

Policy & Resources Committee	
Meeting Date	7 th February 2024
Report Title	Proposed Bollard Removal – James Street, Sheerness
EMT Lead	Emma Wiggins, Director of Regeneration and Neighbourhoods
Head of Service	Martyn Cassell, Head of Environment and Leisure
Lead Officer	Donna Seager
Classification	Open
Recommendations	1. Members are asked to note the recommendation from the October 2023 Swale Joint Transportation Board Meeting, and recommend the removal of the bollards in James Street, Sheerness

1 Purpose of Report and Executive Summary

- 1.1 Following the recommendation from the October 2023 Swale Joint Transportation Board Meeting, Members are asked to note the contents of this report and recommend that the removal of the bollards in James Street, Sheerness, be progressed.

2 Background

- 2.1 A report was submitted to the Swale Joint Transportation Board at their meeting on 2nd October 2023. The report followed an informal consultation with residents of James Street, Sheerness, on the possible removal of the existing concrete bollards running up both sides of the road.
- 2.2 The proposals followed long-running issues with refuse freighters gaining access along this section of James Street due to the narrow width of remaining carriageway between the parked cars on both sides of the road.
- 2.3 At their meeting in October, the Swale Joint Transportation Board resolved :
- (1) That the results of the recent information consultation be noted.*
- (2) That the bollards on either side of James Street, Sheerness be removed, subject to the emergency services and Kent County Council Highways and Transportation being consulted on the removal of the bollards.*

3 Proposals

- 3.1 Kent County Council Highways and Transportation were originally consulted on the proposed removal of the bollards, and confirmed their support for the proposals to resolve issues around refuse freighter operations.
- 3.2 Following the Swale JTB meeting, the emergency services were contacted once again and invited to provide their feedback on the proposals. No concerns have been expressed from any of the emergency services in response to our communications.
- 3.3 Whilst not directly fed back during the informal consultation with residents, one resident verbally advised that there have been occasions where ambulances have had to park at the end of James Street due to access issues along the road.
- 3.4 Based on the support from KCC Highways, and the lack of objections from the emergency services, it is proposed to progress with the removal of the bollards along James Street, Sheerness.

4 Alternative Options Considered and Rejected

- 4.1 The introduction of a single yellow line on one side of James Street, Sheerness, was considered as an alternative option, but as detailed in the JTB report this was not deemed to be a practical option.

5 Consultation Undertaken or Proposed

- 5.1 The informal consultation took place with residents of James Street, Sheerness, between 17th July and 11th August 2023. Of the 65 properties consulted, 5 responses were received, 4 supporting the proposals and 1 objecting.

6 Implications

- 6.1 Should the proposals not go ahead, problems will continue with refuse collections, resulting in aborted visits or operatives having to carry refuse along the road down to the junction of Richmond Street.

Issue	Implications
Corporate Plan	Build on the benefits of an improved street cleansing service and work with residents to ensure they can take pride in their local community.
Financial, Resource and Property	Cost of issuing works order to Kent County Council to undertake the removal of the bollards.
Legal, Statutory and Procurement	None identified
Crime and Disorder	None identified
Environment and Climate/Ecological Emergency	None identified
Health and Wellbeing	The removal of the bollards will improve access for refuse freighters to ensure that regular waste collections can take place, improving the wellbeing of residents in James Street.
Safeguarding of Children, Young People and Vulnerable Adults	None identified
Risk Management and Health and Safety	None identified
Equality and Diversity	None identified
Privacy and Data Protection	None identified

7 Appendices

None

8 Background Papers

[Swale Joint Transportation Board](#) Reports and Minutes from October 2023.