

Southend-on-Sea Borough Council

Agenda

Item No.

**Report of Corporate Director for Place
to
Traffic & Parking Working Party and
Cabinet Committee
on
17th September 2015**

Report prepared by: Cheryl Hindle-Terry
Team Leader, Parking, Traffic Management and Road Safety

**Traffic Regulation Orders
Suspension of Works
Portfolio Holder – Councillor Terry
A Part 1 Public Agenda Item**

1. Purpose of Report

- 1.1 For the Traffic and Parking Working Party and the Cabinet Committee to authorise the suspension of all works related to Traffic Regulation Orders for up to 16 weeks until the completion of a borough wide inventory and updating of software to capture all current Traffic Regulation Orders in plan form along with consolidation of all amendments undertaken since 2006. This excludes any works related to Parking Schemes as these have been digitised.

2. Recommendation

- 2.1. **That the Traffic and Parking Working Party and the Cabinet Committee agree to the request to suspend all works to Traffic Regulation Orders related to waiting restrictions.**

3. Background

- 3.1 ParkMap is a software package utilised by numerous parking authorities in order to maintain an inventory of all Traffic Regulation Orders (TRO's). The software assists colleagues to assess existing TRO's when designing and implementing major projects, assists the parking team and enforcement contractor to efficiently programme patrols and provides the public with up to date information related to parking controls.
- 3.2 A project to capture all current TRO's will begin in October, the project team will be surveying the borough, comparing the restrictions on street with the exiting TRO's and inputting this information into the software. This ensures our TRO's correctly define the restrictions on street. While we are confident this is currently correct, utility or other maintenance works can, on occasion, result in replacement lines not reflecting the precise distances defined in the TRO's.
- 3.3 The outcome will be a comprehensive map based system online and a new TRO covering the existing waiting restrictions. A brief demonstration of the online

application will be provided at the committee meeting and a selection of benefits of the system is listed below.

- Public viewing of parking information.
- All TRO information on one system.
- Simpler consultation processes with clear, map based information.
- Greater use of online consultation processes.
- Reduction in staff time responding to Freedom of Information requests.
- Reduction in staff time researching TRO's while responding to Penalty Charge Notice appeals.

3.4 While this work is being undertaken, it is not advisable to amend or introduce any TRO's as the risk of incorrect entries into the system is increased.

3.5 The data capture and entry is anticipated to take 12 to 16 weeks.

4. Other Options

4.1 Continue amending existing TRO's while the project is on-going. This significantly introduces the risk that the completed project could include out of date or inaccurate information.

5. Reasons for Recommendations

5.1 To allow the efficient completion of data capture and entry resulting in correct information.

6. Corporate Implications

6.1 Contribution to Council's Vision & Corporate Priorities

6.1.1 Ensuring that information is available online with clear, readily understood information relating to TRO's which contribute to a Safe and Prosperous Southend.

6.2 Financial Implications

6.2.1 None, funding for the project has been allocated.

6.3 Legal Implications

6.3.1 The completion of the project will simplify the information we provide during the statutory consultation processes related to TRO's.

6.4 People Implications

6.4.1 None.

6.5 Property Implications

6.5.1 None

6.6 Consultation

6.6.1 None.

6.7 Equalities and Diversity Implications

6.7.1 The information we provide relating to TRO's will be in map based format as opposed to complex descriptions which may not be readily understood by all

members of the community. Maps may also be understood where English is not the first language.

6.8 *Risk Assessment*

6.8.1 Neutral.

6.9 *Value for Money*

6.9.1 The project will reduce resources utilised on TRO's.

6.10 *Community Safety Implications*

6.10.1 None.

6.11 *Environmental Impact*

6.11.1 None.

7. Background papers

None.

8. Appendices

None.

APPENDIX 1 – WAITING RESTRICTIONS REQUESTS

AGREED CRITERIA FOR WAITING RESTRICTIONS(JULY 2011)

- (a) Such restrictions may only be considered along roads with road classification including and above local distributor routes, as defined in Appendix 2 of the report (as taken from the Local Transport Plan);
- (b) There is demonstrable evidence through accident analysis that there have been at least 3 personal injury accidents during the last three years resulting from adverse and/or indiscriminate parking in the vicinity.
- (c) Waiting and loading restrictions may not be introduced in isolated residential streets unless there are pedestrian and traffic safety issues demonstrated through the accident statistics (as in (b) above).
- (d) Where high traffic volume and flow is affected by parked vehicles.
- (e) The location is a junction.

Location	Request Details	Requested By	Relevant Criteria Points	Officer comments
Riviera Drive	Provide restrictions adjacent to station entrance	Officers	D and E	While this is primarily a residential street and traffic flow should not be a factor, traffic for the station has increased and parking is now occurring directly outside of the station which is also opposite a junction. The parking is impacting on the flows along the street as well as movement around the junction. Recommend advertise proposals.
Western Esplanade	Revise bays adjacent to sun shelter to provide loading bay	Developer	Criteria not applicable – revision of existing layout	Currently an area of waiting restrictions, while loading permissible on the area, disabled drivers may also park which will impede deliveries. Recommend advertise proposals.
Civic Centre East Car Park	Provide pay and display parking weekends and bank holidays	Officers	Criteria not applicable	The area is currently used for staff parking during the working week. The car park is ideal for use during the Seaway development to manage displaced parking and will also be available during the busy summer weekends to accommodate visitors. Recommend advertise proposals.

Location	Request Details	Requested By	Relevant Criteria Points	Officer comments
Quantock residents car park	Propose permit only parking	Officers	Criteria not applicable as council land	The Town Centre location of this residents car park is attractive to non-residents and subject to frequent parking including vehicles parked in hatched areas required for fire access. Recommend proposing permit style parking with costs to be met by South Essex Homes.
East Street Residents car park	Propose permit only parking	Officers	Criteria not applicable as council land	The location is very close to Prittlewell Station and subject to non-resident parking Recommend proposing permit style parking with costs to be met by South Essex Homes.
Various public parks	Propose waiting restrictions to deter parking by non-park users	Officers	Criteria not applicable as Council managed land	Some of the local parks are located near to workplaces or other destinations where insufficient parking is provided and as such, parking areas within the park are being used for long term parking resulting in park visitors not being able to access facilities. Waiting restrictions will deter this practice and ensure the parking areas are available for short term use by park visitors. Recommend advertise proposals with costs to be met by park budgets.
Bunters Avenue cul de sac	Propose waiting restrictions	Estuary housing	Does not meet criteria	Short cul de sac with turning area. Fire service visited during February 2014 and one vehicle was parked opposite to other vehicles restricting the width. Fire service left a leaflet on the vehicle and stated they would re visit and identify if a continuing issue however no further contact. Recommend parking monitored to assess if width is regularly restricted. If this is apparent and regular, the proposal would meet the criteria point (D)
Junctions	Propose waiting restrictions at unprotected junctions	Officers	Junctions only (E)	There are a number of junctions in the borough which are currently unprotected. Officers identify

Location	Request Details	Requested By	Relevant Criteria Points	Officer comments
				<p>these are through various inspections/residents calls and can react as and when required or when other works are proposed in the area if a borough wide authority is to propose these restrictions is agreed. This would be an efficient method of addressing perceived hazards.</p> <p>Recommend that agreement is provided to propose waiting restrictions at unprotected junctions as and when identified.</p>