

**SEVENOAKS JOINT TRANSPORTATION BOARD – 12<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER 2007**

**SEVENOAKS PARKING REVIEW**

Report of the: Community and Planning Services Director

Status: For decision

---

**Executive Summary:** This report requests that Members approve the proposed changes to the on-street parking Traffic Regulation Order for Sevenoaks which form the Sevenoaks Parking Review.

---

**This report supports the Key Aim** of the effective and efficient use of Council resources.

**Portfolio Holder** Cllr. Williamson

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

---

**Recommendation:** It be RESOLVED that;

- (a) the objections to the changes to the on-street parking Traffic Regulation Order be noted and set aside or otherwise considered as recommended by the Sevenoaks Town Parking Review Group and the Council's Portfolio Holder.
- (b) the parking restrictions be introduced as proposed.

---

**Background**

- 1 An extensive review of parking restrictions based upon zones around the Sevenoaks rail station and the Sevenoaks town centre has been undertaken, primarily to provide solutions to widespread commuter parking issues.
- 2 Rather than adopting a piece-meal approach to the parking problems, it was decided to review parking provision over a wide area to reduce any likely displacement effects of any new restrictions implemented.

**Introduction**

- 3 The parking review has been progressed and overseen by the Sevenoaks Town Parking Review Group (subsequently referred to as the Parking Group in this report). The Parking Group was formed in 2003 primarily as a forum to help identify parking problems in and around Sevenoaks town, and to suggest

and consider possible solutions. The Parking Group comprises representatives from the Sevenoaks Town Council, Residents' Associations, the Chamber of Commerce, Council Members and Officers, and is chaired by the Council's Portfolio Holder who has responsibility for parking.

- 4 Following a survey undertaken by Kent Highways in connection with the British Telecom development at Sevenoaks rail station, to identify long term on-street parking in the vicinity of the station and surrounding areas, ways to tackle on-street commuter parking were discussed by the Parking Group.
- 5 A package of measures to manage and control commuter parking around the station and Sevenoaks town centre were formulated. The proposals comprise widespread commuter parking controls combined with provision of permit parking in areas such as Mount Harry Road, Hitchen Hatch Lane, St. Botolphs Road and Vine Court Avenue, and the provision of pay and display parking in Hollybush Lane (at the Vine), Park Lane, St. Botolphs Road, Ashley Close, Ashley Road and Chestnut Lane. Extensive provision for residents' parking has also been incorporated. A powerpoint presentation which outlines the extent and intentions of the Parking Review will be circulated to Members electronically, for information, and will be made available on the Council's CMIS system.
- 6 Initial, informal consultation on the proposals was carried out during October and November 2006. The proposals were modified to take account of consultation responses and, following approval by Cabinet, a second, formal round of public consultation took place for six weeks from the 21<sup>st</sup> September 2007. In addition to notifications to Statutory Consultees, such as the Police, the Ambulance service and Fire Brigade, some 4000 letters were sent to local residents informing them of the formal consultation and inviting them to comment upon the proposals.
- 7 The proposals are contained within the Kent County Council (Various Roads in the District of Sevenoaks) (Prohibition and Restriction of Waiting and Loading and unloading, Disabled Persons Parking Places and On-Street Parking Places) (Amendment No. 14 Sevenoaks) Order 2007. This will be made available for viewing in the Members Room, will be available on CMIS or can be provided by email by request. The document has not been appended to this report because of the number of pages involved. In addition, a copy of the plans showing the proposed restrictions will be made available in the Members' Room and are also available on the Council's website by following this path from the homepage:-  
  
"Transport and Streets" → "Parking Restrictions" → "Proposed Parking Restrictions" → "Sevenoaks Parking Proposals"
- 8 The consultation period ended on 5<sup>th</sup> November. In all, 426 responses were received by the deadline.

- 9 A summary of the objections and responses received will be circulated to Members separately as soon as completed.
- 10 The objections / responses are due to be considered by the Parking Group on 5<sup>th</sup> December. The views of the Group will also be circulated to Members so that they may be taken into account along with the objections received.

**Approval Process / Programme**

- 11 The proposals and consultation responses are due to be considered by the Council's Cabinet on 20th December, taking into account comments from the Parking Review Group, from the Council's Environmental Select Committee and from this Joint Board.
- 12 It is intended that, subject to approvals being obtained, the new restrictions would be introduced in April / May next year. This would be the earliest time for implementation.

**RISK ASSESSMENT STATEMENT**

- 13 By not introducing the measures proposed for Sevenoaks the current parking problems associated with unregulated and inappropriate parking, particularly commuter parking, will continue.
- 14 By not introducing charged on-street parking controls the imbalance between charges for on and off street parking will be maintained, retaining the attractiveness of on-street parking on financial grounds.

**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**

