

SCC LOCAL COMMITTEE IN SPELTHORNE

Proposed Waiting Restrictions Knowle Green, Staines

Extraordinary Meeting 5 December 2005

KEY ISSUE AND SUMMARY:

To introduce by Experimental Traffic Order additional waiting restrictions along Knowle Green, Staines.

OFFICER RECOMMENDATIONS:

The Committee is asked to agree that

- (i) An Experimental Traffic Order is prepared to introduce additional waiting restrictions along Knowle Green;
- (ii) The Order is implemented; and
- (iii) Public consultation is carried out in due course.

1. INTRODUCTION & BACKGROUND

- 1.1 Knowle Green leads to Spelthorne Council Offices, Staines Magistrates Court and Probation Service Offices, Staines Leisure Centre, Staines Health Centre, Fairways Day Centre and Knowle Park School together with private residences and access to Staines Recreation Ground and therefore is subject to a high volume of traffic throughout the day.
- 1.2 There has been a recent surge in on-street parking along the length of Knowle Green that is not subject to existing waiting restrictions. Vehicles at times park on both sides of the road leaving room only for a single line of traffic.
- 1.3 The present parking situation often results in traffic being held up in one direction or the other for fairly lengthy periods. At times traffic comes to a standstill and has led on a number of occasions, reportedly, to friction between drivers. This has led to numerous complaints to both the Local Transportation Service and Spelthorne Borough Council.
- 1.4 The police have issued advisory notices to drivers who parked along Knowle Green between its junction with Kingston Road and the entrance to the car park of the Magistrates Court but this appears to have had little effect.
- 1.5 Discussion has taken place with the present occupiers of Compass Point, the office block to the north of Knowle Green roundabout, to try to dissuade their workers from parking in Knowle Green but also with little effect though it is understood that a park and ride scheme to that office may be introduced.

Item No.3

1.6 Although the problem appears to be due to the reoccupation of Compass Point it is likely that the present parking situation would have arisen at some time as the enforcement of existing waiting restrictions in Staines encourages drivers to look further afield for parking.

2. ANALYSIS AND COMMENTARY

- 2.1 The quickest means of resolving this problem is to introduce waiting restrictions by an Experimental Traffic Order. This will allow public consultation to be carried out simultaneously with the implementation of the Order.
- 2.2 It is proposed to introduce No Waiting At Any Time restrictions along both sides of Knowle Green between its junction with Kingston Road and the Council Offices car park entrance on the north side, a distance of approximately 60m, and to the Magistrates Court car park entrance on the south side, a distance of approximately 70m. Additionally the No Waiting At Any Time restrictions would be extended along Kingston Road along its western side to meet with existing waiting restrictions, a distance of approximately 30m to the north and 40m to the south.
- 2.3 It is also proposed to introduce waiting restrictions, 08:30 to 18:30, along the northern side of Knowle Green between the proposed No Waiting At Any Time restrictions and the existing restrictions adjacent to Staines Leisure Centre, a distance of approximately 215m. The proposal is shown on the attached Annex.
- 2.4 It is believed these measures will reinstate the free movement of traffic along Knowle Green at all times.

3. CONSULTATIONS

- 3.1 Discussions with Surrey Police have been ongoing since this problem developed and they are in favour of the proposal.
- 3.2 The Order will be advertised in the local press and by notices on site.

4. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

4.1 The cost of the Order and its implementation is estimated to cost £5,000 and could be funded from the Local Allocation.

Item No.3

5. SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT IMPLICATIONS

5.1 The proposal will substantially reduce congestion.

6. CRIME & DISORDER IMPLICATIONS

6.1 The proposal will reduce friction between drivers and possible subsequent public order issues.

7. EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS

7.1 There are no implications.

8. CONCLUSION

8.1 The current parking issues along Knowle Green are of great concern to many people and it is believed the introduction of additional waiting restrictions will resolve the problem.

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BACKGROUND PAPERS: None

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