

## READING BOROUGH COUNCIL

### REPORT BY DIRECTOR OF ENVIRONMENT AND NEIGHBOURHOOD SERVICES

TO:	TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT SUB-COMMITTEE		
DATE:	7 MARCH 2019	AGENDA ITEM:	10
TITLE:	RESULTS OF STATUTORY CONSULTATIONS - PAY & DISPLAY MINOR CHANGES (HOSPITAL & UNIVERSITY AREA)		
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#### 1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- 1.1 This report informs the Sub-Committee of comments and objections received during the statutory consultation for the agreed proposals to amend a number of parking restrictions within the Hospital & University parking scheme area (Redlands/Katesgrove).
- 1.2 Members are asked to consider these objections and conclude the outcome of the proposals.
- 1.3 Appendix 1 provides the comments and objections that have been received during the statutory consultation.
- 1.4 Appendix 2 provides the drawings showing the amendments that were advertised.

#### 2. RECOMMENDED ACTION

- 2.1 That the Sub-Committee notes the report.
- 2.2 That the comments and objections noted in Appendix 1 are considered with an appropriate recommendation to either implement, amend or reject the proposals.

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| <p>2.3 That the Head of Legal and Democratic Services be authorised to seal the resultant Traffic Regulation Order and no public inquiry be held into the proposals.</p> <p>2.4 That the objectors be informed of the decision of the Sub-Committee, following publication of the meeting minutes.</p> |
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### **3. POLICY CONTEXT**

- 3.1 The provision of waiting (parking) restrictions and associated criteria is specified within existing Traffic Management Policies and Standards.
- 3.2 Under the Traffic Management Act 2004 the authority has a duty to maintain and manage the road network and secure the safe and expeditious movement of traffic.

### **4. BACKGROUND**

- 4.1 Following the implementation of the Hospital & University area parking scheme in early 2017, a scheme update was reported to the Sub-Committee at its September 2017 meeting. It was agreed at this meeting that Officers should conduct a statutory consultation on expanding Pay & Display to include weekend charging. Additional minor amendments were also proposed following feedback from residents. The results of the consultation were reported to the Sub-Committee in June 2018.
- 4.2 Whilst a number of restrictions were agreed for implementation at the June 2018 meeting, it was decided that a number of the proposals required development following further public feedback. A number of new proposals were therefore developed by Officers and Ward Councillors, which were presented to the Sub-Committee at their meeting in January 2019.
- 4.3 These proposals were approved for statutory consultation, which took place between 7<sup>th</sup> February and 28<sup>th</sup> February 2019. The objections, support and other comments received for the proposals are contained in Appendix 1 and the drawings are contained in Appendix 2.
- 4.4 The Sub-committee is asked to consider the objections and other comments received during the consultation period. The Sub-Committee can make the following decisions:
- Agree with objections - the recommended proposal will be removed from the programme and will not be implemented

- Overrule objections - the recommended proposal will be implemented, as advertised.
- Amend a proposal - an amended proposal will be implemented, provided such proposed modifications do not compromise the legality of the consultation process and resultant Traffic Regulation Order.

Those proposals that did not receive objections, nor other comments, will be implemented as advertised.

- 4.5 As yet, the previously agreed changes to the scheme have not been implemented and this includes the agreement to increase the Pay & Display charges by 10p per tariff (agreed by the Sub-Committee in January 2018). It is intended that the implementation of restriction changes in this parking scheme area will be conducted as a single scheme, once all changes have been agreed. This approach will be more cost-effective and ensure clarity of the restrictions across the scheme area, supporting enforceability. Scheme implementation will not be programmed until after a decision has been made by the Sub-Committee to implement a scheme, the meeting minutes have been agreed and the resultant legal Order is sealed.

## **5. CONTRIBUTION TO STRATEGIC AIMS**

- 5.1 This proposal supports the aims and objectives of the Local Transport Plan and contributes to the Council's priorities, as set out below:
- Keeping Reading's environment clean, green and safe
  - Ensuring the Council is fit for the future

## **6. COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT AND INFORMATION**

- 6.1 Changes to waiting restrictions will require advertisement of the sealed Traffic Regulation Order, prior to implementation.
- 6.2 Objectors will be informed of the decision of the Sub-Committee, once the meeting minutes have been agreed.

## **7. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS**

- 7.1 The sealed Traffic Regulation Orders will require advertisement, in accordance with the Local Authorities Traffic Orders (Procedure) (England and Wales) Regulations 1996.

- 7.2 Necessary changes to Highway signing and lining will need to be implemented in accordance with the Traffic Signs, Regulations and General Directions 2016.

## **8. EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT**

- 8.1 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.

- 8.2 It is not considered that an Equality Impact Assessment is relevant as the proposals are not deemed to be discriminatory and a statutory consultation has been conducted, providing an opportunity for objections/support/concerns to be considered prior to a decision being made on whether to implement the proposals.

## **10. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

- 10.1 Funding for the implementation of any new/amended restrictions has been identified from the Council's capital allocation for Transport and Streetcare. Officers will explore any further external funding opportunities that could contribute toward the delivery of the scheme.

## **11. BACKGROUND PAPERS**

- 11.1 Hospital & University Area Parking Scheme - Minor Amendments (Traffic Management Sub-Committee, January 2019).
- 11.2 Results of Statutory Consultations - Pay & Display Minor Changes (Hospital & University Area) Report (Traffic Management Sub-Committee - June 2018).