

Village or Town	Please let us know what you think about the proposals - How would you classify your feedback?	Please let us know what you think about the proposals - Please enter your comments below
<b>Objections</b>		
EPSOM	Objection	I appreciate that there may be an issue with race horses being spooked by cars, but I have only ever seen people driving slowly and carefully, especially if there are horses around. The car park is a good base to start walking, and it seems unnecessary to close the road. Please consider the fact that there has been access here for many generations. We have too much interruption on other roads from horses.
EPSOM	Objection	closing over night is fine but not during race training hours
Epsom	Objection	As a member of the Epsom Downs Model Aircraft Club, until recently (pre pandemic) we have enjoyed the ability to drive to and from the Top Car Park up till 9pm in the summer months. We have been able to fly until dusk or 8pm whichever is later. The 7pm cut off time curtails our flying facility, especially for those of us who have daytime jobs. We have a legal right to fly models on the Downs and I believe that right extends to 8pm in the summer months. This change of hours seems to have been slipped in without any real discussion. To ratify the practice of closing at 9pm would, I believe, not cause any controversy at all but the current proposal is a further restriction that requires proper discussion.
Ashtead	Objection	I cannot agree with the proposals put forward to close access the car park for a large part of the day. This has been a place to park for many years and has always been a popular place to start a walk on the Downs. Covid may have increased use of the Downs but it does appear that the Jockey Club would prefer to keep everybody away from the course when for many many years it has been easily accessible. 50 years ago you could drive right across the downs to Walton on the Hill on the Old London Road, not any longer.
Epsom	Objection	I object to the part closure as it will restrict access to the top of the downs for people with mobility issues It will also put pressure on the lower car parks which could it cope with the volume of cars when the top car park was closed in lockdown The Downs should be accessible for everyone It works perfectly well as it is
epsom	Objection	they represent a severe curtailment of the access the public has hitherto enjoyed for many years (60 in my personal case) to this unspoiled stretch of countryside. In that time in weekly or fortnightly use I have never seen unruly, let alone dangerous, behaviour of the kind cited by advocates of restriction of access. They will certainly be a severe restriction of my own experience.
Epsom	Objection	I believe it shouldn't be done. I am not in favour for the following reasons: - It's difficult to park in the area. The parking over the far (Tatenham Corner) side is inadequate. - It will Make traffic and parking on the verges between the grandstand and the roundabout at tattenham corner worse than it is. We saw that when it was closed over the lockdown periods -it will adversely affect the local residents with parking spilling out.
Ewell	Objection	If the proposal to close the road us to impede public access across the downs, then this will fail. Anyone wanting to walk will simply park elsewhere and access the downs from the B289. People will park even more in considerately than they do already. While not publicly owned space it is a public amenity and should be freely maintained as such.
Epsom	Objection	The plan seems like an unnecessary restriction. I value having access to the car park as the Downs is a great place to take the kids.

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Epsom	Objection	<p>The recommendation put to the Conservators and then to the Borough and County Councils is not argued convincingly:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The Old London Road car park has been de facto closed for 30 years, though without either Council apparently having any record of authorising this. This de facto closure is not a justification for authorising it now, still less for extending the hours of closure, as this proposal requests.</li> <li>2. All the argumentation relates to the problems during the pandemic, when extraordinary steps were taken to close the Old London Road and other car parks. These were not typical times.</li> <li>3. The incidents alleged involved health and safety matters relating to pedestrians on the Downs. Closing the Old London Road car park will not stop pedestrians getting onto the Downs, either on foot or from the other two car parks near Tattenham Corner. If there is a danger from the presence of pedestrians and racehorses on the Downs at the same time, should there not be a strategy for managing that problem, rather than extending the hours during which traffic cannot get to the top car park?</li> <li>4. There is no evidence presented to justify closing the Old London Road car park two hours earlier at night during the summer. Fly tipping is alleged but the Conservators do not say what measures they have taken to stop that. The long summer evenings provide opportunities for recreation on the Downs which should not be curtailed without powerful justification.</li> <li>5. If the case for closing the Old London Road until noon relates to racehorse training, cars which will not be able to use the top car park will be displaced: should the Conservators not undertake to provide additional parking space, perhaps alongside the Conservators hut?</li> </ol> <p>The Downs are an important public amenity, enjoyed by local residents in this heavily-populated borough and those from further afield. The pandemic was an unusual period, which increased pressure to get access to the Downs. The Conservators were quick to close the car parks, but less constructive about managing the problems arising from the conflicting and greatly increased needs for exercise of people, and of racehorses.</p> <p>I hope the Council will reject this proposal and seek a better-argued case with constructive suggestions for managing these competing needs without closing access to a vital open space.</p>
Epsom	Objection	<p>I wish to strongly object to this proposal. The section of road affected provides accessibility for many residents of Epsom to the far side of the Downs. Expecting elderly or disabled people to be able to walk the additional distance from either the Tea Hut or Keepers Hut car parks is totally unreasonable.</p> <p>This appears to be a follow on from the Horse Racing community attempting to restrict use of the Downs before noon on any day. The notices recently posted implying that runners and dog walkers should not be on the Downs in the morning comes across as confrontational and not in the spirit of the 1984 Act that covers public use of this area.</p> <p>Horse racing is a tradition that is part of Epsom's heritage, but public access to the Downs is equally important.</p> <p>Regards</p>
Epsom	Objection	<p>Closing the road and the car park would cause congestion in other parts of the Downs; as it did during lockdown.</p> <p>Cars parked on the road by the Grandstand are more likely to cause road traffic accidents and congestion.</p> <p>I do not support the closure of the road.</p>
Walton on the Hill	Objection	<p>I want to take my dog for a walk in the morning. After 12 is too late for both my dog and myself. The Downs used to be a lovely place for walks, but restrictions over the past 35 years have made it the opposite.</p>

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Reigate	Objection	<p>I object very strongly to this proposal. I lived in Epsom for over 40 years, and still enjoy returning to the Downs for exercise and the wonderful views and fresh air. Access to the Downs by members of the public has been cherished for many many years.</p> <p>Closure of the road leading to the Top Car Park overnight is accepted. But not during the morning.</p> <p>People are already well aware of the use by racehorses during the morning and take care to avoid any problems.</p> <p>This is quite unwarranted to shut off access to cherished green space, especially at this time when we are all needing and encouraged to get exercise and fresh air.</p> <p>It prioritises the racing fraternity - a minority with other opportunities for exercising, over the many people who may have few other options.</p> <p>The Downs are well-loved and part of historic open spaces available to local people during others who make the effort to get here.</p>
Epsom	Objection	<p>I do not agree with closure of the road during the day apart from Derby Day or other race meeting. I have lived in Epsom for many years and use the Downs to walk my dog always parking in the top car park. I did not understand why it was shut during Covid and felt this was an excuse to stop future access. There was a delay to it re-opening and I feel only re-opened due to public pressure which shows people want it open all day. I feel asking for closure in the morning is a step towards stopping all access. I appreciate there have been some reports of problems with racehorses and the public and the stables are a big part of Epsom however for years there were more stables and horses using the Downs and all the while the car park was open it is not necessary to shut the road apart from at night it sets a dangerous precedent, I feel, and pushes more cars to park at side of road etc I object to this part of closure during the day.</p>
Epsom	Objection	<p>The health and well-being of the population is a major public health priority. Having accessible space to exercise is essential. I therefore think this road and the car park should definitely be open on a Saturday from ideally 8am. Ideally for all days in the rest of the week. From 9.30 would be a reasonable compromise. Keeping it closed every morning will cause traffic build up at other points that the horses cross so will not add to horse and rider safety. This is/was a public highway and public access should be restored.</p>
Epsom	Objection	<p>These proposals are an over reaction based on what happened during the covid lock downs.</p> <p>Now that we are getting back to normal there is not any longer a significant problem being caused by the use of the top car park via the old london road. What would be more sensible would be a review of the signage relating to the use of the downs.</p> <p>All that closing Old London Road would do is transfer the cars that park there to park in the bottom car park and occupants to walk across the road to the downs. It would also discriminate against any disabled person who would not be able to walk up the hill having access to the upper part of the downs.</p> <p>As it is the closing of the Old London Road during the covid lockdowns caused chaos.</p> <p>A very bad idea.</p> <p>Do not allow,</p>
Epsom	Objection	<p>I think it's unnecessary and seems to be a way to force traffic to circulate in a manner that will cause traffic problems and frustration for those wishing to access the downs during the evening especially during spring and summer months and then a Sunday morning when there is no horse training.</p> <p>There is no justification given in the proposal as to why the hours should be extended - the old orders not being sealed is not a reason to extend the hours at inconvenience to many.</p>
Tadworth	Objection	<p>Unacceptable. Were residents who live here. Last time the roads were closed it caused havoc with traffic and parking also. We moved here and chose this area for the freedom of the Downs.</p> <p>Totally against!</p>

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Epsom	Objection	<p>I strongly object to the closure of The Old London Road and the top car park on the Downs.I understand the closure overnight which is in already in operation. But to close it until 12noon on the next day is unreasonable and totally unnecessary</p> <p>This I imagine is to accommodate the new stables expected in Epsom. So why don't you just publish a letter to all residents and visitors to EpsomDowns, telling them that You are no longer welcomed to Epsom Downs to take excercise, Although the Government keeps telling you to get out in the fresh air and excercise.</p> <p>You had the audacity to close that Road in lockdown, Well that just about sums up</p> <p>Just what is important to the rule makers in this Town and County.</p> <p>You have'nt made the public very aware of this intention, where are the notices, Does our MP know about this?</p> <p>You have the audacity to ask on your next page of this survey where I heard about it</p> <p>Where has common decency gone</p>
Epsom	Objection	<p>We have already experienced the road being closed during the pandemic and the existing parking at the bottom near the hut was packed with residents from surrounding areas which spilled over to the roads nearby..</p> <p>Surely at this time when we are encouraged to go out in the countryside this will prevent many from accessing the upper part of the racecourse area..</p> <p>Responsible dog owners already keep their pets on a lead until lunchtime and avoid horses at all times.</p> <p>Most walkers will be restricted to a smaller area and there will not be the possibility of going for a relaxed walk with the increase of people starting from the same place.. especially the elderly.</p> <p>We find the whole idea of restriction of parking detrimental to the area which we see becoming a car park at the crossroads at the London Road with the possibility of future accidents with car drivers using the road by the Downs to go to Epsom having to cope with all this congestion which will most definitely occur.</p>
Epsom	Objection	<p>I consider this to be a totally unjustified restriction on the access and use of Epsom Downs upper car park by members of the public. Current daytime opening times include mornings throughout the week, and has done so for many years.</p> <p>The reasons and justification for the prohibitions on morning daylight access is not stated. If, as I suspect, this prohibition follows pressure from the Jockey Club, this should immediately be opened up to public discussion.</p> <p>Epsom Downs access by car is a very important resource for residents from a wide area, and the withdrawal of the car park is outrageous. The Borough Council, should in my view be encouraging greater use of the Downs by their residents.</p> <p>The way this prohibition has been proposed without widespread public consultation is, in my view, a serious matter. The Borough Council and the Conservators need withdraw this and start a public consultation.</p>
EPSOM	Objection	<p>I think the road should be kept open. It would impact on the local area and local people to use the downs.</p>
Epsom	Objection	<p>I think it unwise to close the access to the top car park. Last time this happened the number of cars parked irresponsibly on the surrounding areas and roads was quite worrying. The numbers of people using the Downs has increased considerably during the last couple of years and parking facilities need to be maximised, not reduced.</p>
Epsom	Objection	<p>I regularly walk on the Downs and as I have limited walking ability, I prefer to start my walk from the car park, as the ground is more level. I have severe arthritis and try not to walk uphill, on doctors advice. Also there are seats in that area where I can sit if I need to. Closing the road until midday would restrict my daily exercise, which I prefer to do in the morning when I'm at my best. I'm [over 70] years old ... so need to keep as mobile as possible.</p>

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Epsom	Objection	<p>While I recognise that the Downs are private land, I consider the proposed changes to the closure of the access road to the Top Car Park an excessive reaction to the highly unusual circumstances during the various recent lock-downs. The permanent prevention of parking at the Top Car Park would necessarily continue the damage to verges and overcrowding at other parking places around the Downs, such as by the kiosk and the Rubbing House. It is obviously important to respect the views of the racehorse industry, but in this instance I consider the proposed permanent changes will lead to significantly reduced benefit for many of our community for marginal benefit to a few. Further, I consider that SCC needs to consider the equality and diversity implications of the proposal since it is those with reduced mobility that most appreciate and need the benefits of parking at the Top Car Park. Hence I urge you to reject this application.</p>
Epsom	Objection	<p>Object. Epsom Downs is a place for all. People park to walk to the Millennium Woods and to enjoy both Epsom and Walton Downs. The top car park was not closed at all years ago. I can understand it being closed overnight and would support an 8am opening and 8pm close 7 days a week.</p>
EPSOM	Objection	<p>The closure of the access road to the upper car park is a continued erosion of access rights to the downs. Especially in current times, access to outdoor space is becoming more important to nourish mental health and wellbeing. By making it more difficult to get to a location where it is possible to enjoy nature, the needs of a few (racehorse operators) are being prioritised over the wellbeing of the many (the overall population around the Epsom Downs).</p> <p>It is already the case that the access road is being closed earlier than advertised during the day while temporary measures were in place. On several occasions I have observed that cars got stuck in the upper car park and had to use the dirt path to get back despite moving prior to the advertised closure times.</p> <p>The suggested provisions also seem to be contradictory to those stated in the Epsom and Walton Downs Regulation Act, section 17 (7), which I believe is an act of parliament and can't be changed without parliament itself.</p>
Epsom	Objection	<p>Closure of the Old London Road during the morning is not welcome. There is a limited amount of parking at the perimeter of the racecourse which has resulted in visitor parking along a busy road and in residential areas. The car park at the top of London Road is an ideal base from which to start many walks in the local countryside without having the initial trail from perimeter parking up to the crest of the Down .</p>
Surbiton	Objection	<p>this is common land and so should be open to all at any time.</p>
London	Objection	<p>I support the closure of the route at night, but in my 20 years as MP have never been aware of any issue around the car park being used by walkers in the mornings. I am therefore unconvinced that keeping the route closed for as long as being proposed is necessary and would instead support a closure only until around 9am.</p>
Epsom	Objection	<p>The Top Car Park on the Downs is a useful facility for walkers and pet owners. I have no objection to the car park being closed overnight. However, keeping it closed until 12 noon 6 days a week would only transfer parking to other car parks and roadside verges, thereby doing virtually nothing to resolve any perceived issues while potentially causing problems elsewhere. I therefore object to this proposal.</p>
Tattenham corner	Objection	<p>I would object. There is no need for access to the car park to stop at dusk. It restricts the use of the space. Curtails evening walks and takes away access for those with small children or in wheel chairs.</p>
Worcester Park	Objection	<p>I do not see the point of closing this road in the mornings, during daylight hours.</p>
Ashtead	Objection	<p>I agree with the proposal apart from the time the road closes in the evening once the evenings are light - ie May to July I think closing the road by 9 pm would be more reasonable.</p>
Epsom	Objection	<p>Please do not close the car park during the morning. As a user of disability aids, one needs whole day access to the upper car park.</p>
Banstead	Objection	<p>Why not let overnight vehicles park there and charge a fee for doing so? A simple pay by text system should suffice.</p> <p>If you have to continue with the prohibition I would suggest an earlier re opening time of circa 08:00 days</p>

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Epsom	Objection	Prevention of access to the Downs car park will cause unnecessary congestion and parking on the verges of nearby roads. There are plenty of other areas for horse training after 9am. Please leave the downs available for local residents to walk and exercise on in the morning everyday.
Epsom	Objection	<p>There seems little reason now to be utilising COVID-19 as an any excuse for restricting access to outside areas and to this car park given the Government has decided to end pretty much all COVID requirements - you don't even need to wear masks indoors anymore. So please lay to rest COVID as a reasonable justification for these proposed restrictions. It's a lazy and inadequate argument, assuming of course that we can trust the present Government level of concern and restrictions in regard to COVID-19.</p> <p>As we saw when the car parks were closed previously during COVID-19, all that happens at busy times is that people leave their cars all over the place, e.g. along the Grandstand Road. This is a significant safety issue for other drivers, pedestrians and cyclists trying to use the cycle lanes - to say nothing of being a nuisance to those of us who live nearby. All it did was shift parking to dangerous areas, it didn't stop people arriving by car or using the area - and the previous closure very adequately demonstrated the proposed solution will not work but will put others using the roads nearby in greater danger. Having received this in writing in a formal consultation response please rest assured the Conservators and all others involved in making and implementing these decisions cannot in future say they were not made aware of the public harm they may cause - notably when the worst happens on local roads as a result of what they are trying to do.</p>
Epsom	Objection	<p>I appreciate &amp; agree with closing the road up to the top carpark on Epsom Downs overnight. This will prevent nuisance, fly tipping etc. However, I think it should re open every day from 9.30am. Many locals- myself included, walk our dogs, run or exercise on the Downs regularly. It is a beautiful place to go, so why restrict it? When this carpark has been closed recently (within the past 18mths), the lower carpark was full &amp; vehicles were parked along the road towards the Grandstand- which surely is very dangerous &amp; caused some congestion.</p> <p>Thank you for taking time to read my comments, and I hope the right decision is made.</p>
epsom	Objection	<p>The road to the upper carpark should return to the pre pandemic opening time. These were largely accepted by all. The pandemic should not be an excuse to further curtail this access. Nor should the process of fixing previous administrative errors reduce the access times either.</p>
Epsom	Objection	<p>I disagree with the proposal. The road in question is a public road and the public should be able to use it as much as possible. The proposal is particularly unfair to people who are disabled who need to be able to drive along this road to enjoy the countryside views.</p> <p>The proposal seems to be in the interest of saving costs more than anything else.</p>
Bookham	Objection	<p>I have no objection to the Road to the Top Carpark being closed overnight bit I do object to it being closed in the mornings</p>
Epsom	Objection	<p>I do not agree with the proposed closing times for the Old London Road. Access to the road throughout the daylight hours is essential for equality of access for the local community and the proposed restrictions would hit the less mobile users particularly hard. At the very most, access could be restricted overnight, between 8 PM and 8 AM, but no longer.</p> <p>Access to the downs plays an important role in encouraging healthy lifestyles for both young and old and should not be restricted unnecessarily.</p>
Epsom	Objection	<p>Keep the car park open. It is completely needless and unnecessarily inconvenient. Other car parks and surrounding roads will be overcrowded, especially in summer. This is an opportunistic move to crystallise a chance they took using covid as an excuse. Don't be fooled. The public has the rights set out in the original act of parliament and this is a bid to frustrate the use of those rights. The intention of the gift of the land was for use of local folk, and this move does nothing but restrict and discourage that use</p>

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Epsom	Objection	<p>I am old enough to remember a time before the road was regularly closed off, and how this was one of those restrictive changes put in place that made my mother and grandmother sigh and despair. I can understand why some people were in favour of it (along with introducing the one-way system in town, and changing the roundabout at the bottom of the Upper High Street for a set of traffic lights, but for the majority of ordinary Epsomians, these changes have had no positive outcome and have served only to make Epsom a more miserable place to live.</p> <p>It is a near universal truth that, once restrictions are put in place, they almost never get rescinded. There is an opportunity, here, to finally put things right on the Downs and reverse this unnecessary restriction that was imposed upon us for the limited benefit of a small proportion of users.</p>
	Objection	<p>I can understand closing the access road overnight but I strongly object to it's not being open in the morning. There are not many places where you can drive and walk from your car on a relatively flat surface. If we have to wait until the afternoon there will be far too many people using the area. If this closure is allowed how long before access is permanently closed?</p>
Epsom	Objection	<p>The car park should be available to use later than 7.00pm, especially in the months May- Sept when many residents wish to visit the Downs in the pleasant summer evenings.</p>
Worcester Park	Objection	<p>I'm wondering where the reason for this closure extension is stated in the statement of reasons, as it is missing. You say who requested but not why.</p> <p>However, it appears to be draconian and unnecessary. You will affect dog walkers, particularly those who are less able and who may need easier access rather than walking the bridleway. It appears to unreasonable in both its requirement and the time of application.</p>
Ashtead	Objection	<p>The current road closures work perfectly well in my opinion. It is important to protect horses that use Epsom Downs, however surely having horses walk/ ride on the actually common is the idea and leave the road for others to access the car park.</p> <p>A step before excessive road closure might be the visible markings/ signs restricting vehicular movement to say 10MPH?</p> <p>I often park up in the upper car park and go for an early walk or run and sometimes dog walk - respecting the rule that dogs before noon need to me on leads.</p> <p>At the risk of repeating myself I feel the current restrictions is sufficient, with more signs directing drivers to maintain maybe 10MPH.</p>
Epsom	Objection	<p>I am very upset that it is being proposed that Old London Road to car park is to be closed in mornings .</p> <p>I have mobility problems and cannot walk very far , but do enjoy to exercise for short distances on the race course and really missed it when the gate was shut during the pandemic . If this gate is shut I cannot drive my car to the car park to enjoy the lovely walk and views over the downs . There are no other car parks in the vicinity where one is able to do this . I will therefore be denied this opportunity , where the able bodied will not as they can walk from the lower car park .</p> <p>Therefore this proposal is very unfair , and even discriminatory, on myself and other people in a similar situation who will be denied a morning walk in an beautiful area.</p> <p>Please re think you proposals .</p>
Epsom	Objection	<p>I agree that the top car park should be closed to vehicles overnight, but do not agree that it should be closed in the mornings. It's a valuable green space for walkers. Perhaps there should be more prominent signs warning of race horse training.</p>
Epsom	Objection	<p>I am not in favour of any further closures to the access to the Downs. It has long been an area for public use and should not be ruled by the horse racing industry except for race days.</p>

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Epsom	Objection	<p>In relation to the Epsom racecourse [by which I mean the common land/the Downs the racecourse is built on], there has been a determined 'creep' of restriction to use by the local population (and aimed in particular at dog walkers) in the 20 years I have lived in the borough. A most recent drastic example is the restrictions imposed on dog walkers to keep dogs on leads till 12 noon every day except Sundays and holding dog walkers responsible for 'guessing' when a horse &amp; rider are unexpectedly going to gallop past. I have not complained (I have witnessed badly behaved dogs disrupting unexceptional rides).</p> <p>However, for a democracy to thrive governing by consent is needed, and for this fairness is critical. There is a requirement for you as 'our Council' to limit the degree to which you unfairly impose restrictions firstly on dog walkers and then - as in this case, on dog walkers and anyone else, from free use of our common land.</p> <p>There is absolutely no reason for not allowing dog walkers and anyone else to drive to the upper car park in the morning and walking over the back of the down (as I walk my dog, on an extending lead). In addition to arguments focusing on the fact that we the people 'host' the racecourse our common land, the Council also has a Public Health responsibility to maintain as much access to the racecourse as possible by resisting pressure from the racing fraternity and [internal Council] budget-holders* looking to save costs of managing access to the upper car park. This is because good public health depends on making local green spaces as accessible and welcoming as they can be - including choice/availability of car parking and access for people who cannot walk far to the back of the downs. As more &amp; more houses are built and more people move into the area, more not less, flexibility is needed for access to the racecourse.</p> <p>The legal road closure times should be dusk to dawn every day and no more than that.</p> <p>* Cost cutting here will just shift costs to public health, health and policing measures to address the impact of the creeping restriction of the local population's opportunities to exercise &amp; relieve stress in the green space afforded by access to the racecourse, including the back of the Down.</p>
Epsom	Objection	<p>I HAVE WALKED MY DOG ON THE DOWNS FOR DECADES AND I TOTALLY DISAGREE WITH THE PROPOSAL TO CLOSE THE TOP CAR PARK UNTIL NOON EACH DAY. I NOTE THE REASON IS SAFETY. DURING LOCKDOWN WHEN PEOPLE WERE DESPERATE TO WALK IN A GREEN SPACE MANY CAME WHO DID NOT UNDERSTAND THE TRAINING SCHEDULE. BY CLOSING THE TOP CAR PARK I THINK THIS WAS FAR MORE DANGEROUS BY THE ERRATIC AND PROBLEMATIC PARKING ON THE SURROUNDING ROADS. THE CONSERVATORS PERHAPS ARE USING THESE EXTRAORDINARY TIMES AS AN EXCUSE. ONCE THE COVID RULES AND LIMITATIONS CEASE THE HUGE CROWDS WILL GO ELSEWHERE TO PLACES NEARER TO WHERE THEY LIVE. THE LOCAL PUBLIC UNDERSTAND THE RULES OF THE GALLOPS. IS IT NOT POSSIBLE TO ERECT A NOTICE WARNING OF THE SAFETY CONCERNS? WITH THE LIMITATIONS ON OUR FREEDOM OVER THE PAST 2 YEARS WE DO NOT NEED A CONTINUATION OF A VERY DANGEROUS MEASURE ie CLOSURE OF THE TOP CAR PARK UNTIL NOON WHICH WILL INEVITABLY ENCOURAGE DANGEROUS PARKING.</p>
	Objection	<p>I can understand the overnight closure, however, I disagree with the closure in the mornings. This restricts access to a public space for recreational purposes and seems to be biased towards horse riders (the stables). A possible compromise would be to close the road and car park access between sunset and sunrise (taken from official sources).</p>
Banstead	Objection	<p>Happy for the overnight closure, not happy with the hours. Noon is too late to open. My elderly dad who cannot walk a lot benefits by being driven to the heart of the downs and then being able to meander about, he would not be able to walk there. Suggest latest opening time to be 8.30 am.</p>

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Epsom	Objection	<p>I do not agree with the proposals. I have used the Downs since I was a child and I am now [over 60] years of age. I do not see that any further restriction is necessary and I have not seen any rationale that provides a sound reason for the additional measures to be introduced. My wife is disabled and we often go out in the morning to use the upper car park as she has most of her energy at that time. We are able to sit up there and see across the country side, There is also a path for her to use her mobility scooter or I can push her along the road in her wheel chair. It is not an easy push for sure but would be a lot harder from the bottom and I have health issues as well.</p> <p>We also have a dog and there are already restrictions in place for when the dog can be off the lead so I do not see that any further extension is necessary. When my wife's mobility is good again in the mornings we would not be able to have a short walk together with the dog across the top.</p> <p>Other car parks on the down do not offer the same safety or ease of use in order to enjoy the full opportunities of the Epsom Downs.</p> <p>So on disability and accessibility grounds I do not support proposal at all.</p>
Epsom Downs	Objection	Ridiculous proposals. Object
Epsom Downs	Objection	Object to the proposals.
EPSOM	Objection	<p>Sadly I think in some instances the Downs Conservators and indeed The Woodland Trust are already having too much impact on what I can legitimately do on the Downs, in what appears to be a move to full privatisation and control of the Land.</p> <p>In what is a small part of the land, they are proposing another restriction to the access which will provide them with very little gain/advantage.</p> <p>Sadly it just appears to be another flex in control and I sadly would not support this.</p>
Epsom	Objection	I do not agree with the overnight closures of this road and believe it should be open to traffic
Banstead	Objection	<p>I think the hours of closure do not take into account how well used this car park is.</p> <p>It is a far better car park from a walking point of view as it is a larger area to cover.</p> <p>The hours suggested for the summer have such an early closing time and in some cases, ie weekends, late morning open.</p> <p>In summer it is possible to have a good walk down towards centenary wood etc even as late as 7pm.</p> <p>It is a far safer area for families with children to park and for the elderly.</p> <p>In fact for the elderly it is such a lovely aspect towards the Grand Stand that we don't need necessarily to walk.</p> <p>Please give all ages a reasonable closing time over the summer months.</p>
Ashtead	Objection	I have no objection to the car park being closed after sunset but opened up the following morning. But it should be available for people to park up during the day.

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Epsom	Objection	<p>Being a walker on the Downs during the mornings and regularly passing the Top Car Park, I have seen no evidence of it being heavily used at that time and therefore see no justifiable reason to keep it closed beyond 9am. However, I do agree that the Car Park should be closed overnight between 5pm to 9am.</p> <p>Clearly there will have been more people using the Downs during the many various stages of "Lock Down"; such exercise being encouraged by the Government. As restrictions are now being lifted people will return to normal life and less will use the Downs. Your proposal to keep the Car Park closed during the morning seems therefore to be overly hasty and I would suggest you defer any decision for six months and check the position then.</p> <p>Also the closure of the Car Park won't stop people visiting the Downs for exercise (which should be encouraged) and/or dog walking. They will just park elsewhere. Better safety notices might be helpful particularly about controlling dogs and the safety of young children.</p>
Worcester Park	Objection	<p>My wife and I both object to the closure. We are both in our eighties and used to enjoy parking of a morning in the car park at the top of Old London Road. We cannot walk very far but we enjoyed sitting in the car and watching people walking, playing with their children or exercising their dogs. From memory the road has been closed since the start of Covid. It would be nice to be able to do that again rather than travel all the way to Newlands Corner. It would be nice to be able to enjoy local scenery again rather than travel afield. Yours sincerely,</p>
Epsom	Objection	<p>I totally agree with closing the road at 5pm in winter &amp; 9pm summer which was what happened pre Covid. I do not agree with closing the road in the mornings. Why change something that wasn't broken in the first place?</p>
Epsom	Objection	<p>It is completely unnecessary to close this vehicle section as suggested. Being a regular walker and a member of the Epsom Ramblers we use the car park situated by this road on a number of occasions and I could never recall a time when there's been a problem with the horses. There are obviously people there to regularise the position if necessary but it's complete nonsense to suggest that this road be closed. This is a public space and should be kept for the public and not be dealt with at the whim of the racing community</p>
Epsom	Objection	<p>I think that there should be access to the car park from 09.00 to allow access to the land for walking.</p>
Ewell	Objection	<p>Object to the proposal to close/restrict access to the Downs top car park at any time prior to closure at 7pm</p>
Epsom Surrey	Objection	<p>I would rather the car park was open in the mornings - I'm very happy that it is closed of an evening and think this is sensible.</p>
Epsom	Objection	<p>I can support the proposal for closing Old London Road overnight but not the proposal to close the road and car park in the mornings til 12 noon. Most of the comments in the Conservators report relate to the unprecedented use of the Downs during the lockdown pandemic. Also it is not at all clear that the use of the Upper Car Park was the reason for the public safety issues referred to in the report. We have been in unprecedented times and the balance between the publics use of the Downs and the Racing industry use needs to continue as it has when we return to more normal times. Everyone understands why the Conservators would want to close the road and car park at night. However, it is the thin of the wedge to use the unparalleled example of Covid to try and reduce the publics use of the Downs in this way. If when we return to normal times the Conservators can show that it is the Upper Car Park that is causing specific public safety issues each morning then they can obviously present those arguments at a later date. Nothing they have said to date convinces me this is anything other than the Racing Industry using Covid as an excuse to increase their controls. It is essential as I say to get the balance tight.</p>
Epsom	Objection	<p>This should not be closed. The rights of residents have been sorely eroded over the years</p>

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Epsom Downs	Objection	I particularly have issue with closing the road until 12 noon . It is unnecessary and presumes that the horse riders have priority over any other member of the public since the gallops close at 12 noon . I would suggest 9.30am or even 10.30am through out the year would be fairer to all who wish to use it and have the right to .
Epsom	Objection	I would like Old London Road to remain open everyday from 7.00am to 7,00pm. I think it is very important for everyone to have the benefit of the downs, all day.
Epsom	Objection	I have no objection to the road and car park being closed overnight. But I do object to the closure being extended into the day. There is no necessity for this. Such closure would seriously curtail many people's enjoyment of the Downs. I don't think this "consultation" has been adequately advertised.
EPSOM	Objection	<p>This proposal deprives the public of a much valued amenity. Many, with limited mobility, enjoy driving to the upper car park to enjoy the views and fresh air and a short walk.</p> <p>Opening the road 12. 00 - 17.00 in winter would, in practice limits availability to 2 - 3 hours, as it is cold and dark by then.</p> <p>In summer closing at 19.00 is again depriving people of the chance to enjoy the Downs in the evening. The current arrangement of closing at dusk is much valued.</p> <p>Closing this carpark during the morning would have a major impact on local roads, one of which is a bus route. As demonstrated during the covid Pandemic, when this carpark was closed for over a year, cars will be parked on verges, residential roads etc without due consideration for other road users.</p> <p>There is a large residential area nearby, who do not have any representation, as they are covered by a different Borough. Please respect their needs, as this is their nearest open space.</p> <p>Surely there is room for compromise. Mostly racehorses exercise early in the morning. To close the road until noon is excessive. Perhaps continue as at present: close the road when there are horses on the course. To allow cars to use the road with caution if horses are not running would be much appreciated.</p> <p>We are all used to meeting racehorses on local roads, as they make their way between stables and the Downs.</p>
Ewell	Objection	I don't think these car parks should be closed at any time.
epsom downs	Objection	I am in generally in favour of the proposals, but would prefer the top car park to be accessible from 9.30 or perhaps 10.00 on all days year round. The area can be accessed easily from other available car parks outside the opening hours, but it is not unreasonable to want to walk down towards Langley Vale and back in the mornings and it is more convenient to park in the top car park. Most of the stables have been out by then so if the concern is to prevent dogs causing issues, that may occur at any time where ever one may have parked, it the owner is irresponsible.
Banstead	Objection	Please open the road before noon every day. I and my husband are disabled and can not walk all the way up to the upper car park. The afternoons do not give us enough time before the light falls from autumn to spring.
Epsom Downs	Objection	<p>I am strongly against this unnecessary and restrictive proposal.</p> <p>The top car park provides invaluable access to less mobile individuals and enables them to enjoy the centre of Downs. Without this car park, such access is impossible. The proposed opening hours, which eliminate access during the morning is hugely restrictive for disabled, dog owners and others.</p> <p>Indeed, the opening hours should be increased, not reduced. Similar hours to those enjoyed at Richmond Park would be appropriate. Open at 0700 and close at dusk - as late as 9pm in mid summer.</p> <p>I am local and have seen no evidence of abuse. Overnight closure is a good safety proposal, but the road and vehicular access should be permitted until dusk.</p>

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	Objection	Im totally against it. In summer nights its a beautiful spot to visit and watch the night sky from the safety of your car by closing the access road you are forcing people to walk from the main road car park and potentially put them at risk of harm from someone waiting in the darkness.
Epsom	Objection	While I appreciate the road needs to be closed I always thought it was around daylight saving and sunset/sunrise as the closed to traffic timings. I oppose the longer durations.
EPSOM	Objection	I oppose the proposals. The car park should be open in the morning (I have no objection to it being shut between dusk and dawn).
Ewell	Objection	Use the road all the time to get to daughter and help her
Crawley	Objection	I object because it's one more case of The Downs being made unavailable to The Public just to suit the authorities.  The top car park is used by walkers, dog walkers and others who wish to avail themselves of a great public open space.  These proposals are too restrictive in my view
Epsom	Objection	The upper car park is used by a large number of walkers and walkers with dogs who enjoy and have a right to enjoy this beautiful open area. If you are an elderly walker being able to park at the top and walk from there avoids the steep hill from the lower car park.  Closing access to the upper car park will create huge parking issues in the lower car parks and surrounding roads especially in the summer months, greatly impeding on many thousands of users. But for what benefit?  The proposal doesn't seem to give any clear reasons for closing the car park for longer, whilst it will impede on many thousands of regular users. What's next, what further restrictions of access are planned on the back door of this change?  As a local resident and a daily user of the area I strongly object to the change of closing hours and reduction of open hours.
Ewell	Objection	Disagree with proposal. The closure should cease at 9am and not 12 noon as proposed. At busy times closure until 12 noon, particularly on pleasant summer mornings will put more demand on the tea hut car parks, which can be very busy already and often oversubscribed. If these are full mid morning, drivers will have nowhere to park to safely access the downs.
Epsom	Objection	Generally I have no issues with the proposed closure times over the winter. However, it would be good if the upper car park could stay open until 8pm during the period mid April until mid September. The lighter evenings means that people are more inclined to walk their dogs in the evening when it is cooler and many dog walkers like to walk their dogs on the Gallops and Walton side of the grounds where there are fewer picnics. The lower car park can remain busy at this time.
Fetcham Leatherhead	Objection	I believe that if the TRO is granted it should only be for the hours that are currently accepted, overnight, for management of possible anti-social behaviour.  There's no reason to extend the hours to respond to the additional pressure of users that occurred as a result of COVID related increase in exercise. That situation is no longer relevant and the hours of closure should not be extended.
Epsom	Objection	I think longer hours are just a lazy cut back going to affect the disabled people once a again to enjoy the country side
tadworth	Objection	local residents have been able to use the top car park all for the last 40 years . I cannot see any reason to keep it close from 7 pm until 12.00 the next day . when the car park was closed during the lock down, the road around the area & along the verges were full of cars. this was a very unsafe area if you were driving . not opening the car until 12,00 will cause a major problem . on the roads in the area . the jockey club are again trying to stop the general public use this very popular area .

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Epsom	Objection	<p>It is understandable that a minority abuse the Downs and scare the horses in training and something needs to be done, but it would be good if a compromise could be reached.</p> <p>Please can you compromise and make it from 10.30 am which would give folk time for a walk in the morning.</p> <p>The changes proposed will be particularly hard for older people who enjoy a morning walk up on the Downs but can't quite make the long walk up there and need to take their cars to the central car park.</p> <p>It is public land and it's a shame for there to be such a tight window to walk up there, especially in the winter when it gets dark so early.</p> <p>On behalf of the old people up here who love our Downs and find them to be a healthy life force and a blessing, please please change these hours and introduce a new time frame which is a blessing to both the horses and the walkers.</p> <p>thank you</p>
Epsom	Objection	<p>Please can you compromise and make the proposed road closure from 10 or 10.30 am which would give folk time for a walk in the morning.</p> <p>So many of my neighbours here ... are quite elderly and treasure their morning walk on the Downs. They need to take their cars up to the car park.</p> <p>The proposed window is too tight especially in the winter when it gets dark so early.</p> <p>For older people the best time to walk is in the morning, afternoons are much harder and it will be a cruel blow to lose this local treasure.</p> <p>Please have mercy on us old walkers and change the proposal.</p>
Tadworth	Objection	<p>I think this is another case of the downs conservators and the Jockey Club trying to restrict the general public from access to the downs.</p> <p>The majority of users of the downs are responsible dog owners or walkers, who are fully aware of the ongoing use of the gallops by the race horse trainers.</p> <p>As has been shown before when this happened during the covid restrictions, the lower car parks were quickly filled and resulted in dangerous parking on the nearby roads and grass verges.</p> <p>This was a serious safety hazard for both other drivers and pedestrians.</p> <p>With all the car parks open, this spreads the parking over a larger area.</p> <p>I would therefore strongly object to any proposal to restrict the opening times for the top car park.</p>
Tadworth	Objection	<p>The road should be open to public for same hours as now</p>
Epsom	Objection	<p>I understand and agree with the rationale of shutting the Old London Road during hours of darkness as it would be undesirable for it to be used for overnight accommodation.</p> <p>However, it makes no sense why the carpark should only open at noon on weekdays and late on weekends - this just denies casual users of the downs access to what is the most convenient carpark - particularly for less abled people who wish to access more than the outside perimeter easily.</p>
Tadworth	Objection	<p>I see no reason to change or alter the present arrangements. Therefore I object to the proposal.</p>
Epsom	Objection	<p>I regularly use the top car park when taking my dogs to exercise them and myself on the Downs. As the bottom car park has been reduced in size quite often that has no spaces. The car park on the other side of the road is regularly used by vans and coaches and as the road is always busy that in itself can be quite dangerous to cross. The top car park is perfect for unloading dogs without the need then to cross or walk along any road. Avoiding the horses is also much easier making it safer for all concerned . The road closure overnight works well as it is.</p>
Epsom	Objection	<p>I object to the proposals because they significantly reduce public access to the top car park inside the racecourse.</p> <p>The other nearby public car parks are already heavily used and often full even on weekday mornings. Closing access to the top car park 6 mornings per week would greatly increase this problem.</p> <p>I propose that the road should be open from 9.30 on every day of the week, not just on Sundays as currently proposed.</p> <p>I do not think this change would significantly impact racehorse training.</p>

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<p>EPSOM</p>	<p>Objection</p>	<p>I object to the proposals most strongly.</p> <p>Before the introduction of road closures in the 1990s, the Downs were entirely for the public use.</p> <p>It used to be possible to drive across the Downs by car or motorbike from Ebbisham Lane to Tattenham Corner Road. Indeed, my local map still shows this as a public thoroughfare. The right to do so was taken by stealth and so I am not surprised to read that it was not established in law.</p> <p>Furthermore, the local stables are gradually taking over the use of the Downs and they have no rights to do so.</p> <p>The Downs are for the use of all people and at all times.</p> <p>Having said that, I appreciate the contribution the local conservators make to keeping and maintaining the Downs in good order. I recognise that the local stables need to exercise and train their horses and to use the Downs for this purpose.</p> <p>So a combined use of the Downs for recreational as well as equine use is required. It is important to educate all users of the Downs to be aware of the dangers to them from other users and to be appropriately cautious. The Rangers have an important part to play in this.</p> <p>Regarding this new proposed closure of the Old London Road: I am assuming this means the part of the road that follows the racetrack internally, and not the section of the - also public - road from the B284/B291 roundabout to the car park on Tattenham Corner Road. The closure of the internal road overnight makes good sense, in order to protect the Downs overnight. The closure of the internal road after the current earlier morning times is a theft of public rights and I object to any proposal most strongly.</p> <p>The Downs - both Epsom and Walton - should be open across the entire area during daylight hours for public use. They are a most important recreational feature of Epsom and the surrounding towns and villages, all of which have high density populations whose need for space in which to exercise and access to it during daylight hours remains significant and pressing. The Downs have never been cordoned off for the private benefit of a few. To close the internal car park until midday makes it very difficult for the public to access Walton Downs.</p> <p>Yet again, I say that I object to these new proposals to extend closure of the Old London Road most strongly.</p>
<p>Epsom</p>	<p>Objection</p>	<p>Whilst I fully support the closure of the access road to the top car park in the evenings, I cannot support the proposal to close it in the mornings.</p> <p>All that the access road does is to enable vehicles to park near the wooded area beyond the race course.</p> <p>As a frequent user of the wooded area for walking and cycling, I use the top car park to avoid having to take the badly maintained bridleway which crosses to it from the B290. This bridleway is often very muddy and flooded in winter, and is at all time uneven and in places dangerously uneven with exposed stones and flints. Closing the access road will have no effect on the number of people using the area. It will simply inconvenience users of the area.</p> <p>In lockdown, when the access road and top car park were closed, there was also a dangerous excess of cars parking on both sides of the road in Tattenham Crescent and on the grass verges on the B290. Closing the access road and top car park in the mornings will have the same effect on busy days, when the Hut and Tea Hut car parks become full.</p> <p>In conclusion, closing the access road and top car park will have no effect on the numbers of people using the Downs, but it will be an unnecessary inconvenience to them</p>

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Kingswood	Objection	I object to the proposal to extend the hours for which the road is closed. I agree that it is reasonable to close the road after dark on public safety grounds. However, it is not acceptable to close the road during daylight hours as this unnecessarily restricts public access to Epsom Downs both for those who wish to use the car park as a starting point for exercise (e.g. walking, cycling) and for those with limited mobility who wish to access the Downs. This proposal is an example of vested interests seeking to restrict public access in favour of their own narrow interests.
Tadworth	Objection	On summer evenings ie Apr -Oct a 7pm closure is too early. More importantly leaving the car park closed until noon the following day is absurd and creates a build up of cars lining the road between the roundabout and the grandstand as the other car parks are insufficient for the demand. Cars then block the cycle lane and increase the risk of injury to cyclists and pedestrians both from moving traffic and also from people in parked cars opening their doors to get out.  Whilst this is less of an issue in winter months, I see no reason to delay opening the car park until 12. Surely we should be encouraging people to take advantage of the space and fresh air, not reducing their ability to exercise? The Top car park should be opened by 8 am daily.
Banstead	Objection	I think the car park on the downs should remain open in the mornings as if not there are cars parked all over the place which is very dangerous . There are not enough car parking spaces elsewhere if this carpark is closed .
Tadworth	Objection	No reason why the request has been made. Access is imperative for the local community.
Adhteard	Objection	I think the times should be Dawn to dusk.  They should be waived on special days like NY eve and Firework night As the views are amazing and it would ease the congestion of over car parks
EPSOM	Objection	I am very much against the proposed restrictions on the grounds we are supposed to live in a free country but more and more I see creeping limitation of that freedom. Maybe curtailment of access to land may be made with the best possible intention but too often it is for expediency, vested interests, bureaucracy, and people that need to do something for the need to do something, the net result is further curtailing of being a country of the free. By all means close it when needed for specific events but not for general. This is not the committee's back garden but the peoples.
Tadworth	Objection	Gates should be locked at 9:00pm in the summer & 7:00pm in the winter
Epsom Downs	Objection	The Downs are a very important public amenity. Closing this road and car park in the proposed hours is a retrograde step. There may be issues about dogs being off leads etc but this will not make any difference to this problem. It will though deprive people of this amenity for longer periods of time than is necessary.
Epsom	Objection	I feel very strongly re the proposed change to the opening of the road up to the top carpark on Epsom Downs. It is already closed at 5.0'clock everyday instead of 9.00 in lighter evenings. This cannot cause problems to racehorses as they do not train then. I am a rider and well know the problems caused to horses by ignorant members of the public. Now you want to curtail the use of the road in the mornings. During the lockdown when the road was closed we saw how difficult it was to many LOCAL people. I would ask you to find a compromise, so that we can all continue to use the Downs in safety. One suggestion is to make the time earlier- say 11. O'clock.
Epsom	Objection	I can understand why the road is closed overnight to stop motors cyclists racing up and down and also parties etc Sunday mornings is the one opportunity we can walk our dogs off the lead after 9:30 a.m. as it's the horses rest day every other day no dogs allowed off the lead at 12. Sunday morning the downs is packed with people enjoying the walking etc children running around and various activities going on so why does the car park have to be shut until 12 mid-day? At the start of a pandemic the car park was closed and continue to be so for over a year during that time I'm people parked on the road and all around tattenham corner and it became very dangerous I felt I think if Jockey Club had their way Epsom Downs would be closed completely allowing horses only to use it this is a lovely place to live and it would be deprivation if the general public were not allowed to enjoy these lovely facilities

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Epsom	Objection	I object to any further restrictions to the public use . The areas involved should be accessible to every responsible person.
Epsom Downs	Objection	The proposed restrictions to close the top car park on Epsom Downs will make life difficult for elderly people who need their car to get to the central car park. Having walked on the Downs for over 40 years it will be a great pity to see these proposals put in place.  If you do go ahead it is going to put more pressure on the kiosk car park especially as we believe you have plans to close the public toilets nearby.  Please review the situation before you go ahead.
Cheam	Objection	I have no objection to night closures of the road to the upper car park in the middle of the downs, but I do object the closure on mornings, any morning. I use the middle car park with my granddaughters a lot, to flying kites walking over the downs and parking in the middle of the downs make the outings safer and certainly nearer to where we want to be. I feel the night closures should end at the latest 8am. I was born in Epsom many years ago now but have lived always in the area, we currently live in Cheam, we have always enjoyed the downs, public land, for everyone to enjoy and to have a ban parking in the upper car is another 'nail in the coffin'  Thank you
Epsom	Objection	I think it's important that the road is open in the mornings to allow access. It is going to open at 09.30 on Saturdays, so it should open at 09.30 every day.
	Objection	I would like you to leave the gates till 21:00 in the summer and chard the times to dusk do we can continue flying in the summer evening
Epsom	Objection	I disagree with the proposal to close the gate at 7pm on any weekday or at the weekend between the spring and autumn solstices. This is out with the arrangements that have been in operation for many years before the pandemic. The proposed closure time of 7pm is detrimental to anyone using the Downs for recreational purposes during the days when it is light well beyond 7pm. Anyone from the EDMAC model flying club will also be at a disadvantage as the bye laws state that flying can continue to 8pm or sunset whichever is earlier. Modellers use the upper car park to minimise the distance that they have to transport fragile and expensive models from the upper car park to the flying strip at the top of the Downs. If the closing time for the gate was left at 9pm as per the pre pandemic arrangement then the proposal would be acceptable.
Walton on the hill	Objection	I often walk my dogs over the downs and use the car park. I am a shift worker so I do not have regular time table for walking my dogs. I can see a reason to shut at night has I know in the past there was ASB, but can't see any reason to shut the car park during day light hours.
Ashtead	Objection	I would like to object to this proposal on behalf of my elderly mother who walks in the Downs every day and finds the top car park to be the safest and easiest route from which to do so.
Merstham	Objection	This proposal will limit the ability of model flyers to use the downs in the summer months.  You should be aware that this activity is a prime social contact for a number of older men, and constraining it in this way will have a detrimental effect on their mental health. Loneliness is a particularly mental health issue in men that find themselves alone through widowerhood and divorce in later life. This group have had great difficulty with loneliness through the pandemic and your proposal will add to that misery.  I therefore ask you to consider the deep social harm that this proposal will create and rescind this proposed change.

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Epsom	Objection	<p>I regularly use the Old London Road to access the Higher or Back car park on the Downs to walk my dog around the woods beyond the Racecourse both morning and afternoon and sometimes evenings in the summer when the access used to be available till 9.00pm. At required times I always have my dog restrained by a lead.</p> <p>The proposed limitations on access will prevent people from enjoying the Downs to the fullest extent. I do not believe this is in the spirit of the original owners of the Downs intention in opening them to the public. I suspect this is a plan to reduce the need for Groundsmen monitoring the public access during racehorse exercising.</p>
Crawley	Objection	<p>I thought you could not close any road permanently bye law ? Or has the law changed</p>
Wallington	Objection	<p>EDMAC members would lose the opportunity to fly in the late summer evenings after work</p> <p>The Epsom and Walton Downs bylaws allow EDMAC members to fly until 8pm in the summer evenings.</p> <p>Top car park access is essential due to the weight and amount of RC equipment. Disabled people rely on the top car park to enjoy summer evening walks on Walton Downs</p> <p>The current times have worked well in the past, allowing many people evening access for picnic's &amp; to enjoy the wonderful location.</p> <p>No reason has been given for the earlier closing time.</p> <p>Do not change.</p>
West Ewell	Objection	<p>I am against the proposals to shut the top carpark at 7pm in the summer. I consider that the carpark should shut at 9pm in the summer.</p> <p>EDMAC Model flying club members would loose the opportunity to fly late in the summer evenings, as they need to use the top carpark and they have permission to fly up to 8pm as per Epsom and Walton Bylaws.</p>
Cheam	Objection	<p>I propose that the closing time of the Old London Road gate should return to the summer closing time of 9pm, as it has for at least the last 30 years. The suggestion of not opening the gate until midday will deny morning access to the top car park for disabled people in general. Using the 'hut' car park will entail crossing a busy road to gain access to the popular part of the Downs.</p> <p>The Downs are important in many ways. Use of the top car park allows people to enjoy not only a great view over the countryside but also to find space outside of their own homes,</p> <p>Throughout the days people can be seen reading their daily paper, "people watching" many are on their own but also with company. I firmly believe these actions are very important to the mental health of so many.</p> <p>Incidentally I am not a dog walker but find the Downs a chance to get away to take the air in this unique environment.</p> <p>Of course in the heat of the summer morning access to the Downs for exercise would be preferable.</p>
Ashtead	Objection	<p>I strongly oppose the intended 7.00pm closure of gate to top car park on the grounds that evening is the best flying time, and 8.00pm would be more acceptable, thus providing more time for people who work, and owing to the fact that it takes at least half an hour to prepare for flying, and we would have to start packing up about 6.30 to clear site by 7.00</p>
Epsom	Objection	<p>The Downs are for the enjoyment and health of all people especially local residents who enjoy walking in the fresh air away from busy roads, it is not just for Horse Riders and Horse Trainers.</p> <p>I am disabled and need The London Road open up to the downs top car park during the day both to use my Mobility [scooter] and also Fir my wife to park her car which I have a blue parking Badge to enable me to have slow gentle walks and view the wonderful site from the top downs car park.</p> <p>What right to the Downs overseers have in try to restrict the Road use which has been unrestricted during the day for many years back.</p>
Epsom	Objection	<p>I wholeheartedly disagree with closing the Old London Road up to the downs top car park.</p> <p>I use this Road to take my disabled husband by car up to this car park so he can get a good view of the downs and also walk my dog up there. He also uses his Mobility [scooter] to get there too during the day.</p> <p>There are enough restrictions for local residents and visitors using the downs without trying to close the top car park during the day.</p>

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Epsom	Objection	<p>I agree that the gates need to be shut in the late evening in both the summer/ spring and autumn/ winter months, however I strongly disagree that the gates need to be closed until 12pm the following day. There are no contra indications that would force closing them this late in the morning. The users of the car park are predominantly locals who are incredibly respectful of the race horses and the trainers. I am up there every day in the week and have never seen anything that would reflect this proposed decision. I struggle with mobility and as such need flat land to get from the car and on a walk. I am aware of at least one other user that is in the same position. There will have to be rangers continually monitoring the gallops so there will be no change in ranger duties, as mentioned before no racehorse or trainer have been in any incidents on London Rd to the car park (may I also remind the panel this is a public right of way) and there will be no benefit as a result of keeping the gate shut until 12pm.</p> <p>I also think for other non locals the times are confusing and may cause incidents on the roundabout, and the times maybe confused with times allowing to let your dog off the lead, also leading to incidents.</p> <p>Thank you for Listening to my position in the matter and may I take this opportunity to say what a great job the rangers do.</p>
South Croydon	Objection	<p>I have 'on and off' since [the 1950s] been flying model aircraft on the Downs. I am now aged in my ... seventies and appreciate the current parking opening times and facilities which if reduced would seriously affect the pursuit of model flying by EDMAC members. Any reduction in parking availability would be especially problematic to any model flyer still working for a living and are restricted to evening flying, and those that suffer with physical disabilities, and struggle to transport aeromodelling kit across the Downs to the agreed flying location.</p> <p>Hopefully the new proposals can be reviewed in our favour as we are likely suffer most under car parking facilities?</p>
Tadworth	Objection	<p>I totally oppose to the closing of Old London Road until midday.</p> <p>This is nothing but a blatant attempt by the Jockey Club to exclude the public from there Right to exercise on the Downs. The council will pay a high price if they succeed in doing this. Thousands of members of the public exercise their right to enjoy the Downs which is far in excess of the amount of use from Horse Training establishments.</p> <p>Closure of the car park as we know through the pandemic adds to congestion and parking of vehicles in surrounding roads. The Jockey Club have no thought for residents just appear to be looking after their own interest.</p> <p>I suggest that you review the Trust agreement to ensure that the tenant is with in his right to propose this change. I fear he is not</p>
Epsom	Objection	<p>What a shame to want to stop me (I hold a disabled Blue Badge) from using the car park so that I can walk on the upper part of the Downs, as I did this week in the sunshine, on the track of the Old London Road going south towards Headley. Almost all other visitors were accompanied by dogs; where will they go?</p>
Epsom Downs	Objection	<p>I did indeed notice the increase in use over the Covid restriction period, however, I object to the car park being closed other than overnight as I would use the top car park in the mornings to walk my dog and in general to sit and look at the view as against using the other parking areas especially when I was unable to walk very far.</p> <p>I think a compromise is in order, reduce the time the gallops are used as well as the increase in times the car park/road is closed to 10.30 perhaps each day.</p> <p>It is a public space and the publics enjoyment of the area should not be impeded by the proposed restrictions.</p> <p>The Jockey club or the conservators may need to have more people around the gallops if the signage is being ignored to help warn people of the dangers of and to the horses using the gallops.</p> <p>The usage will reduce generally anyway once things get back to "normal" but compromise is the way forward.</p>

Reigate	Objection	<p>Dear Sirs</p> <p>I am greatly concerned about the proposal to bring forward the closure of the barrier on the roadway leading up to the Top Car Park on Epsom Downs from 21:00hrs to 19:00hrs.</p> <p>I am the Vice Chairman of Epsom Downs Model Aircraft Club (EDMAC), which has been in existence for 16 years but prior to that I have flown my model planes on this outstanding site for some 60 years. I therefore consider myself one of the longer established model plane fliers who continue to use this perfect site.</p> <p>My concern about the proposal that is currently being considered by E &amp; E BC is that we have long had the benefit of flying our planes in the Summer evenings when the air is normally calm, providing perfect flying conditions and to deny us that facility would be a considerable loss to the club. With the growth of our Sport (it is classified as such by the Sports Council) to mainly radio control we have seen larger models flying (the Epsom &amp; Walton Downs Bylaws allow us to fly models with an all up weight of 7kgs) and the back up equipment to ensure that our models fly safely and within current regulations has grown. We therefore need unfettered access to and from the top car park such that our planes and equipment can be taken to the top car park which is not too far from the flying strip. No radio control plane is allowed to fly from other than the designated flying strip so we need access to the top car park to ensure that we meet this Bylaw regulation.</p> <p>We strongly request that the proposal to close the barrier across the access road to the top car park at 19:00hrs is rescinded and that we are allowed to continue to have access to the flying strip to fly our planes up to 20:00hrs or sunset - a current Bylaw stipulation - whichever is the earliest before the barrier is lowered. This has been the case for two decades.</p> <p>EDMAC is a Club with over 130 members and although all do not fly during a summer evening a significant number do, so to reduce the gate closure time by even one hour will affect a significant number of us enjoying our sport.</p> <p>We have in EDMAC a number of flyers that are disabled and although they are not regular summer evening flyers many really enjoy the benefit of gently walking the Walton Downs away from noisy and smelly traffic and take considerable pleasure in the calmness of a summers evening. Not only will EDMAC disabled flyers be disadvantaged by the proposed closure time for the barrier, but also many many other disabled people will be affected by this unfortunate proposal. To bring forward the closure time of the barrier on the road to the top car park will deny all of them the pleasure of a gentle walk/exercise in what is effectively open countryside.</p> <p>Finally it is worth mentioning that another reason for the gate closure time not to be changed is that a number of EDMAC members will stop off at the Downs on a summers evening to fly their planes before going to their nearby home. The change in closure time will affect those evening flyers from enjoying a pleasant evening flying their planes up to 20:00hrs prior to going home. We firmly believe that our club and its flying activities gives much pleasure to many Downs visitors and it is not unusual for 6 members of the public to gather to observe and applaud when our models are flying especially during the late evening when visitors are taking an evening walk.</p> <p>There has not been much flying activity the past two years due to Corona Virus affecting our gatherings, but we should look back to previous years when a late summers evening flying session was well patronized by Club members - as well as disabled people - was a perfect occasion to fly our planes in almost perfect conditions.</p> <p>I trust that you will take careful consideration to the points that I make and your decision is based on realities not financial issues.</p> <p>Yours faithfully</p>
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Addlestone	Objection	<p>As a regular user of the top car park in the evening during the summer months changing the closing times from 21:00 to 19:00 would impact my ability to access this outdoor facility for leisure and relaxing during the summer months.</p> <p>As a member of EDMAC we are by bylaws allowed to fly until dusk or 20:00 which ever is earlier, by locking the gate at 19:00 this would stop many members from flying after work and into the early evening which has been happening since the 1960's</p> <p>On a more personal not my family have been enjoying evening pick nicks on the downs for over 30 years</p>
esher	Objection	<p>1/ As a model flyer at Epsom downs (and member of EDMAC) this is a change that will impact the late evening flying on the downs.</p> <p>2/ When flying model aeroplanes it is necessary to be able to transport the models and equipment to the site in a vehicle, and hence the early closure will mean that late summer evenings will no longer be possible.</p> <p>3/ Model aircraft flying on the downs is part of a long established tradition, and it would be a shame to change this history.</p>
Sutton	Objection	<p>I am a member of Edmac model flying club and in the summer regularly enjoy flying my model planes after work until 8pm as currently permitted by the Epsom &amp; Walton downs bylaws.</p> <p>As my hobby requires carrying model planes &amp; associated equipment in my car and parking to the top car park of Old London Road, a change to the locking time of the gate leading to this car park would prevent me from flying in the warm summer evenings which I very much enjoy.</p> <p>I would therefore kindly request that you review this decision to lock the bottom gate at 7pm in the summer months to allow members of Edmac and other visiting members if the community, able bodied &amp; the those with disabilities to continue using the top car park until 9pm.</p> <p>If this is not possible, then a gate closing time of 8pm could be considered.</p> <p>Many Thanks for taking my views into consideration when reviewing this proposal.</p>
Betchworth	Objection	<p>I would like to object to the new proposal on car park closing time.</p> <p>I've been a long term member of EDMAC model flying club. Covid has seriously impacted on our enjoyment of flying the Downs, a tradition that is decades old.</p> <p>The proposed earlier closing time will further impact our enjoyment of our favourite hobby, particularly longer spring / summer nights.</p>
Epsom	Objection	<p>As Secretary I represent approximately 150 members of Epsom Downs Model Flying Club (EDMAC) &amp; we are the only organisation permitted to use Epsom Downs for model aircraft flying.</p> <p>Our members strongly disagree with the proposal that the top car park "summer" closing time should be changed from 21:00 to 19:00 hrs.</p> <p>The summer closing time is an asset to not only EDMAC members, but also to members of the public, in particular those with mobility issues who would not be able to access the Downs if an early closure would be agreed.</p> <p>To my knowledge, the 21:00 closing time has been in force for many years &amp; we cannot see any reason for change.</p> <p>We hope our comments are noted &amp; that the existing arrangements can be maintained.</p> <p>Yours sincerely,</p>

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Ashtead	Objection	<p>As a member of EDMAC flying club and regular flyer at Epsom Downs, I can understand the proposal to close the road overnight and in the mornings until 12noon, in order to prevent night time vehicular access and help keep the race horses safer on the gallops in the morning. But it is nowhere explained in your online document entitled "Old London Road, Epsom - Prohibition of Vehicles Proposal" or any url links within, the reasoning behind bringing forward the summer closure by 2hrs</p> <p>The proposal will remove the existing ability of EDMAC members to fly on warm summer evenings after work, as it would not be possible to carry models and flight boxes of equipment for over 800m from either the Tea Hut or Rubbing House car parks. These distances increase to nearer 1km if the bridleways/footpaths are used. The current distance from the nearest parking is 200m</p> <p>The proposal is inconsistent with The Epsom and Walton Downs bylaws allowing EDMAC members to fly until 8pm in the summer evenings, by effectively preventing access, see above.</p> <p>The proposal will be contrary to Surrey County Council Policy towards disabled people by removing their access to that part of the Downs on warm summer evenings which they could previously enjoy, when the able bodied can walk the extra 1km to get there.</p> <p>Therefore, I would like to register my objection to bringing forward the summer evening closure of the road to 7pm</p>
Haywards Heath	Objection	<p>Having lived a large part of my life close to Epsom Downs I have noticed a change in attitudes from the authorities who introduce restrictions to the uses of this public space.</p> <p>During the sixties and seventies , the downs were thronging with people walking , picnicking, flying kites ,model aeroplanes and gliders. Since then there has been all sorts of restrictions applied to this wonderful space, most of which I imagine are for the benefit of the people responsible for looking after the downs rather than the public.</p> <p>The proposal to reduce the times at which the gates are locked to the top car park are the latest 'Insult to injury' measures which are a major inconvenience to all who enjoy an evening on the downs ,particularly in the summer months. I still use the downs having family nearby and I'm also a member of EDMAC so I would like to convey the strongest opposition to the early lockdown of the gates to the car park.</p> <p>I think we are all pretty fed up with lockdowns so please don't add to the misery.</p>
Crawley	Objection	<p>I think the closing of the road from 7pm will restrict the access for myself , and fellow Epsom Downs Model Aircraft Club members during the summer evenings, when I may wish to fly my model aircraft. If the road is closed at 7pm then I would need to stop flying earlier to pack the models away and leave the Downs.</p>
Ewell	Objection	<p>I can see the logic of restricting access to the Top car park while the race horses are being trained. I strongly object to the proposed gate closure time of 7pm during the summer months.</p> <p>The pandemic is virtually over, there are now far fewer visitors to the downs and the 12-noon opening time will more than likely reduce numbers further. Early closure will discriminate against the elderly and the disabled who need access to the top car park to fully enjoy the warm summer evenings over Epsom and Walton Downs. Why can't the gates simply be closed half an hour before sunset like many parks across Surrey?</p> <p>Sunset at the summer solstice is at about 9.30 pm, a good 2 and a half hour after the proposed gate closure time of 7pm.</p> <p>Regards,</p>

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Epsom	Objection	<p>I would like the gates to open earlier in the day preferably at 9.30 but certainly by 10.</p> <p>I enjoy walking in the morning. As I am in my seventies I don't have energy to walk up to the top footpaths which are easily reached from the top car park as well as walking when I've got there.</p> <p>It is much nicer to walk away from the road. That is my reason for going to the Downs and for the views from the top.</p> <p>People with pushchairs will be disadvantaged.</p> <p>Older people from care homes or living with carers will not have time to walk before their midday meal.</p> <p>In the summer when it's hot by midday it's too hot to walk comfortably especially for older folk.</p> <p>I realise that in lockdown the area was mistreated, often by incomers, but I think it's time now to revert to the previous arrangements.</p>
Epsom	Objection	<p>I object to the access and top car park being closed till midday as it is an ideal place to park and go for a walk. I am [in my eighties] and I can have a nice country walk on level ground from this car park.</p>
Epsom	Objection	<p>I strongly object to the planned closure of the road and car park from 7pm. The removal of the facility of this car park during this pandemic has been an inconvenience and the failure to reopen the car park sooner than was the case was unjustified, the only reason I heard of being financial. I find that unacceptable.</p> <p>For those of us who regularly use the Downs as a facility to walk (with or without dogs), the need to park in the car park by the entrance to this road or in the vicinity of the Rubbing House has been frustrating as it limits the range of walks one can undertake by adding the additional time needed to get that far into the Downs. Added to this, my wife is still nearly 6 months after being infected by Covid, suffering from "Long Covid" and any incline causes her breathing problems - the facility of the car park in the centre of the Downs is beneficial to her for that reason.</p> <p>When the car park did eventually reopen it was only until 5pm which was contrary to expectations and the indications given to me. In the summer the extent of the use of the Downs meant that last summer it could be difficult to find space in the other facilities, resulting in people parking on the verges which damaged these and created safety issues.</p> <p>To my mind the Conservators are taking unnecessary advantage of the pandemic to limit a facility which has been relied upon for as long as I can remember, and well used, this without any valid explanation for their doing so. I accept that the 5pm closing in the winter period is appropriate, but this only for the period when the clocks are linked to GMT rather than BST (i.e not from 1st October to 31 March). Because I walk with a dog I tend not to use the Downs until after 12 noon. While the closure of the road does not therefore impact on me, I still see it as unjustified and likely to be objectionable from the perspective of those who do use it during this time.</p>

<p>Banstead</p>	<p>Objection</p>	<p>My family and I have visited Epsom Downs for air and exercise and recreation frequently since [the 1950s], even when we were living in Battersea and Streatham, from which the Downs were accessible by train to Epsom Downs Station.</p> <p>As a scout helper in Banstead I helped with scout activities over Epsom Downs and adjoining countryside in the 1980s to early 2000s. We sometimes used as a base for such activities the car park accessed from Old London Road when that road was open.</p> <p>Old London Road, from Tattenham Corner Road to the Top Car Park is admitted by Surrey County Council, as Highway Authority, to be a public carriageway. As such it should be kept open to vehicular traffic 24 hours a day. Any closure, unless authorised by statute or by a statutory order, is illegal.</p> <p>When Old London Road was closed I did not object as I did not appreciate until recently that Old London Road is a public highway, specifically a public carriageway.</p> <p>I now object to the proposal to legally close Old London Road (by which I mean the road from Tattenham Corner Road to the Top Car Park) at specified times and especially on light evenings.</p> <p>The public have a right of access to the Downs for air and exercise. If people, through ignorance or otherwise, are abusing that right I cannot see how the abuse would be stopped by closing Old London Road. In any event it cannot be right that the law-abiding and considerate members of the public should have their rights restricted because of unlawful and anti-social behaviour by a very small, often thoughtless or arrogant, minority of people.</p> <p>I suggest that better signage and enforcement of the law, including the byelaws, if such are being broken, would help.</p> <p>Closure of Old London Road and hence access to the Top Car Park means that people have to park in the car park by the tea hut and cross Tattenham Corner Road. This can be hazardous, especially as many motorists negotiating the roundabout near the tea hut refuse to give timely signals or any signals at all.</p> <p>Even if closure of Old London Road would address the reported problems on the Downs, I fail to see why the closures would be for time periods longer than Racehorse Training Times. Reference is made to nighttime closures. In summer around the equinox night does not start until as late as about 10 p.m. Why should closure of the road long before that time be envisaged? In particular, during summer months closure from, say, half an hour after sunset would surely be more appropriate and less inconvenient to the public than closure at 7 p.m.</p> <p>One particular gentleman of limited mobility I know was delighted when the access to the Top Car Park was restored as he could then park and enjoy the Downs within easy reach of the car park. I know that on balmy summer evenings he would like to be able to use the Top Car Park.</p> <p>To test whether closure of Old London Road would actually decrease the reported problems could not the road be closed (on specified days and at specified times) for a trial period with a temporary traffic regulation order? Only then if the problems do decrease then a permanent order could be considered.</p> <p>Have not previous closures, whether lawful or not, of Old London Road demonstrated whether such closures address the reported problems? If there is no evidence of such closures addressing the reported problems, then there is clearly no merit in the legal closures now proposed.</p> <p>Much of what Surrey County Council state in their documentation is irrelevant and/or disingenuous.</p> <p>The Statement of Reason states that Epsom and Ewell Borough Council approved the advertisement of a prohibition of traffic order in the late 1990s but gives no reason why such advertisement was approved. No reason is given as to why the advertisement apparently did not occur. Perhaps Epsom and Ewell Borough Council decided not to proceed with the proposed order.</p> <p>The statement of Reason states that Old London Road has been closed overnight since the late 1990s. I think that this is being economical with the truth: I have seen the road closed in daytime, not just overnight.</p> <p>The statement of reason states that overnight closure of the generally accepted by the local community (whatever exactly this is) as part and parcel of the operation of the Downs. No evidence has been adduced to justify this statement. In any event, whatever acceptance, if any, there has been was no doubt at least in part because people did not realise that the closure was illegal.</p> <p>Furthermore the Downs are used not only by the local community but by people from further afield.</p> <p>References to Covid-19 are totally irrelevant. Whatever measures, legal or otherwise, were taken because of coronavirus/Covid-19 would only have been considered temporary.</p> <p>One wonders whether the proposed order is part of an unspoken objective to close the road permanently at all times and to discourage public use of the downs at least in the vicinity of areas used for racehorse training. Public use of the downs has already been discouraged by closure of the public toilets, initially purportedly because of coronavirus but now seemingly permanent.</p>
<p>Epsom</p>	<p>Objection</p>	<p>I think the overnight closure is a good idea, but do not think it is reasonable for the closure to extend through until lunchtime, as this precludes less able people from using the Downs for much of the day.</p> <p>Would it not be possible to open the road at 8am instead?</p>

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Leatherhead	Objection	I'am completely against this proposal. Once again my liberties are being cut. This is the thin end of the wedge, just like a trogon horse one little cut after another. And very soon the gate will be closed forever. That is the what is being attempted here yet again.
Epsom	Objection	I don't understand why this is being brought in now, when people are returning to work and lockdown was lifted months ago and there are far fewer people on the Downs in the morning. Its a bit like closing the stable door once the horse has bolted! When you closed the road completely last year it lead to considerable congestion in the bottom car parks and kerb sides and social distancing became even more difficult.  Apart from Saturday mornings when there may be more people using the top car park, I don't think the morning closures are necessary for weekdays. So I oppose these proposals.
Ewell	Objection	I am against the proposal. A large number of people use the parking space next to the tea hut on top of Old London Road on weekend morning. Families and friends going for walks, I have been doing it for years.  The car park would be inaccessible until 0930am, where many people get there earlier. Waiting until then will cause congestion and robb people of recreational activities!  The Downs are there for everyone!  Allow for traffic to resume by 8am!
epsom	Objection	I would like to see the car park open till 8.30pm during the Summer months. It is the only car park giving access to Six Mile Hill and is delightful place to be during the hot summer evenings. It is the only car park that is suitable for the elderly, disabled and wheelchair users to be able to access the Downs safely. All the other car parks on Epsom Downs are not suitable for the elderly and disabled. There is 50% less parking now then there was 25 years ago. There used to be three more car parks that were open to the public. The large car park that runs from the Grandstand to the Keepers Hut was open to the public during the Summer and the two car parks surrounding Tattenham Corner were open all year. round. For some reason The Conservators and The Racecourse seem to want to reduce the public access to the Downs instead of providing the parking that is required. Hence the Parking on the verges along the surrounding roads. I suggest one should read Epsom and Walton Downs A Strategy for their Management and Use. Published by The Epsom and Walton Downs Conservators 2006 . You will note that under Section 8 Car Parks it states The Conservators will keep under review the number and location of car park spaces required. Make available the number of spaces in appropriately surfaced car parks. This has not happened.  In Section 7 It states that they will maintain appropriate footpaths in a condition facilitating access by the disabled to a variety of locations on the Downs.  This has not happened  The only car park that is suitable is the one you are trying to limit access to.
Banstead	Objection	It is unacceptable to restrict vehicular access to the middle of the downs as individuals like myself with limited walking capacity will be unable to get to Walton Downs during these hours. I would like to think that us locals respect the privilege of being able to walk and enjoy this beautiful open space and treat it accordingly.

Epsom	Objection	<p>To whom it may concern,</p> <p>Since moving to Epsom almost four years ago, my family and I have enjoyed daily morning dog walks on the Downs. Being able to use the upper car park has been vital as it means all age groups can benefit from easy access to the woodlands and open spaces beyond. There are benches where people can enjoy the beautiful views, something my aged mother has enjoyed immensely and there aren't any in the open area near the lower car park.</p> <p>The morning visitors to the upper car park cause no trouble and I cannot see why closing it the mornings will be of any benefit, indeed, it will only limit the freedom we currently enjoy. However, I do understand that it would be a good idea to close the upper car park at 7 pm but then reopen from 7.00 am for public use.</p> <p>During Lockdown we were only able to use the Lower Car park. It became very full very quickly, especially in the summer months. My mother, myself and my grandchildren could no longer make it as far as the woodlands and it felt very restrictive and that meant we were unable to enjoy the uplifting experiences as before.</p> <p>In the interests of all users of the Epsom Downs, I therefore implore you to continue keeping the Upper Car Park open in the mornings so people can enjoy the beauty this area has to offer. It means so much to us.</p> <p>Yours sincerely,</p>
Leatherhead	Objection	<p>As a member of EDMAC flying club and regular flyer at Epsom Downs, I can understand the proposal to close the road overnight and in the mornings until 12noon, in order to prevent night time vehicular access and help keep the race horses safer on the gallops in the morning. But it is nowhere explained in your online document entitled "Old London Road, Epsom - Prohibition of Vehicles Proposal" or any url links within, the reasoning behind bringing forward the summer closure by 2hrs</p> <p>The proposal will remove the existing ability of EDMAC members to fly on warm summer evenings after work, as it would not be possible to carry models and flight boxes of equipment for over 800m from either the Tea Hut or Rubbing House car parks. These distances increase to nearer 1km if the bridleways/footpaths are used. The current distance from the nearest parking is 200m</p> <p>The proposal is inconsistent with The Epsom and Walton Downs bylaws allowing EDMAC members to fly until 8pm in the summer evenings, by effectively preventing the existing access, see above.</p> <p>The proposal will be contrary to Surrey County Council Policy towards disabled people by removing their access to that part of the Downs on warm summer evenings which they could previously enjoy, when the able bodied can walk the extra 1km to get there.</p> <p>Therefore, I would like to register my objection to bringing forward the summer evening closure of the road to 7pm</p>
Ashted	Objection	<p>People need parking for walking as my wife is registered disabled &amp; sometimes it's nice to park &amp; go for a short walk</p>

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Epsom	Objection	<p>To whom it may concern,</p> <p>I am a new resident of Epsom. My wife and I have recently moved into the local area and what attracted us to Epsom was the convenience to London and the closeness of the countryside. We moved from a small terraced house with little green space to a house with a small garden. Having the beautiful Epsom Downs on our doorstep has made all the difference to us and our dogs during our time here.</p> <p>The morning closure of the top car park would have a significant effect on us as we walk our dogs before work. Our walk consists of the many acres of woodland next to the top car park and the fields leading down the Langley Vale. As a NHS nurse working in a trauma unit at a leading London hospital this start to the day provides my wife with a much needed contrast with what she has to face during the rest of the day. The morning closure would really limit our walk to just the open space opposite the grand stand because we won't be able to cover our usual walk in the time we have. Although the field is beautiful not having the option to walk from the upper carpark would really limit us and the walking possibilities we have.</p> <p>It is so uplifting to have that freedom and for that to be taken away from us would have a big effect on our mental health. When driving up to the car park in the morning we have complete respect for all the other users including slowing down or stopping completely to allow the racehorses pass. We all have a symbiotic respect for one another and the land which we use. I am sure I speak for many people and kindly ask for this motion to be rejected. We would hate to lose the freedom we currently enjoy and value so highly.</p> <p>Kind regards,</p>
Banstead	Objection	<p>I object to the proposed hours of the road closure.</p> <p>From around the year 2000 until the first covid lockdown the road has been closed overnight at 5 pm in the winter, and 9 pm in the summer. The road has opened early the following day.</p> <p>As a model flyer on the Downs I am able to fly until sunset, or 8pm, as per the byelaws. The byelaws also stipulate that we must fly (r/c models) from the strip near the top car park, so the only practical means to fly our models is by using the Old London Road as access.</p> <p>The summer closing at 9pm has never been a problem, but closing at 7pm will significantly reduce the times we can fly. Closure of the road at 7pm would effectively mean that we need to finish at the very latest at 6:45 pm to pack up and be off the Downs by 7pm.</p> <p>The 5pm winter closure is also an issue in late March and early October, when sunset is much later than the 5pm closure time - two and a half hours before sunset in the last days of March, and over one and a half hours after sunset at the start of October. I accept that this is unchanged in the current proposals, so is not a new issue.</p> <p>In the initial consultation in 1999 I suggested that the closure times should be linked to the time of sunset - maybe 30 minutes after sunset. I believe Richmond Park operated road closure hours on that basis back then, perhaps they still do?</p>

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	Objection	<p>As a model flyer using The Downs , the change to 7pm would be very restrictive although we can fly till 8pm after that we still have an hour to pack our models up and leave before the gates are locked. if it was 7pm we would have to pack up at least by 6.30pm.</p> <p>Flying after work in the summer evenings is some of the best flying weather and would be a shame to lose this for unconvincing reasons.</p> <p>The influx of people using the downs due to covid was temporary ,there seems a rush to change rules through out the country using the excuse of covid.</p>
Epsom	Objection	<p>I agree with the closing of the car park in the morning until the racehorses have finished training. However, 7pm closure in the summer months is too early. The summer time should be 9pm as people like to use The Downs in the evening.</p>
Leatherhead	Objection	<p>Prior to the pandemic, the top car park was open every day from early morning until 5pm in winter and 9pm in summer. This arrangement had been in place for many years. I understand why temporary changes were introduced during the pandemic because of the unusually high numbers of visitors. However visitor numbers have now reduced again to pre-pandemic levels, and I see no reason why the top car park should not revert to the previous opening hours.</p> <p>The top car park is an important amenity to visitors especially those who are disabled or have walking difficulties, and for parents with young children. It makes the centre of the downs accessible, and avoids the need for the long steep uphill walk from the car parks near the tea hut, which many visitors are unable to do. The current proposals represent a significant reduction in the hours that this car park is open, both in the mornings and in the summer evenings.</p> <p>I consider that there is no longer any operational reason for reducing the car park opening hours from those in place for many years prior to the pandemic. These proposals would significantly reduce accessibility to the most attractive area of the downs both in the mornings and in the summer evenings. It is regrettable that the committee appears not to have considered the needs and rights of the disabled, and of parents with young children when formulating these proposals and I would urge them to think again.</p>
Tooting	Objection	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- EDMAC members (which I am one of them) would lose the opportunity to fly in the late summer evenings after work</li> <li>- The Epsom and Walton Downs bylaws allow EDMAC members to fly until 8pm in the summer evenings, a must since we can only fly from 12:00pm onwards.</li> <li>- Top car park access is essential due to the weight and amount of RC equipment.</li> <li>- Disabled people rely on the top car park to enjoy summer evening walks on Walton Downs</li> </ul>
EPSOM	Objection	<p>Please could you reject the motion to close the top car park during the mornings. This car park is essential for those who wish to walk and enjoy the Epsom Downs and would be unable to do so if the car park was closed. It is entirely sensible to close the access to the car park at night but please ensure that it opens in the morning.</p>

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<p>Epsom</p>	<p>Objection</p>	<p>Firstly, in the absence of any notices or other communication to explain these closure proposals to users of the top car park, I do not see how this can be considered a valid consultation that meets due legal process. Many of those most directly affected by the proposals are likely to be completely unaware of them, so have not had the opportunity to review and comment on them. Those that are aware (mainly horse riders, trainers, racecourse owners and staff) have a vested interest in the outcome and are not representative of all stakeholders.</p> <p>Although the Downs is private land, access and usage are governed by the Epsom &amp; Walton Downs Regulation Act 1984 under which council tax payers contribute 60% of the cost of the Downs Conservators. The consultation period should therefore be extended and accompanied by a proper process to gain representative feedback from the general public (notices, leaflets, meetings).</p> <p>On the proposal specifically, SCC does not appear to have developed its own thinking on the need for a change in closure times, but instead refers to a request from the Conservators, itself based mainly on a request from the racehorse Training Grounds Management Board. The case made by the Conservators for longer closure of the Old London Road and top car park is not convincing. In particular:</p> <p>(a) the report quotes a letter from the Training Grounds Management Board (an interested party with a clear agenda) claiming that changes are needed because of a 'considerable increase' in public use of the Downs, but without providing evidence for that statement or quantifying the absolute numbers of public users involved. If there has been such an increase (outside of COVID lockdowns – see below), it needs to be evidenced by way of hard numbers rather than assertion, and demonstrated to be the source of the problems identified. The Conservators also need show that having Old London Rd open during training hours is a significant source of the increase in numbers.</p> <p>(b) the report quotes a 'Health and Safety Expert' as saying that the risks of the current arrangements are "high", but the report itself has not been produced to back up the assertion. Again, the link between the problem identified by the expert and access via Old London Rd has not been convincingly made.</p> <p>(c) a number of incidents and concerns (e.g. of the police) are cited, but they relate to periods of lockdown in 2020, when usage of the Downs was exceptional and Old London Rd was actually closed anyway using powers under COVID regulations. Those specific circumstances no longer apply, and the incidents referred to are therefore not relevant to the case for closure now. However, what they do show is that the proposed road closure arrangements will not solve the problems that have been cited (as they occurred despite the top car park being shut – and the other car parks as well for part of the time).</p> <p>It is clearly important that all users of the Downs act responsibly and keep dogs/children under control - at all times, not just when there are racehorses about. Since the Downs is an open area with many access points, the problem of dangerous and anti-social behaviour will need to be dealt with primarily through education, notices and on-the-ground policing by the Downskeepers. Road closure should not be the first choice option.</p> <p>Before SCC considers this case further, it should ask the Conservators to provide compelling evidence for their closure proposals based on</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. census data covering usage (e.g. electronic data covering the number and speed of vehicles at relevant times of day); and</li> <li>2. incident logs (kept by the Downskeepers and/or trainers) showing conclusively that there are real health and safety issues that would be mitigated specifically by closing Old London Road to traffic during training hours. General statements, such as those in the Conservators' report noting "regular tensions" should not be accepted without factual corroboration.</li> </ol> <p>SCC should also review the potential impact of closure of Old London Road on other roads around the Downs, since it will displace parking into areas that are not well suited to higher volumes (e.g. Langley Vale, especially near to the primary school) and onto verges (as happened when it was closed for COVID reasons – as set out in the Conservators report). There is also the potential for congestion causing traffic delays through bunching of arrivals at noon when the road would be re-opened.</p> <p>Without such evidence and review, there is insufficient reason for SCC to overturn an arrangement that seems to have worked well for many decades previously (including periods when there were far more horses in training on the Downs).</p> <p>I am therefore OBJECTING to the proposal.</p>
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Epsom	Objection	<p>The numbers of people on the Downs during Covid was unprecedented as the report says but has returned to normal levels now. The car park was closed for approx 18 months while other parks and walking areas reopened after lockdown. It took public pressure to get the gates opened again (rumour said they were not going to!) but with a new restriction on the time to 5pm. Before covid, in the Summer months it was a 9pm close. The new proposal is for 7pm. If you restrict times in that way, all you do is make more people gather in a smaller area as was evident during the lockdown. The closure of the top car park made people park on the grass verges along the Grandstand Road and put pressure on the roads around it. It was a danger and a nuisance. Opening the top car park would have prevented that and allowed people to use the back of the Downs and spread out more. When the parking restriction in the Downskeepers car park was lifted, it was a joke and overcrowded; so much for social distancing! Hopefully we will never be in that position again. There was a comment from one of the trainers that he had to warn members of the public. Of course that's wrong but it was probably visitors not from the area and unaware of the training. The signage is not that good! There are also two Rangers focused on the training areas for that purpose from 6.30am to 12pm Mon-Sat and til 9.30 Sundays. I have seen them making people aware of their wrong doings. All this proposal does is penalise local residents and regular considerate users of the Downs and is unfair. Those abusing the rules should be asked to leave. During lockdown I heard of a disabled resident that was unable access the top of the Downs while the Old London Road car park was closed. He had a mobility scooter that could not manage the hilly track to the top to enjoy his usual route..... on a flat even surface! I agree with closing the gate at night.... 5pm Winter and 9pm Summer as has been the norm for many years; I dont think anyone would object to that, but I do object strongly to the new hours proposed. Ps. who elects the Conservators?!!</p>
Epsom	Objection	<p>I am a new to Epsom. My husband and I chose to move here [recently] because of the convenience to London and the close proximity of the countryside. Epsom Downs was one of the main attractions to the area, we have two dogs and enjoy taking them for walks at the Downs every day.</p> <p>The morning closure of the top car park would make it very difficult for us as we walk our dogs before work. Our walk consists of the many acres of woodland next to the top car park and the fields leading down the Langley Vale. As a NHS nurse working in one of the busiest emergency and trauma departments in London, my walks at the Downs are an extremely important distraction from the high pressure and difficult job I do. The morning closure would really limit our walk to just the open space opposite the grand stand because we won't be able to cover our usual walk in the time we have. Although the field is also lovely, not having the option to walk from the upper carpark would really limit us and the walking possibilities we have.</p> <p>We would be deeply upset to loose this freedom and time to enjoy the countryside each morning. When driving up to the car park in the morning, we have complete respect for all the other users including slowing right down or stopping completely to allow the racehorses pass. We also have a nervous dog so using the top car park which is slightly quieter really helps him to relax and enjoy his walk. We always have our dogs on the lead even at the times we don't need to as we respect the rules set by the jockey club. We ensure we are extremely calm and quiet when any horses are nearby and also when any horses are running, we stop in our tracks, keep quiet and ensure we are far away so as not to scare the horses.</p> <p>I am sure I speak for many people and kindly ask for this motion to be rejected. We would hate to lose the freedom we currently enjoy and value so highly.</p>
Epsom	Objection	<p>I oppose the proposals. Living here for over two decades and spending most mornings in the top car park on the Downs, watching horses train and being a responsible dog owner - it would be more than a shame to take this early morning experience away from anybody; those with limited physical capacity themselves or struggling with older dogs, being denied access, is quite frankly, appalling. We have supported the Downs, as have most local residents, for years and it is totally unjust to penalise us.</p>

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Neither objections nor messages of support		
Ewell	Other	I would prefer an earlier opening time if possible.
Worcester Park	Other	<p>I am all in favour of a ban relating to overnight use but would question the need to ban morning use on a permanent basis.</p> <p>The carpark involved is a useful starting point for access to the adjoining woods and for very enjoyable walks along the Downs and within the woods</p>
EPSOM	Other	<p>Support, including the extended hours.</p> <p>However, the proposal appears defective. First, the order would apply to Old London Road from its junction with bridleway 127 at either end. This would leave Old London Road between the junction with bridleway 127 and the mini-roundabout with Tattenham Corner Road (a distance of perhaps 30m) unregulated — why is this part left out? As the existing (illegal) barrier is maintained at the roundabout, it also would leave the barrier in the wrong place. There is a further barrier about 30m east of the junction with bridleway 127 on the southern side of the racecourse. Again, the order appears to leave that barrier unprovided for. What is the justification for excluding vehicles from this section of road if the order makes no express provision for it?</p> <p>Finally, the proposal refers to excluding 'vehicles'. However, it should refer either to 'motor vehicles' or to vehicles not including cycles. There is no justification to exclude cycles from either Old London Road or bridleway 127 at any time and no case has been put forward that they should be.</p>
Epsom	Other	<p>I appreciate the need to safeguard racehorses and their riders and consider it is a good compromise solution to keep the car park on the far side of the Downs and the access road to it closed until 12 noon each day when training finishes.</p> <p>However, I find the closing times proposed far too early, especially during the summer months when it is light until 9pm or later. This car park is by far the safest for dog owners and also horse boxes, being well away from the main roads, and offers visitors the best views of the Grandstand. Additionally, working people with or without dogs like to have evening walks during the summer months, particularly during the hours of 7-9pm.</p> <p>Why cannot the closing time for this car park be nearer to the time of sunset throughout the year?</p>
Carshallton	Other	<p>The proposed closure times are not the times which were unofficially accepted. In summer the road was closed from 9pm NOT 7pm. That 2 hours a day makes a huge difference to dog walkers who have enjoyed an evening walk on the downs be it either people who get home from work and walk the dog at the end of the day to unwind, people with restricted mobility who can park in the top car park and be in the middle of the downs with their on summer evenings watching the sun going down. I have been the former but now unfortunately am the latter.</p> <p>From 7pm to 9pm makes a huge difference. On weekday it is impossible to travel to the downs by car from 3pm to 7pm without getting stuck in a traffic jam from school pick ups to rush hours.</p> <p>I ask you to amend the summer opening times to close the road at 9pm, I feel this discrimination for people like me. I suggest you take a camping chair and walk 50 meters from the lower car park, sit down and admire the view, then do the same from the top car park, you will see the difference this makes. I feel this will impact on the mental wellbeing of many owners and dogs.</p> <p>Please make the downs closing hours to what it was before lockdown and close at 9pm</p>
Epsom	Other	<p>It's not clear if this applies to walkers? To many elderly around here their morning walk on the Downs is vital and it would be a great loss if we are all to be banned.</p> <p>Afternoons the energy often goes and it's not so good for walking.</p> <p>Thank you for clarifying</p>
ashtead	Other	<p>Being involved with horse racing (I own a small share in a horse) I know that the trainers have long been concerned with the increased numbers of joggers and dog walkers on the downs in the early part of the day since COVID and people working from home. I understand their worries but dont see why the road needs to be closed overnight? This seems excessive and is just making life more difficult for those who live towards Tadworth/Walton if coming from Ashtead as they have to go out of their way?</p>

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Banstead	Other	They should close the road until 6am. 12 noon is harsh on locals that like using the downs early in the morning. By all means close overnight I see the problems that occur in the hours of darkness. But don't punish those that use the area with respect.
Epsom Downs	Other	This seems a very short space of time to be allowed to use the car park. Does it mean that there will be parked cars all over the place, like earlier in the pandemic when the road was closed and the car park shut? I hope this has been thoroughly considered given how awkward it made driving around the area with potential for accidents and road rage incidents.
	Other	As a local of over 35 years and almost daily user of the downs I see now real issue
	Other	I am happy for the road to be closed overnight and until 9.30a.m. on each morning. I understand the rationale for this. I think it is very important to keep the road open during the day, and until 9.00 p.m. in the summer months for the following reasons; 1) For the elderly or those with a disability to be able to feel 'part' of the downs by being able to reach (by being driven) the top of the downs to sit, easy access for a wheel chair or an aided walk to a chair 2). To have the safety of being close enough to grass and opening the car to let out dogs to go for a walk. The latter being a life line personally as I have arthritis in my hands and putting a lead on, walking two dogs to a safe place to let them off is near impossible at the bottom car park, at the top I can park within two feet of the grass and let pets out in total safety. My personal thoughts.
Epsom	Other	I do agree on restricting the top car park overnight. I do not agree to closing the car park during the morning.  If the decision is to close the top car park in the morning then it would only be right, to open the road linking the top car park later in the day to compensate the morning restrictions as it used to be prior to covid. This would give everyone the opportunity to enjoy the open space the downs offers and not to be restricted to only a few hours in the afternoon. I believe that if this is not allowed, the parking would be a problem. With too many cars and not enough spaces to park. I can for see people parking on the road and causing more of a hazard to both motorists and pedestrians.  I hope this of use for your consideration.  Regards
Epsom	Other	I am very happy that the road is closed from dusk until 10 a.m. the next morning on the day's indicated excluding Saturdays when it should be opened at 9 a.m. whilst people need to observe the regulations about keeping dogs under control while the racehorses are around until noon I feel it is important for people to be able to exercise as freely as possible in daylight hours.

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Messages of support		
Epsom Downs	Support	An excellent proposal, many motorists driving to the car park seem to use this section of road with no regard to speed restrictions, or to other users. During the pandemic lockdown when this road was not accessible the Downs were much more pleasant and safe for the race horses in training, hacks and for the general public. There is ample car parking by the Conservators hut and the tea hut at Tattenham Corner for users of the Downs within the time frame of this proposal. We fully support this proposal and hope it is passed and actioned ASAP. Thankyou.
Epsom	Support	I fully support the proposals. Racehorse training and the racecourse are a vital part of Epsom's history and economy. Safety is of paramount importance for training and for the public, and the proposed closure will help both.  Many people are now visiting the Downs from further afield, and do not understand the issues faced by the industry. The proposals will also stop antisocial behaviour.
Tottenham Corner	Support	I favour Closure of Old London Rd every morning. This would be the safest, easiest to control and most easy for the public to understand.
Epsom	Support	I am in favour of this proposal.  I walk on the Downs at least 2 or 3 times a week, but always after the horses have finished training. There are plenty of signs around informing people of the times that racehorses have priority. I think that if the top car park is closed it will make this even clearer.
Epsom	Support	As a regular walker on the Downs I fully support the proposal to close this section of road. During lockdown when the road was closed that area was as peaceful as the rest of the Downs and I regularly saw Kestrels hunting and perching near the furlong car park, and in spring of 2021 Skylarks were seen and heard in that area also. There is ample parking at Tattenham Corner by the tea hut and by the Downs rangers hut and this proposal must surely be welcomed by the racehorse riders, trainers and hacks.
Epsom	Support	I am in favour of the Old London Road being closed until 12.00 midday. This would increase the opportunity for horses to train on the downs, with possibly less harassment from dogs.
Epsom	Support	I support the proposals, which I regard as very sensible
Epsom	Support	I support the proposals
Epsom	Support	I support the application. It will reduce anti social behaviour in the top car park in the evenings .
Epsom	Support	I fully support the proposed closure as submitted. There is ample parking close by and there have been past instances of motorists endangering horses and riders who use the Downs.
Epsom	Support	I have previously submitted my support for this application. I wanted to add that there have been instances of flytipping at the top car park and an overnight closure will also help to prevent this.
Tadworth	Support	Comply support this proposal!! Irresponsible walkers and dog owners put the lives and safety of horses and their riders at risk through not following rules. That said, closing the car park access won't prevent people crossing towards the gallops, so it'll be pointless in the end.....
Banstead	Support	I would like to see the top car park permanently closed
Epsom	Support	I support the proposal to close Old London Road leading to the top (Seven Furlong) car park on Epsom Downs overnight and during racehorse training hours.

EPSOM	Support	<p>I think that this is a sound proposal.</p> <p>The Downs are private property (most visitors are unaware of this status) and racehorse training must have a priority, not least for safety reasons.</p> <p>Furthermore, since the Covid situation, and especially during the first lockdown, I have noticed increasing anti-social behaviour (BBQs-some on the course; hack riders on the lower parts of 6 Mile Hill; BBQs/drug-taking/"ghetto blaster" gatherings in the woods near the large interior car park, on 6MH and Juniper Hill; mountain bikes on 6MH; electric bikes on 6MH; "wheel-spinning" car activity in said car park; associated littering....).</p> <p>During the lockdown, the BBQs etc. on Juniper Hill were from groups coming from the Preston Howe Estate-the littering was appalling.</p> <p>The proposals may not address all the anti-social activity if it arises after the cutoff time (i.e. the PM).</p> <p>I am a resident/user since the 1960s...</p>
Epsom	Support	<p>I support the proposed restrictions of access for the following reasons.</p> <p>I use the Downs regularly for recreation (cycling and walking) and also as a driving route when travelling further afield.</p> <p>The historic Epsom Downs landscape is adapted by the needs of horse racing and provides extensive views with multiple view-points. This is unlike other parts of the un-grazed Downs where views are rapidly deteriorating due to the rise of scrub and trees. I support partial er-wilding but I believe we should also keep open downland for human benefit too.</p> <p>High quality research has confirmed the common-sense that access to distant views contributes to wellbeing in humans.</p> <p>I have noted the concerns of the the horse-training community and their important role in preserving this landscape. I have also noticed that the high numbers of Downs users has continued through the 2nd year of the pandemic and believe that this is likely to continue as people seek the refreshment from their increasingly digitally-based work lives.</p> <p>I saw the increased notices about social distancing , but this is now largely discredited/over zealous. Those relating to horse risks were insufficient to change behaviour in many with little real-life countryside experience or to deal with the H+S concerns of the horse trainers. Sufficient to meet these needs will end up in loss of visual amenity, costly fencing or uninsurable risks leading to the potential loss of training and its funding for the landscape.</p> <p>Sadly, I have concluded that ongoing access restriction to the highest risk area is needed .</p>
Epsom	Support	<p>I support the proposal. I walk on the downs regularly and have seen thoughtless driving first hand and the race horses and their riders need to be protected. Both car parks at the entrance to the Downs provide plenty of parking.</p>
	Support	<p>Just crack on</p>
Epsom	Support	<p>I fully agree with them as this will help safeguard the racehorses that train on the Downs, many of which use this road to return to their stabling yards at Tattenham Corner.</p> <p>Furthermore, the night time closure will help prevent nefarious activity, examples of which I probably do not need to elaborate on.</p>
Epsom	Support	<p>I am writing in support of the proposals. My road is within 200 yards of the Downs and we have recently been aware of motorcycles using this access road for "racing" purposes after dark. The motor vehicle traffic prohibition order will help to prevent this and other antisocial behaviour which seems to have been starting up recently at night.</p>

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EPSOM	Support	<p>I approve.</p> <p>As a runner, dog walker and horse rider on the Downs, I see how irresponsible so many of the users are on a daily basis. One of the major issues is dog walkers who have no recall and persist in allowing their dogs off leash; I have had two incidents where dogs have attacked my horse. It's dangerous.</p> <p>If this helps to discourage users during racehorse training hours, and to keep nighttime anti-social behaviour down, then I'm all for the night/morning road closures.</p> <p>There are two alternative car parks for use during these hours, and all of those who require the centre car park will still be able to access it when it's safer to do so.</p>
Epsom	Support	<p>Supported.</p> <p>The overnight closure has been in place many years, local people &amp; users of the Downs accept this position &amp; does not affect the use of the Downs as other parking exists. If anything it prevents use of the car park for other activities overnight.</p> <p>The extension of hours until after the horses have ceased training is reasonable to enable the horses &amp; riders to train more safely. Users who would have parked in the upper car park can use the parking near the Conservators hut or the car park over the road by the tea hut.</p>
Worcester Park	Support	<p>I agree with the proposals.</p>
Epsom	Support	<p>I support the proposal</p>
Epsom	Support	<p>I support them. We are fortunate to have this amazing space; the racehorses remind us of the rich tradition of racing and it would be sad day if the trainers were unable to train as required. But the horses need their own space and someone will be hurt if rules are not observed.</p>
Cheam	Support	<p>I am 100% in favour of the proposal and the times and days specified in the consultation. There is plenty of car parking otherwise available, and limiting vehicle movement at the times specified would be helpful for walkers and riders.</p>
Epsom	Support	<p>Although I would be personally disappointed with the extended closure of Old London Road (and therefore the car park), there are other ways to access the Downs during those times and the safety of the racehorses and trainers (and those who inadvertently can get in their way) must come first. I would therefore broadly support this proposal</p>
Epsom	Support	<p>I support the proposals.</p>
Epsom	Support	<p>I am in favour of the new suggested road closure times.</p>
Epsom	Support	<p>They are sensible</p>
epsom	Support	<p>I support the extended closing hours for Old London Road. By closing the road during at sunset hours, when there is no particular need to be over there it will help reduce any anti-social behavior.</p>
Epsom	Support	<p>I definitely think the top car park should be closed overnight. A very small number of individuals do not appreciate having full access to the Downs. I have personally watched vehicle's being skidded around on the grassed area near the Grandstand in the past leaving a churned up mess behind. I notice that this same section is now not used to park in ! In favour of sensible rules that protect the Downs.</p>
Epsom Downs	Support	<p>The road was closed all day during the first Covid crisis. This resulted in a better environment for walkers on the Epsom Downs. I would support the closure as planned but would prefer the road to be permanently closed to motor vehicles as part of the strategy to encourage walking and cycling.</p>
Epsom	Support	<p>In support of the road closures.</p>
ASHTEAD	Support	<p>Agree</p>

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Banstead	Support	I support them. One question. Does the wording need to mention that the times are BST or GMT depending on which is applicable?
Epsom Downs	Support	Excellent idea! I have lived her for over forty years. I loved using the downs but since lockdown I keep away and walk elsewhere. It has become like a local park full of dog walkers, business and private. Unruly public with no regard to anybody except themselves . I feel sorry for the horse racing community.
Ewell	Support	I totally agree with the proposals and in addition believe that when the road os open there should be a 10mph speed limit to reduce danger to pedestrians and dogs
EPSOM	Support	I personally think it should be closed at all times. The downs is a nicer place with it closed off, no worry with children or dogs being run over, less pollution etc, so I have no problem with the proposed changes, I'd go further and just have it closed totally.
Epsom	Support	I agree with the proposal of closing the road. I dogwalk on the Downs each morning. The number of vehicles parked at bottom of the Downs is always below the 2 car park capacity in my opinion. I don't therefore see the need to have the Road open, nor have the numerous walkers, cyclists and of course racehorses, to navigate cars unnecessarily.
Epsom Downs	Support	I agree the road should be closed. It would better to close the road permanently.
Epsom	Support	I totally agree with the proposed road closures and the schedules proposed.
Langley Vale	Support	As. Resident at the top of Rosebery Road I am aware that there is concern that the closure of this road will increase parking at this end of Rosebery Road for access to the Downs. I do NOT share this view and agree with the closure of the road to the central car park during the morning when the horses are training.  With the new visitor centre under construction to the Centenary wood anyone wanting to walk south from the Downs car park will begin to park there.  We have always had a few dog walkers parking here and I do not see this will increase. More important that the horses and their riders are safe on the Downs.
Epsom Downs	Support	Fully support the proposal, making the following observations :  Making The Hill a safer place for racehorses training and other riders in the mornings, as it should be. Improving Epsom Downs attraction to horse trainers. Preventing unsocial behaviour during the summer evenings, litter and noise (racing cars). Making evening walking, family outings/activities and dog walking safer for everyone to enjoy.  Complications may be similar to those experienced when The Hill was closed during COVID lockdown: parking overflowed the one car park by the Rangers Hut, onto the main road from Tattenham Corner to the Stand. With families parking up against the rail and then accessing their vehicle on the roadside, causing impact on the flow of traffic and numerous opportunities for a serious collision to occur. Propose an extension of the current carpark, to the west, with a new entrance, away from the round-about, with a pay and display?
Epsom	Support	I would be extremely happy for the road to be closed permanently; Safer for walkers, horse riders, cyclists.  Although I feel there should better Road crossing facilities from the car park at the Sandwich box, and yellow lines marked on all surrounding roads to discourage people parking in the marked cycle lanes.
Epsom	Support	I fully support the proposal.

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TADWORTH	Support	<p>Broadly support.</p> <p>For Winter hours this works ok For Summer hours the prohibition to 12:00 next day (and 09:30 on a Sunday) are accepted.</p> <p>However in Summer time, closing at 7pm would appear too early as there are often several hours of daylight after this. At the end of April dusk is already later than 7pm.</p>
Banstead	Support	<p>I think the proposal to close the top car park at Epsom Downs racecourse while horses are training is sound. I have been leading walks on Epsom Downs and I always warn walkers that horses have priority. None of our walkers have ever walked on the gallops, but I understand other people have. Doing this while horses are being trained is very stupid. Not only horse and rider could be injured, but the walker could be killed.</p> <p>There should be signs up saying walking on the gallops is prohibited even at times the top car park is open.</p>
Epsom	Support	<p>I agree with these proposals. As a frequent walker on the Downs I am horrified at the speed and callousness of some drivers - as if they own the road. The horses frequently get spooked but the drivers don't slow down!!</p>
Epsom	Support	<p>I agree with the proposed restrictions having witnessed many incidents with horses over the years.</p>
Epsom	Support	<p>I am a resident in Tattenhams since [the 1980s]. I regularly walk the downs and know them well. I support the proposals on the grounds of community safety. We already see drug dealing in Royal Drive and the car park opposite the BR station. This gives the immediate residents a fear of crime. I am a retired police officer and there have been times when I have felt threatened by the presence of young males sitting in parked cars in Royal Drive while I was walking to the downs. The smell of cannabis is overpowering at times. If access hours are extended into hours of darkness the problem will grow along with other forms of crime. I seem to remember the body of a murdered man being found at the car park in 2006. It was dumped overnight. In addition to night closure it makes absolute sense to prohibit traffic while race horses are exercising. Cars and racehorses do not belong anywhere near each other; watch the race horse's that walk on the road in the dip at Langley Vale. They shy away from cars and the riders are put at risk, usually when drivers rev engines, drive too fast or show too many lights. Drivers often use excess speed on the road to Mile Post car park which could cause a horse to bolt or throw its rider. I am sure that people will object to the increase of closure until 12 noon on the grounds that it is excessive. In my experience safety measures are always excessive until the day when they are not enough. Let's remember that the use of the Downs by horses generates money for the Conservators and upkeep of the area. CThe Downs are a wonderful resource. Let's keep them safe for everybody.</p>
Epsom	Support	<p>Support. There is sufficient parking elsewhere on the Downs, therefore I agree with this proposal</p>
Epsom	Support	<p>No issues with the proposed closure . This road was closed during 2020 and the height of the pandemic which wasn't an issue so it has shown to not be a problem</p>