



**Disabled Persons Parking Bays In
Sappho Court, Woking – Proposed
Traffic Regulation Order**

**Local Committee for Woking
12 June 2003**

KEY ISSUE:

To seek approval for a Traffic Regulation Order which will enable the Police to enforce two disabled persons' parking bays in Sappho Court, Goldsworth Park.

SUMMARY:

Able-bodied drivers are parking in disabled drivers' parking bays in Sappho Court, making it difficult for disabled residents to use their cars. Making the bays enforceable should remove this problem and improve the quality of life for the disabled residents.

In order to maintain parking provision for able-bodied drivers, it is also proposed in the future to create two additional parking places.

CONSULTATIONS:

The Police have been consulted on the proposals and have no objections.

If approved, the proposals will be advertised in the local press and on the Council's website, so that members of the public are given an opportunity to make representations.

OFFICER RECOMMENDATIONS:

The Committee is asked to agree

- a. that a Traffic Regulation Order be advertised, under the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, to make two disabled persons' parking bays in Sappho Court, Woking, enforceable, and that, if no objections are received, the order be made;
- b. that authority be delegated to the Local Transportation Manager, in consultation with the Chairman and Ward Members, to consider and determine any objections and to make the order; and
- c. that two additional parking places are constructed, for the use of able-bodied drivers, as shown on Plan No. 11487, when funding is made available.

Introduction and background

- 1 Sappho Court is a residential cul de sac in Goldsworth Park. Demand for on-street parking is high, and there are three disabled drivers' parking bays. A request has been received from a disabled resident for appropriate action to be taken to overcome the problem of able-bodied drivers parking in disabled persons' parking bays. The request has been endorsed by Borough Councillor Ian Eastwood and County Councillor Mrs Margaret Hill.
- 2 The Committee, at its meeting on 11 September 2002, agreed to make one of these bays enforceable by the Police, following a request from a disabled resident. However, subsequently, further requests have been received from disabled residents to make the remaining two disabled drivers' parking bays enforceable as well. This request has been endorsed by both Borough and County Councillors.

Analysis and Commentary

- 3 In order to overcome possible objections from able-bodied residents, it is proposed that an additional two parking spaces should be created at the same time as the disabled drivers' parking bays are made enforceable. This will ensure that the number of parking spaces available for able-bodied drivers remains the same. The proposals are shown on Plan No. 11487 attached at Annex A.

Financial implications

- 4 The cost of advertising and making the order, and of providing the necessary signs, is estimated to be £1,200 and can be funded from the "Signs and Aids to Movement" budget for 2003/4.
- 5 The cost of constructing two additional parking spaces is estimated to be £7,500. Funding will need to be identified.

Sustainable development implications

- 6 There are no sustainable development implications.

Crime & disorder implications

- 7 Once the Traffic Regulation Order has been made, parking by drivers not displaying a disabled persons' badge will be an offence, enforceable by the Police.

Equalities implications

- 8 Making the bays enforceable should improve access to private transport, as enjoyed by able-bodied drivers, for the disabled drivers concerned, thus promoting their levels of social inclusion.

Conclusions and reasons for recommendations

- 9 Disabled residents in Sappho Court are experiencing regular problems with able-bodied drivers parking in disabled drivers' parking bays. Making the bays enforceable should remove this problem and improve the quality of life for these residents.
- 10 The creation of two additional parking spaces in the future will ensure that able-bodied drivers do not suffer from a reduction in parking provision.

Report by: Stephen Child, Local Transportation Director, Woking

LEAD/CONTACT OFFICER: John Masson

TELEPHONE NUMBER: 518300

BACKGROUND PAPERS: None

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