

SEVENOAKS JOINT TRANSPORTATION BOARD – 16 MARCH 2009

2009 TRAFFIC ORDER AMENDMENT 8

DISTRICT-WIDE SCHOOL KEEP CLEAR MARKING RESTRICTIONS

Report of the: Community and Planning Services Director

Status: For decision

Executive Summary: This report requests that Members approve the introduction of a traffic regulation order to enable the District Council to carry out parking enforcement on all School Keep Clear markings in the District of Sevenoaks.

This report supports the Key Aim of safer communities.

Portfolio Holder Cllr. Williamson

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

Recommendation: It be RESOLVED that;

- (a) The comments and objections to the changes in the on-street parking Traffic Regulation Order 2009 Amendment 8 be noted and the officer recommendations set out within this report be implemented.
 - (b) The parking restrictions be introduced as proposed.
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Background

- 1 The District Council has regular calls for parking enforcement to be provided around school entrances and exits at school pick-up and drop off times in the mornings and afternoons.
- 2 Enforcement can be provided where there are parking bays, single and double yellow lines and where there are School Keep Clear markings that are supported by a traffic regulation order.
- 3 Unfortunately, when parking enforcement was decriminalised there were omissions from national legislation that meant that School Keep Clear markings cannot be enforced by the local authority without a traffic regulation order. This means that the majority of School Keep Clear enforcement currently rests with the Police.

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- 4 Police resources have become stretched and enforcement sparse, so the Highway Authority started proceedings to introduce a county-wide traffic regulation order to make all School Keep Clear markings in the Kent enforceable by the relevant local authority.
- 5 However, procedural and resource problems within Kent Highway Services have meant that their proposal had to be abandoned.

Executive Summary

- 6 The District Council considered that there was merit in providing a safer environment outside of schools and promoted its own traffic regulation order to cover all of the School Keep Clear markings within the district, and all school road frontages, so that if there are amendments to school accesses or new School Keep Clear markings area laid, they would automatically become enforceable.
- 7 Initially all of the schools were contacted for comment, as informal consultation, then a round of formal consultation was carried out in January 2010.
- 8 However, due to the snow and associated postal difficulties, the formal consultation was re-run in February 2010, with comments and objections from both consultation periods being considered.
- 9 A summary of the consultation responses and details of the comments and objections are attached in Appendix A
- 10 Full copies of the comments and objections are attached in Appendix B

Key Implications

Financial

- 11 The costs of implementing the proposals are estimated at £2000 and will be met from the on-street parking account.

Community impact and outcomes

- 12 The District Council will be able to provide a safer environment for vulnerable people outside schools and reduce congestion at school times.

Legal, Human Rights, etc.

- 13 The procedures appropriate to the promotion, advertisement and introduction of a traffic regulation order (as set out in the Local Authorities' Traffic Orders (Procedure) (England and Wales) Regulations 1996 have been followed and exceeded.
- 14 There are no human rights issues or implications.

Risk Assessment Statement

- 15 By not introducing the measures proposed in the town of Sevenoaks the current parking problems associated with each of the locations will continue.

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

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**KRISTEN PATERSON
COMMUNITY AND PLANNING SERVICES DIRECTOR**

