

SURREY COUNTY COUNCIL**LOCAL COMMITTEE****DATE:** 12th June 2013**LEAD OFFICER:** Stephen Clavey, Senior Engineer - Parking Strategy and Implementation Team**SUBJECT:** Officer Report To Local Committee**DIVISION:** Mole Valley**SUMMARY OF ISSUE:**

Each year Surrey Highways receives requests to change existing or introduce new parking restrictions. These requests are compiled and reviewed in a district wide review every 12-18 months in Mole Valley.

This report sets out the locations proposed for the 2013/14 review and the committee is asked to approve statutory consultation for changes to on-street parking restrictions in Mole Valley.

Annex 1 contains a the list of locations with a statement of reasons for the Proposals and showing the suggested proposals

RECOMMENDATIONS:

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

- (i) The proposals in Annex 1 are agreed.
- (ii) That where necessary the Parking Team Manager, in consultation with the Chairman, Vice-Chairman and local Member make any necessary adjustments to the proposals and agree detail, based on informal consultation, prior to statutory consultation.
- (iii) That the intention of the County Council to make an Order under the relevant parts of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 to impose the waiting and on street parking restrictions in Mole Valley as shown in the Annexe (and as subsequently modified by ii) are advertised and that if no objections are maintained, the Order is made.
- (iv) That if necessary the Parking Team Manager will report the objections back to the local committee for resolution.

- (v) To allocate funding of £10,000 in 2013/14 to implement the parking amendments.
- (vi) That the existing text based parking traffic regulation orders are converted to plan based orders.
- (vii) That the Parking Team Manager, in consultation with the Chairman, Vice-Chairman and local Member agree statutory consultation for any additional parking restrictions that may be required as a consequence of the district council's planned changes to off street car parks in Gt. Bookham

REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS:

Changes to the highway network, the built environment and society mean that parking behaviour changes and consequently it is necessary for a Highway Authority to carry out regular reviews of waiting and parking restrictions on the highway network.

It is recommended that the waiting restrictions in this report are progressed as they will help to:

- Improve road safety
- Increase access for emergency vehicles
- improve access to shops, facilities and businesses
- Increase access for refuse vehicles and service vehicles
- Ease traffic congestion
- Better regulate parking

1. INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND:

- 1.1 Surrey County Council's Parking Team carry out reviews of on-street parking restrictions across Surrey, with each district or borough having a review on a 12 to 18 month cycle. This is intended to keep on top of changes in travel behaviour and the built environment that can often change on street parking patterns.
- 1.2 Requests for changes to parking restrictions have been made by residents, councillors as well as emergency and public service organisations. These have been collated and used as the basis for this parking review.

- 1.3 The last parking review has been substantially implemented, however there have been delays in erecting the signs necessary to make some locations enforceable. This work is planned to be completed in June.
- 1.4 Work has also been substantially completed to make school keep clear markings enforceable by civil enforcement officers (CEOs). The statutory processes will be completed in conjunction with the remaining signs being erected in June.
- 1.5 The Traffic Regulation Orders (TRO) governing parking restrictions in the Borough are currently text based. This means the location of waiting and parking restrictions are written down in the orders. This system is not easy to understand or administer and it is planned to change to a plan based system following this review. This will make future reviews easier to manage and administer.

2. ANALYSIS:

- 2.1 As mentioned above, requests for changes to parking restrictions are made by residents, councillors as well as emergency and public service organisations. These initial requests are assessed following these two stages:
 - an initial “desktop” exercise to eliminate requests for restrictions that were clearly not practical or feasible.
 - site visits to all remaining locations.
- 2.2 Each feasible request was assessed based on several factors including road safety, localised congestion, access to shops and businesses, effect on emergency services and bus operators and Member and public concern/priority.
- 2.3 Following stage two of the review, some suggestions and requests were not progressed due to there being insufficient evidence to suggest there was parking a problem which warranted restrictions, or where no feasible or practical solution was found.
- 2.4 The locations where officers consider new or amended restrictions may be of benefit are listed and shown on plans in Annex 1.
- 2.5 There have been requests for residents parking schemes in **Dorking** Town centre. Consequently it is planned to carry out some initial consultation in the Rothes Road/Hart Road and Church St./Myrtle Rd areas to see if residents parking should be introduced. This is likely to run separately to the main review so as not to hold it up.

- 2.6 Residents in **Hookwood** have been consulted about parking problems in the village over the last 12 months. A number of options have been considered to reduce the impact of airport parking in the village and to help residents and their visitors park more easily. The outcome of these consultations is shown on a plan in Annex 1.
- 2.7 Options considered included an overnight parking ban in Povey Cross Road, residents parking and day time restrictions in Withey Meadows, Malcolm Gardens and Forge Place. There were many differing views on each, and the proposals for statutory consultation are as follows:
- Povey Cross Road – the 4 hour parking limit is difficult to enforce because there is a 1 hour 'no return' period. It is planned to increase this to 'no return for 4 hours'. An over-night parking ban was not felt appropriate as residents also park in the road in the evening and at night.
 - It is proposed to introduce a 2 hour parking restriction (10.00-12.00 in the morning, Mon – Fri) in Malcolm Gardens and Forge Place. This should prevent all day airport parking and allow residents and their visitors to park on the road most of the day.
 - There was little support for reducing the restriction times in Reigate Road as these seem to be working adequately.
 - A potential development and the need to retain unrestricted parking space for residents means there are no proposals planned in Withey Meadows at the present time.
- 2.8 Mole Valley District Council are planning changes to some of their car parks in **Great Bookham**. This could lead to displacement onto the highway and so it is planned to co-ordinate work with the district council and target on street restrictions where problems arise. Recommendation vii allows any such proposals not included in the annex to be progressed in this way.
- 2.9 New parking restrictions were recently introduced in **Chart Lane**, Dorking to reduce obstructive parking. Nearby residents were supportive of the proposals, however there have been requests from school parents to relax the times and make access to the nearby school easier. It is planned to discuss this further with the local member and include any adjustments, if needed, in this review.

3. CONSULTATIONS:

- 3.1 The proposed changes to parking restrictions will require a traffic regulation order to be advertised as part of a statutory consultation process. As part of this, public notices will be displayed in the local

press and on streets where changes are planned. The councils website also plays an important part allowing residents to download and print plans showing all of the proposals. During the consultation period comments and objections can be submitted in response to the proposals and/or the making of the order.

- 3.2 In most cases some initial consultation and discussion with Members has taken place. Parking restrictions can affect a great number of highway users, residents and businesses so the recommendations in this report propose that if necessary, further changes to the proposals in Annex 1 can be made after the meeting. These need to be agreed by the Parking Team Manager in consultation with the Chairman, Vice Chairman and Divisional Member. This will help ensure that the proposals meet the needs of the community as closely as possible when the statutory advertisement is made.
- 3.3 As with the last review it is planned to consult with residents in some roads about the possible introduction of resident permit parking. The current charge for permits is set at a minimum of £50 per year for the first vehicle and £75 per year for any subsequent vehicles. Visitors' permits are set at £2 per day per permit. Mole Valley District Council will operate these schemes and will be involved in their development.
- 3.4 As part of the advertising process, those areas that have been selected for the implementation of a residents permit scheme will be letter dropped with the full details of the proposals. Individual comments will then be collated and the results taken back to the Chairman, Vice Chairman and relevant member as part of an objection report.

4. FINANCIAL AND VALUE FOR MONEY IMPLICATIONS:

- 4.1 The cost of carrying out borough/district parking reviews (officer time) is met by the Parking Team. However, implementation costs in total are likely to be £20,000 and are jointly met from Local Committee and parking team budgets. It is recommended that the Local Committee allocate £10,000 towards the cost of implementing the proposals in Annex 1 from their 2013/14 revenue budget.
- 4.2 Mole Valley District Council carry out the enforcement of on street parking restrictions for Surrey County Council. Under new agency agreements Mole Valley District Council is responsible for any deficit in the operation of CPE so any new restrictions should be carefully considered and take enforcement costs into account.

5. EQUALITIES AND DIVERSITY IMPLICATIONS:

- 5.1 Effective parking restrictions and enforcement can assist accessibility for those with visual or mobility impairment by reducing instances of obstructive parking. Parking restrictions also allow blue badge holders better access to shops and services through the provision and enforcement of disabled bays

6. LOCALISM:

- 6.1 Many of the proposals in the report have been put forward by members of the community and all will be able to comment and have their say during the statutory consultation process.
- 6.2 Communities are represented by County Councillors and committee members who are involved in the decision making process to change or introduce new parking restrictions.

7. CRIME AND DISORDER IMPLICATION:

- 7.1 There should be fewer instances of obstructive parking as a consequence of the proposals in this report

8. CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS:

- 8.1 The highway network, the built environment and society mean that parking behaviour changes and consequently it is necessary for a Highway Authority to carry out regular reviews of waiting and parking restrictions on the highway network. It is recommended that the waiting restrictions in this report are progressed as they will help to:
- Improve road safety
 - Increase access for emergency vehicles
 - improve access to shops, facilities and businesses
 - Increase access for refuse vehicles and service vehicles
 - Ease traffic congestion
 - Better regulate parking

9. WHAT HAPPENS NEXT:

- 9.1 Where necessary, the parking team will carry out an informal consultation with residents where residents permit zones are proposed to better establish the level of support and the likely operational conditions. The outcome of this informal consultation will feed into the

statutory consultation and decisions on detail will be made in conjunction with chairman and vice chairman of the committee, local councillor and the parking team.

- 9.2 A Traffic Regulation Order will be advertised and public notices detailing the proposed changes will be displayed in the local press and on site. County Councillors will be involved in the decisions about whether restrictions should go ahead following statutory advertising.
- 9.3 Subject to any objections to the proposals being resolved, a traffic regulation order will then be made and the appropriate signs and lines installed to allow the restrictions to be enforced.

Contact Officer: Stephen Clavey, Senior Engineer – SCC Parking Team
David Curl, Team Manager, SCC Parking Team

Consulted: The report details locations for consultation.

Annexes: There is one annexe containing a list and drawings of the locations proposed for statutory consultation.

Sources/background papers:

This page is intentionally left blank