



OFFICER REPORT TO LOCAL COMMITTEE (MOLE VALLEY)

PROPOSED BUS STOP CLEARWAYS (VARIOUS LOCATIONS)

5th December 2012

KEY ISSUE

To seek the Local Committee's approval to create bus stop clearways in Barnett Wood Lane (Ashtead), The Street (Ashtead), Leatherhead Road (Great Bookham) and High Street (Dorking).

SUMMARY

New bus stop clearways are needed at various bus stops in Mole Valley to prevent parked vehicles obstructing the bus stops, so helping passengers to use the bus services safely. The Committee is asked to approve the implementation of these clearways, which can then be enforced by the District Council's Civil Enforcement Officers.

OFFICER RECOMMENDATIONS

The Local Committee (Mole Valley) is asked to agree that:

- (i) A bus stop clearway be introduced in Barnett Wood Lane, Ashtead, at the existing bus stop adjacent to St Georges Church, the hours of restriction to be 07:00 to 19:00 daily;
- (ii) A bus stop clearway be introduced in The Street, Ashtead, at the relocated bus stop adjacent to property no. 104, the hours of restriction to be 'At any time';
- (iii) A bus stop clearway be introduced in Leatherhead Road, Great Bookham, at the existing bus stop adjacent to Beckley Parade, the hours of restriction to be 07:00 to 19:00 Monday to Saturday; and

- (iv) A bus stop clearway be introduced in High Street, Dorking, at the existing stop adjacent to property nos. 344-346, the hours of restriction to be 'At any time'.

1. INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND

- 1.1 Surrey County Council, as the Highway Authority, has powers under the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 and the Traffic Sign Regulations and General Directions 2002 to create bus stop clearways. A bus stop clearway is a parking restriction at a bus stop that can be enforced by the District Council's Civil Enforcement Officers as they would waiting restrictions. They are, however, more onerous than waiting restrictions because the clearway also prohibits stopping and loading/unloading over the length of the bus stop.
- 1.2 Unlike waiting restrictions, a Traffic Regulation Order is not required to implement a bus stop clearway and so there is no mandatory statutory consultation process. Consequently it is Surrey policy that these measures are approved by the Local Committee to ensure that there is some local consultation prior to their implementation.
- 1.3 There are currently four locations in Mole Valley where bus stop clearways are proposed:
 - a) Barnett Wood Lane, Ashtead (adjacent to St Georges Church)
- requested by the Residents' Association
 - b) The Street, Ashtead (adjacent to property 104)
- requested by the divisional Member and bus users group
 - c) Leatherhead Road, Great Bookham (adjacent to Beckley Parade)
- requested by bus users
 - d) High Street, Dorking (adjacent to property nos. 344-346)
- requested by the bus operator

2 ANALYSIS

- 2.1 Bus stop clearways prevent vehicles stopping at bus stops and so ensure buses can pull up close and parallel to the kerb. This means that passengers do not have to get on and off the bus in the carriageway and enables ramps to be deployed for wheelchair users and pushchairs. Bus stop clearways also assist operators to operate to their schedule more easily.
- 2.2 The proposed bus stop clearways would not reduce existing on-street parking provision.
 - a) Barnett Wood Lane, Ashtead
- existing bus stop cage
 - b) The Street, Ashtead
- existing double yellow lines
 - c) Leatherhead Road, Great Bookham
- existing bus stop cage

- d) High Street, Dorking
 - existing double yellow lines

3 CONSULTATIONS

- 3.1 The divisional Members for the relevant areas have been consulted. If these proposals are approved, letters will be sent to the affected frontagers prior to implementation.

4 FINANCIAL AND VALUE FOR MONEY IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 Implementation of the proposed bus stop clearways will be funded by the Passenger Transport Group.

5 EQUALITIES AND DIVERSITY IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 Buses that can pull up to the kerb allow passengers with mobility problems to board more easily and safely.

6 CRIME AND DISORDER IMPLICATIONS

- 6.1 Clear and enforceable parking restrictions help improve compliance and reduce obstruction problems.

7 CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

- 7.1 Bus stop clearways help keep parked vehicles away from bus stops which makes it easier for passengers, particularly those with mobility problems, to board. Buses are also less likely to block traffic behind. It is recommended to introduce bus stop clearways at four locations in Mole Valley where problems with parked vehicles are currently experienced by buses trying to access the bus stops.

8 REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

- 8.1 To help improve bus services in Surrey, one of the objectives of Surrey's Local Transport Plan.

9 WHAT HAPPENS NEXT

- 9.1 Subject to Local Committee approval, the bus stop clearways will be implemented and the restrictions enforced.

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