

**CABINET MEMBER FOR HIGHWAYS, TRANSPORT AND WASTE –
CLLR BRIDGET WAYMAN**

HIGHWAYS AND TRANSPORT SERVICE

OFFICER CONTACT: David Thomas 01225 713312 email: dave.thomas@wiltshire.gov.uk

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VICTORIA ROAD, DEVIZES – RESIDENTS’ PARKING

Purpose of Report

1. To consider the comments received following the formal advertisement of the introduction of an on street residents’ parking scheme in part of Victoria Road, Devizes and to recommend an appropriate way forward.

Relevance to the Council’s Business Plan

2. The proposed Traffic Regulation Order (TRO) meets two of the priorities in the Council’s Business Plan.
 - Outcome 2 – People in Wiltshire work together to solve problems locally and participate in decisions that affect them.
 - Outcome 6 – People are as protected from harm as possible and feel safe.

Background

3. Following representation from local residents the Council undertook surveys in summer 2016 to establish if there was a level of support for the introduction of residents’ parking schemes in a variety of locations in Devizes. Of those locations surveyed only Victoria Road met the criteria for further development.
4. The developed scheme covers the western end of Victoria Road and seeks to maximise the number of spaces available on street to residents whilst retaining the needs of safe movement for through traffic. A scheme drawing is included at **Appendix 1**.
5. When introduced any residents’ parking scheme will abide by the Council’s standard terms, conditions and charges relating to these types of schemes.

Summary of Proposals

6. The supporting TROs were formally advertised for comment on 30 March 2017. The Council’s closing date for receipt of objections or other representations, together with the grounds on which they were made, was 24 April 2017.

Summary of Responses

7. During the advertisement period a total of 19 matters of comment were received. Of the comments received from residents of Victoria Road there was a majority level of support for the proposals. However, a number of concerns have been expressed by nearby residents of Commercial Road that the proposals would result in difficulties for them. A full summary of the responses received, together with officer responses, where

considered appropriate, is included at **Appendix 2**. Details of the correspondents are provided in **Appendix 3**.

Main Considerations for the Council

Substantive comment – impact of proposals on residents of Commercial Road

8. Residents of Commercial Road have expressed concern that the introduction of residents' parking in part of Victoria Road will result in a transfer of non-residential parking to Commercial Road making it more difficult for them to find somewhere to park close to their homes. The suggestion is made that Commercial Road be made subject to a residents' parking scheme. It is accepted that whenever parking controls are introduced there can be a knock on impact to the surrounding area. It is not possible to determine the extent of the impact on Commercial Road at this time and it is therefore proposed to monitor the situation with a view to introducing a future scheme in Commercial Road should the need become apparent. It is possible that the transfer of parking could be to a location further along Victoria Road rather than to Commercial Road.

Substantive comment – Loss of parking adjacent to the St Mary's Alms Houses

9. Concern has been expressed by a number of correspondents about the loss of parking outside the St Mary's Alms Houses. The concern relates to the overall loss of parking availability and the likelihood of increased vehicle speeds in the area.
10. A careful balance has to be achieved between providing sufficient parking spaces, the ability for through vehicles to pass, and the safety of all road users. The inclusion of double yellow lines at the St Mary's Alms Houses is intended to create an area where westbound vehicles can wait and provide sufficient room for oncoming vehicles to pass. In addition it creates an area that pedestrians can use to cross and provide sufficient visibility to do so.
11. In light of the concerns raised the original proposal has been reviewed and it is possible to retain a level of parking availability on the north side of Victoria Road by providing a gap in the proposed yellow lines sufficient for two cars to allow day time parking and by changing a length of double yellow line to single yellow line which allows overnight parking. A plan setting out the revised proposal is included at **Appendix 4**.

Safeguarding Implications

12. There is no risk to the Council as a result of these proposals.

Public Health Implications

13. There are none with this proposal.

Corporate Procurement Implications

14. There are none with this proposal.

Environmental and Climate Change Considerations

15. The installation of signs and posts, particularly where none previously existed, together with road markings could be considered detrimental to the visual vista and street scene.

Equalities Impact of the Proposal

16. There are none with this proposal.

Risk Assessment

17. If schemes, programmed for design or delivery within the current financial year, are not progressed the Council risks the potential of delayed delivery in subsequent years due to other funding demands and uncertainty of future budget.

Financial Implications

18. The on ground changes will be funded from the Local Transport Plan Integrated Transport allocation. Failure to proceed with the project may leave funding unallocated and subject to underspend within the current financial year.

Legal Implications

19. There are none with this proposal.

Options Considered

20. To:
- (i) Implement the advertised changes.
 - (ii) Implement the advertised changes with amendments.
 - (iii) Abandon the proposals and retain the existing restriction.

Reason for Proposals

21. The amendments at St Mary's Alms Houses proposed to the Council's advertised proposals serve to directly address concerns raised by correspondents in accordance with Outcome 2 of the Council's Business Plan.
22. The proposed amendments will not be to the detriment of the main aim of the Council's proposal to introduce residents' parking to the Western end of Victoria Road which is seeking to maximise the number of parking spaces available for use by residents.

Proposals

23. That:
- (i) The proposals be implemented as advertised with an amendment in the St Mary's Alms Houses area.
 - (ii) Commercial Road be subject to monitoring with a view to introducing a future residents' parking scheme should the need become apparent.
 - (iii) The correspondents be informed accordingly.

The following unpublished documents have been relied on in the preparation of this Report:

None