

SEVENOAKS JOINT TRANSPORTATION BOARD – 18TH SEPTEMBER 2007

CHANGES TO PARKING RESTRICTIONS IN SWANLEY

Report of the: Community and Planning Services Director

Status: For Decision

Executive Summary: This report requests that Members approve the changes to the on-street parking Traffic Regulation Order for Swanley.

This report supports the Key Aim of effective and efficient use of resources in providing income to meet and support the Council's three year Financial Plan.

Portfolio Holder Cllr. Williamson

Head of Service Head of Environmental and Operational Services – Mr. Richard Wilson

Recommendation: It be RESOLVED that;

- (a) In areas where there were no objections, the proposed parking restriction be introduced, as agreed by the District Council's Portfolio Holder
 - (b) The parking restriction proposals in areas where there were unresolved objections be introduced, as recommended by the District Council's Portfolio Holder.
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Background

- 1 A review of parking restrictions in the Swanley area has been undertaken after issues were raised by residents and at the Swanley & Hextable Forum.
Concerns included;
 - a). Commuter parking problems on the High Firs estate.
 - b). Commuter parking problems in the St George's Road area
 - c). Pavement parking problems
 - d). Parent parking issues around the school in Court Crescent
 - e). Traffic speeds on Goldsel Road
 - f). Congestion and access problems in the Kingswood Avenue area.
 - g). Access problems in Oakleigh Close
 - h). Access problems for commercial vehicles in Oliver Road
 - i). Short term parking facilities in Station Road
 - j). Obstruction for large vehicles on Swanley Lane

k). Lack of resident parking facilities in the Azalea Drive area

- 2 To manage all of these issues the District Council needed to carry out a review over a wide area, rather than adopting a piece-meal approach to the parking problems
- 3 Three rounds of consultation have been carried out; the first round of informal consultation, comprised an exhibition and presented a number of options for residents to consider for each area. Letters inviting comment were sent to all frontagers.
- 4 The second round of formal consultation was carried out earlier this year and consisted of a combined set of proposals, reflecting the responses from the first round of consultation. A number of the proposals received no objections at this stage.
- 5 Areas that received objections (that were not subsequently withdrawn) were re-designed to try to resolve the issues raised and a third round of consultation was undertaken.
- 6 During the review it became apparent that the parking restrictions in Birchwood Park Avenue were incorrect and did not tally with the existing traffic regulation order. Informal consultation was undertaken with the residents of Birchwood Park Avenue to re-make that element of the traffic regulation order.
- 7 The third consultation (including formal consultation proposals for Birchwood Park Avenue) finished on the 7th September 2007. A number of objections were received and will be tabled for discussion at the meeting.

Introduction

- 8 The proposals for Swanley are designed to produce a cohesive scheme of parking controls to manage commuter parking and to deal with other issues raised / identified.

Areas that received no objections

- 9 Oliver Road
Oakleigh Close
Swanley Lane
Station Road
Birchwood Park Avenue
- 10 The Portfolio Holder for the Built Environment has considered the responses for these areas and as these areas can be considered separately from the other proposals recommends that the proposals be implemented as proposed.

Areas that received objections

Item No. 10

- 11 Azalea Drive area
High Firs area
St George's Road area
Kingswood Avenue area
- 12 The individual objections for these areas will be tabled separately in Appendix 1, along with the District Council's recommendations on each objection for members consideration. Unfortunately, due to the deadlines following the third consultation (requested by the Swanley & Hextable Forum) it has not been possible to include objections received within this report.

Sources of Information: Existing on and off-street parking traffic regulation orders held by the Parking and Amenity team

Contact Officer(s): Andy Bracey Ext.7323

**KRISTEN PATERSON, COMMUNITY AND PLANNING
SERVICES DIRECTOR**

RISK ASSESSMENT STATEMENT

By not introducing the measures proposed in Swanley the current parking problems associated with unregulated and inappropriate parking will continue.

By not introducing charged on-street parking controls the imbalance between charges for on and off street parking will maintained, retaining the attractiveness of on-street parking on financial grounds.

By not changing the times of restrictions and introducing charged on-street parking the District Council's existing enforcement resources are likely to be unable to manage the extended proposals. This will prevent budget targets for 2008/09 from being achieved.

By not amending errors and omissions in the existing orders, the existing orders could be challenged, and appeals against penalty charge notices could be upheld. Parking enforcement in areas of known errors would be unavailable.