitley Park Lane from their existing zone numbers to Zone 15R, in accordance with the Local Authorities Traffic Orders (Procedure) (England and Wales) Regulations 1996 to advertise the proposal and subject to no objections being received to implement the proposal.
- 2.3 That subject to no objections being received the Head of Legal and Democratic Services be authorised to make the Traffic Regulation Order.
- 2.4 That any objections received following the statutory advertisement be reported to a future meeting of the Sub Committee.

2.5 That informal consultation is carried out with affected residents listed in Appendix 1, where requests have been made for the introduction of new areas of resident parking.

3. POLICY CONTEXT

3.1 The proposals are in line with current Transport and Planning Policy.

4. THE PROPOSAL

4.1 A re-organisation of all resident parking zones was carried out in 2011, following a borough wide consultation amongst residents within the existing RP Zones. This resulted in a reduction from 54 smaller zones to 14 larger zones (whilst 7 outlying streets in the borough remained within their own zones). This was implemented to more closely match the available number of kerb side spaces with permits issued and to move away from single street zones as recommended by the Department for Transport.

4.2 A number of minor amendments were carried out in early 2014 to increase kerb side space for RP holders within the existing areas, to provide additional spaces across the zones.

Schemes to proceed to statutory consultation

4.3 Following on from this, and discussions with local residents and ward councillors there has been three streets (Barry Place, Regent Street and St Bartholomew's Road) which have rejected proposals put forward in Phase 1 but would still want to see RP changes introduced. These are listed in Appendix 1, and it is therefore recommended that the revised proposals proceed to statutory consultation.

4.4 In addition in Patrick Road resident consultation has already taken place and following the decision of the September TMSC it is recommended that the introduction of RP in this street also proceeds to statutory consultation.

4.5 Following the introduction of residents parking in New Road and The Mount in September 2014, residents of Upper Redlands Road and Redlands Road have requested that they are able to join this new larger zone, 15R. Therefore an amendment to the traffic regulation order to include Upper Redlands Road (B4), Redlands Road (B5) and Whitley Park Lane (B6) into Zone 15R is recommended.

4.6 Should objections be received to any of the above schemes these will be reported back to a further TMSC for councillors consideration, should no objections be received these will be implemented as advertised.

Schemes to proceed to informal consultation

4.3 Requests which have been made from residents and/or ward councillors for the introduction of resident parking areas, which currently have no restrictions are also listed in Appendix 1.

4.4 Due to the rules of the residents parking scheme, the introduction of permits, can have a differing impact depending on individual's circumstances, and in some cases can result in an overall loss of kerb side space. It is therefore important that residents understand the consequences should RP be introduced. It is therefore recommended that an informal consultation in the form of a household questionnaire is carried out in these areas prior to any formal statutory consultation, so we can gauge the consensus amongst residents in these areas. The results of these will be reported back to a further TMSC meeting for councillor's consideration prior to any formal statutory consultation.

5. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

5.1 Any proposals for waiting restrictions are advertised under the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984.

6. EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT

6.1 In addition to the Human Rights Act 1998 the Council is required to comply with the Equalities Act 2010. Section 149 of the Equalities Act 2010 requires the Council to have due regard to the need to:-

- eliminate discrimination, harassment, victimisation and any other conduct that is prohibited by or under this Act;
- advance equality of opportunity between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it;
- foster good relations between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it.

7. COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT AND INFORMATION

7.1 Informal consultation will be carried out in the form of a questionnaire to the properties noted in Appendix 1 to gain the level of support from residents in these areas for the introduction of residents parking, results of which will be reported back to a further TMSC.

7.2 Should the majority of residents and ward councillors support the proposal for introduction of RP, Statutory consultation will commence with the advertising of Traffic Regulation Orders includes notices being displayed on street and in a local newspaper.

8. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

8.1 Expected cost of statutory consultation and on street changes would be funded through existing transport budgets. However, there is a consequential impact on the ongoing cost of administering a larger Resident's Parking Scheme.

9. BACKGROUND PAPERS

9.1 Traffic Management Sub Committee (Sep 2014, Jan 2014 & Sep 2013)