

READING BOROUGH COUNCIL

REPORT BY EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR FOR ECONOMIC GROWTH & NEIGHBOURHOOD SERVICES

TO:	TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT SUB-COMMITTEE		
DATE:	9 JANUARY 2020		
TITLE:	PARKING CONDITIONS IN THE MALBOROUGH AVENUE AND ELMHURST ROAD AREA		
LEAD COUNCILLOR:	COUNCILLOR TONY PAGE	PORTFOLIO:	STRATEGIC ENVIRONMENT, PLANNING AND TRANSPORT
SERVICE:	TRANSPORT	WARDS:	REDLANDS
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1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- 1.1 Cllr Jones, as Redlands ward Councillor, at the November meeting of the TM Sub-committee to give consideration to parking conditions in the Marlborough Avenue and Elmhurst Road area with some suggestions for changing the current waiting restrictions.
- 1.2 This report informs the Sub-Committee of the details of the question asked and gives consideration of the solutions offered for further action.

2. RECOMMENDED ACTIONS

- 2.1 That the Sub-Committee notes the report.

3. POLICY CONTEXT

- 3.1 The provision of waiting/parking restrictions and associated criteria is specified within existing Traffic Management Policies and Standards.

4. BACKGROUND AND RECOMMENDATIONS

- 4.1 Cllr Jones, Redlands ward councillor, asked at the November meeting of the Sub-committee the following: *'Can you please consider amending the parking conditions in the Marlborough Avenue and Elmhurst Road area. In particular will you consider:*
 - *New arrangements for Marlborough Avenue which includes 8am to 8pm, 7-day week, parking and share parking areas.*

- *Reduce the double yellow lines in the area.*
- *Removing the residents only provision in Elmhurst Road on the east side / university campus side and on the section of the road to the north of the junction with Marlborough Avenue.*
- *Review and reduce the pay and display tariffs on Elmhurst Road.*

4.2 The response provided by Councillor Page, the Lead Councillor for Strategic Environment, Planning and Transport was:

A shared use resident permit restriction (Mon-Fri, 10am-4pm and at all other times RP only) was first introduced in Marlborough Avenue in 2015, as part of the Waiting restriction review programme 2015A.

Upon the request of residents, via ward councillors, a revised shared use permit restriction of Mon-Fri, 8am-5.30pm and at all other time RP only was introduced as part of the wider University/Hospital parking scheme in 2016.

The Council will consider alteration of parking/permit restrictions in the area under the Bi-Annual waiting restriction review programme to be reported next at the March meeting of the Sub-committee. This will require a statutory process and invite comments/objections in the usual way.

With regard to the pay and display tariffs on Elmhurst Road these are currently under review. Approval was given by the Sub-Committee in 7th March 2019 to carry out investigations at various locations, following requests that the Council had received for new or amended waiting restrictions.

4.3 Changes within Marlborough Avenue to extend the shared use period to the typical model used across Reading 8am to 8pm Monday to Sunday requires statutory advertisement. Any changes to the double yellow line and extending resident permit parking bays also requires the council to follow the statutory process. To bring about any change for residents as quickly as possible it is proposed to advertise the 8 until 8 Monday to Sunday restriction within the next waiting restriction review from March 2020. The waiting restriction review has been established to offer the very best value for money by using both staff and funding resources in the most efficient way. It may be the case that the change to the permit times meets the expectation of residents and further changes are not necessary. To carry out a statutory process outside of the established programme will require funding and possibility additional staff time. The cost of statutory advertisement is estimated at £2500 outside of programme. The cost of the changes applied to street (for signing) is estimated at £1800.

4.4 Changes to the tariff in Elmhurst Road is not recommended at this time but will be done as a part of the annual tariff review in June. However, as we have done so in Pepper Lane we are able to offer discounted parking paid by phone. This requires the user to register an account and can be managed to ensure the integrity of the original scheme is maintained.

5. CONTRIBUTION TO STRATEGIC AIMS

5.1 This programme supports the aims and objectives of the local parking strategy and wider objectives of the Local Transport Plan and helps to deliver the following Council Priorities:

- Keeping Reading's environment clean, green and safe
- Ensuring the Council is fit for the future

6. COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT AND INFORMATION

- 6.1 Persons requesting waiting restrictions are informed that their request will form part of the waiting restriction review programme and are advised of the timescales of this programme.
- 6.2 Any Statutory consultation will be carried out in accordance with the Local Authorities Traffic Orders (Procedure) (England and Wales) Regulations 1996.

7. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

- 7.1 Any proposals for waiting restrictions are advertised under the Traffic Management Act 2004 and/or the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 and in accordance with the Local Authorities Traffic Orders (Procedure) (England and Wales) Regulations 1996.

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, victimization 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 An equality impact assessment scoping exercise will be conducted prior to recommending schemes to progress to statutory consultation or implementation.

9. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 9.1 It is intended that these works will be funded from within existing transport budgets and as a part of an established programme. The estimated cost of statutory process outside of the established programme is £2500 to which funding will have to be found if this is desired.
- 9.2 The cost of the waiting restriction review programme is dependent on a number of factors, including the number proposals that are agreed for investigation, the number progressed to statutory consultation, the number agreed for implementation and the extent/complexity of the schemes. Lining-only schemes, such as double-yellow-line restrictions will be considerably less costly to implement, compared with restrictions that require signing.

10. BACKGROUND PAPERS

10.1 Questions to TM Sub November 2019

10.2 Waiting restriction review programme 2015A

10.3 Various University and Hospital (Redlands) parking scheme reports dating back to 2010.