

**APPENDIX 3 - FOR ADVICE**  
**PARKING PROPOSALS - ARGYLE ROAD & GORDON ROAD**  
Officers' comments and recommendations

**OFFICERS' COMMENTS/RECOMMENDATIONS**

**COMMENTS:**

The main purpose of this report is for the Joint Transportation Board to consider the relevant objections received to the parking proposals for Argyle and Gordon Roads during the statutory consultation. Comments received in support of the parking proposals have also been included for the Board's information.

The Board is reminded that this statutory consultation was undertaken at the request of the Board at its meeting on 6 December 2016 following representations from residents.

The relevant objections to the parking proposals for Argyle and Gordon Roads that were received during the statutory consultation mainly came from residents of neighbouring roads in permit Zone A, especially Eardley Road and Granville Road, and from organisations and amenities based locally.

Both of these groups indicated that the competing demands for on-street parking already give rise to parking difficulties for them and their visitors, and that this situation would be exacerbated by the parking displacement arising from the implementation of the parking proposals.

The statutory consultation for the parking proposals for Argyle and Gordon Roads coincided with the closure of the District Council's main long-stay surface car park in Sevenoaks to develop a new multi-storey car park on the site. The new car park is due to reopen in the Spring of 2019, but during its construction, displaced customers have been accommodated in temporary car parks and in existing resident parking zones (not including Zone A) around Sevenoaks town.

Some of the objectors from neighbouring roads considered that the parking controls and issues in Zone A should be reviewed holistically, rather than in individual roads, and following the opening of the new multi-storey car park.

The Board will note that the results of beat surveys undertaken in Zone A in 2015 and 2016 reported in December 2016 indicated that, on average, 11-23% of car parking spaces in Argyle Road and 5-40% in Gordon Road were unoccupied during the daytime. This represents an average of between 8-35 vacant car parking spaces within the two streets.

There are clearly competing demands for on-street parking space in this section of Zone A. Whilst the parking proposals would improve on-street parking availability for residents of Argyle and Gordon Roads, in particular the conversion of some "dual use" parking bays to "resident only", this would be to the detriment of guests and visitors to organisations and amenities based locally, who rely on free limited wait parking to support their operations and activities.

There is a risk that some of the non-residents' vehicles displaced by the proposals would migrate to other "dual use" parking bays in Zone A, especially those in neighbouring streets such as Eardley Road and Granville Road, resulting in additional parking pressures there.

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In view of this, Officers consider that a more holistic approach should be taken to dealing with the parking situation within Zone A and Sevenoaks town centre, to ensure that a balanced approach is taken to the competing parking needs of the area. Ideally, this should be reviewed following the opening of the new Buckhurst 2 multi-storey car park, when parking pressures locally should have eased.

**RECOMMENDATION**

It is advised that:

- a) the relevant objections received during the statutory consultation on proposals to amend the current parking arrangements in Argyle and Gordon Roads be noted;
- b) the relevant objections be upheld in part, and the current proposals contained in the draft TRO 2013 Amendment 27 be abandoned;
- c) amendments to the parking arrangements in Argyle and Gordon Roads be reconsidered as part of an holistic review of parking in Zone A, to be undertaken as part of a wider review of parking in Sevenoaks town centre following the opening of the new multi-storey car park; and
- d) the objectors be notified