

TO: SWALE JOINT TRANSPORTATION BOARD
DATE: 17th September 2007
SUBJECT: PARKING RESTRICTIONS – VARIOUS LOCATIONS
BY: Head of Technical Services
Classification: Unrestricted

Summary: An update report to Members informing them of the progress of various Traffic Regulation Orders and also to consider the results of recent consultations carried out in various locations in relation to new waiting restrictions.

Implications:

Human Resources Implications – None
Finance Implications – None
Legal Implications – Traffic Regulation Orders to be made
Crime & Disorder Implications – None
Sustainability Implications – None
Risk Implications – None

Decision Required: **Members to note information supplied in Annexes A and B with regard to Traffic Regulation Orders.**

Members are asked to consider the comments/objections made by the consultees and recommend that the following amendments to waiting restrictions be carried out:

- **High Street, Sheerness – Removal of Single Yellow Line**
- **Hope Way, Sheerness – Installation of Taxi Rank**

The consultees are notified accordingly.

Introduction/Background

1. Following on from the previous report in June 2007, this report provides an update on progress of various waiting restrictions currently being developed by the Borough Council.
2. As with the previous report, this document is split into 3 sections; new waiting restrictions that have been made and the traffic orders published, traffic orders for new waiting restrictions that are going to be made, and the outcome of consultations for proposed waiting restrictions.

New Traffic Regulation Orders

3. Following the agreed procedure for Traffic Regulation Orders, a works order was issued to Roger Casement in July to prepare the next Traffic Order to cover items recommended at previous Joint Transportation Board meetings. Full details of these items can be found in Annex A. Due to an increased workload with Traffic Regulation Orders associated with the recent Tour De France, Roger Casement is still in the process of preparing the formal orders, which should be advertised on site prior to the date of the Joint Transportation Board Meeting. For this reason, as the statutory period for formal objections has not passed at the date of writing this report, a tabled report will be submitted to the Joint Transportation Board if objections are received.

A formal objection to the proposed Traffic Regulation Order to install a taxi rank at the rear of Bewise in Hope Way, Sheerness, has already been received from Marchmont Chartered Surveyors acting on behalf of the QS Group. A copy of this objection can be found in Annex F.

New Traffic Regulation Orders to be Made

4. There are currently no outstanding Traffic Regulation Orders to be made, following the latest advertised Traffic Order mentioned above in 3.

Proposed Waiting Restrictions Consultation Results

5. Consultation has been undertaken with residents and statutory consultees in relation to the following sites within the Borough:

Location	Comments
High Street, Sheerness	These proposals follow a petition from residents of High Street, Sheerness for the existing Single Yellow Line outside of their properties to be removed to allow parking in the vicinity of their properties, whilst maintaining the existing Double Yellow Lines on the nearby junction.

6. Copies of the consultation material, including plans of the proposals, can be found in Annex C, and the results of the consultation can be found in Annex D.

Issues for Decision

High Street, Sheerness

7. Following receipt of a petition of 10 signatures from residents of High Street, Sheerness, a consultation was carried out with residents and statutory consultees. One objection was received to the proposal to remove the existing Single Yellow Line, from a resident in the vicinity of the restrictions. A copy of the petition can be found in Annex E.

Hope Way, Sheerness

8. With the formal traffic order for the proposed installation of a taxi rank in Hope Way in the process of being advertised, a formal objection has been received from Marchmont Chartered Surveyors, acting on behalf of their client, QS Stores, in connection with the Bewise store backing onto Hope Way, Sheerness.

Discussion

High Street, Sheerness

9. Proposals consist of removing the existing Single Yellow Line between Nos. 239 and 251 High Street, Sheerness, where current parking restrictions apply between 8:30am and 6:30pm. The petition received refers to the Single Yellow Line “wrongly placed” outside of the properties, but this is not the case and a formal traffic order has existed since the mid 1980s. It is believed that carriageway surfacing was carried out some years ago in the vicinity of these properties, and the yellow line was never replaced. Residents have therefore been parking along this section of High Street, until recently when the Borough Council’s Parking Section arranged for the line to be re-marked as part of the on-going maintenance programme.

In view of the fact that parking has taken place in this area for many years without any reported problems or safety issues, it is proposed to remove the Single Yellow Line and revoke the traffic order, as shown in Annex C. It is not proposed to amend the existing Double Yellow Lines giving

corner protection on the junction of High Street and Vincent Gardens. A copy of the petition can be found in Annex E.

Hope Way, Sheerness

10. Proposals consist of the installation of a taxi rank at the rear of the library and the Bewise store, in Hope Way, Sheerness, between Hope Street and Russell Street. An original consultation for the proposed taxi rank was carried out in the summer of 2006, with a closing date for comments of 23rd August 2006. No objections were received during this initial consultation period, but a letter dated 30th August 2006 was later received from Marchmont Chartered Surveyors, acting on behalf of Bewise, to say that it was their opinion that the proposed location of the taxi rank was within their client's land. Following a letter to Kent County Council's Highway Information Team, it was confirmed that the area was Public Highway, but Marchmont Chartered Surveyors advised that they would be submitting a formal objection to the traffic order as they felt the proposed taxi rank would severely impact on their client's business and the usage of the rear yard area for deliveries. Having inspected the site on 21st August 2007, I noted that there were six vehicles parked within the loading area/rear yard area, presumably owned by employees of Bewise, and feel that these have a far greater impact on the use of the area for deliveries than the proposed taxi rank within the Public Highway.

Recommendation

High Street, Sheerness

11. Members are asked to consider the comments/objection made by the consultees as shown in Annex D, and recommend that the restrictions at High Street, Sheerness be revoked.

Hope Way, Sheerness

12. Members are asked to consider the objection and comments made by Marchmont Chartered Surveyors as shown in Annex F, and recommend that the taxi rank be installed as proposed.

Reasons for the Recommendation

High Street, Sheerness

13. To allow additional on-street parking for residents in this section of High Street, Sheerness, whilst maintaining a safe junction at Vincent Gardens by leaving the existing Double Yellow Lines in place.

Hope Way, Sheerness

14. To provide a suitable taxi rank within walking distance of Sheerness High Street, with minimal impact on businesses and properties within the High Street.

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Date : 22nd August 2007

Report approved by:

List of background documents –

Annex A – Details of Traffic Regulation Orders made
Annex B – Details of Traffic Regulation Orders to be made
Annex C – Copies of Consultation Material

Annex D – Copies of Consultation Results
Annex E – Copy of Petition, High St Sheerness
Annex F – Copy of Objection Letter, Marchmont Chartered Surveyors