#### **AGENDA ITEM NO**

**TO:** SWALE JOINT TRANSPORTATION BOARD

**DATE:** 14 June 2010

**SUBJECT:** HGV parking in lay-bys A2 Norton

BY: Transportation and Development Manager

Classification: Unrestricted

**Summary:** To consider a petition received regarding the parking of HGVs

in lay-bys on the A2 Norton

**Decision** For Information

Required:

### **Introduction**

- 1. A petition has been received from the occupiers of Norton Ash House requesting that measures are undertaken to prevent lorries parking in the lay-bys on the A2 London Road, Norton (annexe A). They are reported to cause obstruction to the access of adjacent properties and constitute a noise nuisance and disturbance.
- 2. The petitioner has also made request to the Borough Council to remove the recycle bins outside their property.

### **Discussion**

- 3. These lay-bys are located on a rural section of the A2 with only two private residences in the immediate vicinity. No restrictions on parking are in force at this location. If restrictions were to be introduced then the Borough Council as enforcement authority would have to undertake this task. However it is reported that lorries often park overnight when enforcement is not usually undertaken.
- 4. Any highway scheme has to be submitted for funding through the council's Scheme Prioritisation System assessment programme. Those schemes which have the highest priority rating receive the necessary funding. Priority for traffic schemes is normally assessed on whether there is a pattern of personal injury crashes occurring at any particular location and that engineering measures can be devised to try and reduce them. I can advise that there have been 2 crashes reported along this section of road for the 3 year period up to 31<sup>st</sup> December 2009, this being the latest 3 year period available. Crashes involving damage only are not recorded as it is not a requirement to report these to the police. The recorded crashes were not related to the use of the lay-bys.
- 5. The petitioner has made reference to signs erected near Marley's at Harrietsham that state 'No overnight lorry parking' in a number of different languages. I am informed that these were erected fairly recently by Maidstone Borough Council to try to address some anti-social overnight behaviour. However they are not legally enforceable and it is unknown how effective they may be.

## **Decision Required**

6. As this request relates to the management of parking and environmental disturbance issues it is recommended that the Borough Council as enforcement authority, consider introducing a restriction on the overnight parking of lorries in conjunction with the re-siting of the recycle bins.

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Background documents: Annexe A – map Annexe B - photos

### Annexe A



# Annexe B





