



**OFFICER REPORT TO LOCAL COMMITTEE
(ELMBRIDGE)**

**PARKING UPDATE
20 SEPTEMBER 2010**

KEY ISSUE

To update the Committee on developments concerning the introduction of new parking controls since the meeting in June.

SUMMARY

At its meeting in June the Committee deferred some decisions about making amendments to the traffic regulation orders in Elmbridge because of uncertainty about funding and a lack of clarity on Surrey County Council's policy on on-street charging. This report updates Members on these two issues and contains recommendations about the level of charge in the pay and display bays near Walton station and moving disabled bays in Walton High Street.

OFFICER RECOMMENDATIONS

The Local Committee (Elmbridge) is asked to agree:

- (i) That the existing East Molesey controlled parking zone (CPZ) is divided into two smaller zones as recommended in Annex B to the June report to this Committee and also described in this report;
- (ii) That within the new smaller CPZ covering Feltham Avenue, Hurst Road and Riverbank the operational hours should be changed to 8am to 8pm on every day of the week, the permit bays should be extended where possible in front of vehicle crossovers and a restriction on waiting at any time should replace the restriction on waiting during operational hours on the inside of the internal corners of Feltham Avenue;
- (iii) That the charges for the pay and display bays in Station Avenue and Mayfield Road in the Walton CPZ are increased to £5 for four hours;

- (iv) That the disabled bays on the west side of Walton High Street are relocated as described in this report;
- (v) That the parking restriction in Wey Road, Weybridge shown in Annex A is introduced;
- (vi) That the necessary legal procedure is undertaken to make amendments to existing traffic regulation orders or make new orders as necessary in order to implement the recommended changes in (i), (ii), (iii), (iv) and (v) above, and that the changes are then implemented;
- (vii) That a decision on changes to the other part of the East Molesey CPZ (covering Bridge Road, Creek Road, and Hampton Court Parade) and on the introduction of controls in the High Street and Church Street in Cobham is deferred for further consideration after the County Council's policy on on-street charging has been clarified following the consultation on the new Parking Strategy.
- (viii) That the remaining Members' allocation of £30,350 is spent on the implementation of new and amended parking controls in Elmbridge.

1 INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND

- 1.1 On 21 June 2010, the Committee considered proposed changes to the East Molesey CPZ and proposed new parking controls in the High Street and Church Street in Cobham, following consultations in these areas. An element of both sets of proposals was the introduction of on-street pay & display charges. The Committee deferred a decision on the proposals “for further consideration after a County Council Pay and Display Policy has been agreed”.
- 1.2 At the same meeting the Committee considered proposed changes to the parking controls in a number of other locations. The Committee agreed to all the proposals except for two, a decision on which was deferred so Members could see a drawing of the proposals for clarity, rather than making a decision just based on the written description.
- 1.3 Although the Committee agreed most of the proposed changes to the parking controls in Elmbridge, the financial situation was at the time very unclear and so the Committee deferred a decision on whether and how to fund all the changes.

2 ANALYSIS

East Molesey CPZ and Cobham

- 2.1 The proposals for the East Molesey CPZ and the High Street and Church Street in Cobham included a pay & display element and the Committee decided to reconsider the proposals once there was a clear indication of the County Council’s policy on on-street charging. The County Council’s draft Parking Strategy, which includes a section on on-street charging, is currently out to public consultation. Once the consultation has finished and the revised strategy has been approved and adopted by the County Council, the position on on-street charging will be clear. In light of its decision in June, it makes sense for the Committee to reconsider these proposals once this has happened.
- 2.2 However the proposals for the East Molesey also contained other recommendations, which could still be progressed without the need for a decision on pay & display parking. The consultation responses suggested that the residents of Feltham Avenue, Hurst Road and Riverbank would prefer the operational hours to be extended through the day and into the evening and to cover the weekend as well.
- 2.3 The report in June therefore recommended that the current CPZ should be divided into two smaller CPZs with the boundary between the new zones being 10 metres to the south-east of the junction of Feltham Avenue and Riverbank. It was also recommended that the new Feltham Avenue, Hurst Road and Riverbank zone should be operational everyday of the week (including Sundays) from 8am to 8pm, and that within Feltham Avenue the permit bays should be extended where possible to go across residential crossovers in order to maximise the

amount of parking space available to residents, by allowing them to park in front of their own driveways. These recommendations could and should be introduced, regardless of the deferral of any decision about pay & display in the other smaller zone covering Bridge Street, Creek Road and Hampton Court Parade.

- 2.4 In Feltham Avenue, on the internal corners, there is currently a restriction on waiting during the operational hours of the CPZ. This is a narrow road and if any vehicle parks too close to the corner, it makes access, particularly for larger vehicles, more difficult and makes it harder for drivers to see round the corner before turning. The restriction on the inside of these corners should therefore be changed so that vehicles are prohibited from waiting there at any time, in order to help keep the corners clear.

Wey Road, Weybridge

- 2.5 At the meeting in June, the Committee deferred a decision on a proposed new parking control in Wey Road in Weybridge in order that a drawing could be prepared showing the proposal. This drawing is attached as Annex A and it is recommended to be introduced to help maintain sightlines and prevent obstruction.

Walton CPZ pay & display charges

- 2.6 At a recent meeting of the Parking Task Group, the level of charge in the on-street pay & display bays in Station Avenue and Mayfield Road in the Walton CPZ was discussed. The current fee is £3.70 for four hours (which effectively allows parking all day as the CPZ only operates between 8am and 12 noon), however the fee for parking all day in the nearby Mayfield Road car park is £5.00. This therefore means that there is in effect a financial incentive for motorists to park on street rather than off street. In order to rectify this discrepancy the charge for parking in the pay & display bays should be raised to £5.00 for four hours.

Disabled bays in Walton High Street

- 2.7 As part of a scheme called Soul to the Street, Elmbridge Borough Council are making improvements to the street scene in Walton High Street, which include widening the footway in front of the entrance to the Heart shopping centre. This means that the bus stop on that side of the High Street will have to be moved and following a recent site visit by officers from Elmbridge Borough Council, Surrey County Council and the Surrey Police, it was decided that it would be best to move it approximately 35m south-east along the High Street, so it would run from the end of the new widened footway down to the pedestrian crossing zigzags. However there are disabled parking bays at this location.
- 2.8 In order to preserve disabled parking provision on this side of the High Street, the simplest solution seems to be to move the disabled bays to the other side of the pedestrian crossing, where there is currently a stretch of limited waiting parking. The recommendation therefore is to

revoke the order designating the disabled bays to the north of the crossing and to amend the traffic orders, so as to create two disabled bays immediately adjacent to the southern end of the crossing.

3 OPTIONS

- 3.1 Agree the recommendations in this report and proceed with the statutory process for introducing parking controls.
- 3.2 Amend the recommendations and/or the proposals and proceed with the statutory process for introducing parking controls.
- 3.3 Do not proceed with any of the recommendations or proposals. The parking controls would remain unaltered.

4 CONSULTATIONS

- 4.1 The matters in this report have been discussed by the Parking Task Group.

5 FINANCIAL AND VALUE FOR MONEY IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 The cost of implementing all the proposals from the 2010 review was estimated at £75,000. The Committee has already agreed the use of the £40,000 remaining in the CPZ account. If the Committee agreed to the use of the £30,350 remaining in the members' allocation all the proposals could be implemented.

6 EQUALITIES AND DIVERSITY IMPLICATIONS

- 6.1 There are no specific equality and diversity implications within this report.

7 CRIME AND DISORDER IMPLICATIONS

- 7.1 Inconsiderate parking is a major cause of concern for residents and the police, which these proposals would help to address.

8 CONCLUSION AND REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

- 8.1 It is recommended that the locations requiring parking controls be progressed so that the current parking difficulties highlighted can be resolved. The main reasons are as follows:-

- to improve road safety
- to assist with access for emergency vehicles
- to aid access for refuse vehicles
- to ease congestion and improve the environment for residents
- to improve amenity for residents

9 WHAT HAPPENS NEXT

9.1 The proposals will be advertised in accordance with the statutory process and a new traffic regulation order will be made and amendments made to the existing traffic regulation orders, so that the proposals can be implemented.

Lead Officer: Rikki Hill
Parking Projects Manager
Telephone Number: 03456 009 009
E-mail: parking@surreycc.gov.uk

Contact Officer: John Pateman
Engineer
Telephone Number: 03456 009 009
E-mail: parking@surreycc.gov.uk

Background Papers:

- Local Committee Report '2010 Parking Review and Schemes' - 21 June 2010
- Local Committee Report '2010 Parking Review and Schemes' - 1 March 2010