

SURREY COUNTY COUNCIL**LOCAL COMMITTEE (MOLE VALLEY)****DATE:** 2nd December 2015**LEAD OFFICER:** Roy Varley
Senior Transport Officer**SUBJECT:** Introduction of Bus Stop Clearway on A25 Guildford Road
Abinger Hammer**DIVISION:** Dorking Hills**SUMMARY OF ISSUE:**

To seek the Local Committee's approval to introduce a bus stop clearway on Guildford Road Abinger Hammer

RECOMMENDATIONS:

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

1. A Clearway is introduced at the existing bus stop on Guildford Road Abinger Hammer (at Marsh View). The restriction to be no stopping 7 until 7 except buses Mon-Sat.

The proposed restrictions are recommended as they follow Department for Transport guidance that they should be 'appropriate to the operating times of the bus service'.

REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Buses require parallel alignment with the kerb to deploy ramping and kneeling equipment to allow access for wheelchair users and those with mobility problems.
2. Parked vehicles within bus stops prevent this access.
3. Bus stop clearways enable Borough and District enforcement officers to issue penalty charge notices on offending vehicles thereby discouraging inconsiderate parking.

1. INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND:

- 6.1 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 Borough or District Councils 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.
- 6.2 Unlike waiting restrictions there is no mandatory statutory consultation process in order for a highway authority to implement a bus stop clearway. Consequently it is Surrey Highways policy that these measures are approved by the Local Committee to ensure that there is some local consultation prior to their implementation.
- 6.3 There is currently one bus stop in Abinger Hammer where a bus stop clearway is proposed :

On the A25 Guildford Road at Marsh View (west of the Felday Road junction).

2. ANALYSIS:

- 2.1 To prevent vehicles parking in bus stops and ensure easy access for buses to gain parallel alignment to kerbs enabling ramping equipment to be deployed for wheelchair users and pushchairs. Ensuring that all equipment can be used efficiently and prevent unnecessary inconvenience to passengers and other road users. This would also assist bus operators to operate to their schedule more easily.

3. OPTIONS:

- 3.1 Leave bus stops without clearway protection allowing inconsiderate parking preventing buses from gaining access to the stops. Passengers then would be made to board or alight buses from the carriageway.
- 3.2 Many services are now operated by modern low-floor, fully accessible buses making it easier for people in wheelchairs, those with buggies, people with mobility impairments and those carrying heavy shopping to board and alight. Bus stop clearways allow buses to access the kerb to enable easier boarding.

4. CONSULTATIONS:

- 4.1 The bus operators have been consulted and agree with the proposals. Borough and County Councillors will have been sent a copy of this report in advance of the meeting.
- 4.2 If the restrictions are approved any affected frontagers will be informed by a letter drop.

5. FINANCIAL AND VALUE FOR MONEY IMPLICATIONS:

- 5.1 None

6. EQUALITIES AND DIVERSITY IMPLICATIONS:

- 6.1 Buses that can pull up to the kerb allow passengers with wheelchairs to board more easily and safely. Access to the bus is also easier for those with buggies and mobility problems.

7. LOCALISM:

- 7.1 Inconsiderate on street parking within the affected bus stops will be discouraged by penalty charge notices being issued by the Borough or District enforcement officers.
- 7.2 Access to buses for the local residents who use, them will be improved.

8. OTHER IMPLICATIONS:

Area assessed:	Direct Implications:
Crime and Disorder	Clear and enforceable parking restrictions help improve compliance and reduce obstruction problems.
Sustainability (including Climate Change and Carbon Emissions)	No significant implications arising from this report
Corporate Parenting/Looked After Children	No significant implications arising from this report
Safeguarding responsibilities for vulnerable children and adults	No significant implications arising from this report
Public Health	No significant implications arising from this report

9 CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS:

- 9.1 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.

10. WHAT HAPPENS NEXT:

- 10.1 A letter drop to any affected frontagers will be undertaken.
- 10.2 The carriageway will be painted with the current Department for Transport diagram for a bus stop clearway.
- 10.3 The bus stop clearway will then be implemented and enforced.

Contact Officer:

Roy Varley, Senior Transport Officer 03456 009 009

Consulted:

County and District Councillors will have been sent a copy of this report in advance of the meeting.

Bus operators

Any affected frontagers will be notified if the Committee approve the restrictions.
