



OFFICER REPORT TO LOCAL COMMITTEE (WOKING)

SCHOOL KEEP CLEAR MARKINGS IN WOKING

27 JUNE 2012

KEY ISSUE

To consider upgrading all school keep clear markings in Woking so that they can be enforced.

SUMMARY

There are a number of school keep clear (SKC) markings outside schools across Woking. At the moment most are only advisory markings as they are not supported by a traffic regulation order (TRO), and it is therefore necessary to rely on drivers' goodwill not to park on them, as it is not a contravention to do so. By ensuring that the markings are correctly laid out and accompanied by the appropriate signage, and supported by a TRO at all locations, it will be possible to penalise drivers who stop on the markings.

OFFICER RECOMMENDATIONS

The Local Committee (Woking) is asked to agree that:

- (i) All the existing SKC markings in Woking are included in the TRO;
- (ii) That the County Council's intention to make the amendment to the TRO under the Road Traffic Regulation act 1984 is advertised and, if no objections are maintained, the order is made;

- (iii) That if objections are received the Parking Strategy and Implementation Team Manager is authorised to try and resolve them;
- (iv) That if any objections cannot be resolved, the Parking Strategy and Implementation Team Manager, in consultation with the Chairman and Vice Chairman of this committee and the county councillor for the division, decides whether or no they should be acceded to;
- (v) An amendment order to the TRO is made in future if any new SKC markings are introduced, and that the steps described in (ii) to (iv) are followed for that order.

1 INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND

- 1.1 SKC markings are introduced outside schools to provide a length of carriageway where vehicles are not permitted to stop, even to drop off or pick up passengers. This is an important road safety feature as it allows a clear line of sight for pedestrians that is unimpeded by vehicles at the kerbside.
- 1.2 The markings can be introduced on an advisory basis by simply being painted on the carriageway or they can be introduced formally if they are accompanied by the appropriate sign(s) and supported by a TRO. In the latter case, it is a contravention to stop on the marking for which penalty charge notices can be issued.

2 ANALYSIS

- 2.1 Annex 1 contains a list of the schools in Woking which have one or more SKC markings outside them. However, at the present time, there is no TRO in place for many of them and a number of them do not have any signs. This means that a lot of them cannot be enforced, and as a result they can be less effective.
- 2.2 The Parking Strategy & Implementation Team is undertaking a programme of work to make all the SKC markings in Surrey enforceable. To this end they have visited all the schools in Woking, checked whether they have markings and signs and, if so, whether they comply with the regulations, which prescribe the length and layout of the markings and the format and wording of the signs.
- 2.3 All the non-compliances have been noted and a schedule of work is currently being drawn up to put them right. Once this has been done, it will still be necessary for a TRO to be in place in order that enforcement of the markings can take place.

3 CONSULTATIONS

- 3.1 The education authority and/or schools will be consulted to determine the best times for the markings to be operational. As with all TROs a consultation will take place, in line with the requirements of the legislation, with the emergency services and other statutory consultees.

4 FINANCIAL AND VALUE FOR MONEY IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 The advertising of the TRO and the necessary works will be funded from the Parking Strategy & Implementation Team's budget.

5 EQUALITIES AND DIVERSITY IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 There are no specific equality and diversity implications arising from this report

6 CRIME AND DISORDER IMPLICATIONS

- 6.1 There should be fewer instances of dangerous and inconsiderate parking if drivers respect the markings, which is more likely if enforcement action can be taken to ensure that they do.

7 REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

- 7.1 Making the SKC markings enforceable will improve road safety near schools.

8 WHAT HAPPENS NEXT

- 8.1 The county council will carry out the necessary legal process to make the TRO and the necessary works to make the markings and signs legally compliant.

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BACKGROUND PAPERS: None