

**DEPUTY LEADER AND CABINET MEMBER FOR HIGHWAYS, STREETSCENE AND BROADBAND – COUNCILLOR JOHN THOMSON**

**HIGHWAYS AND TRANSPORT SERVICE**

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**REFERENCE:** HSB-

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**TROWBRIDGE: PROPOSED WAITING RESTRICTIONS**

**Purpose of Report**

1. To:
  - (i) Consider objections to the advertised proposals for parking controls at various locations in the town of Trowbridge.
  - (ii) Recommend the making of the Traffic Regulation Order with amendments to the advertised proposals.

**Relevance to the Council's Business Plan**

2. The proposed scheme meets the three key priorities of the Business Plan, as the local community worked together with Wiltshire Councillors and council officers on the proposals, the restrictions will help protect vulnerable road users and will support the local businesses by protecting their accesses.

**Background**

3. Wiltshire Council undertook a review of Parking and Waiting restriction in 2012/13, which implemented restrictions in various areas of the town.
4. Further to comments received during that consultation, it was agreed to look at some minor amendments to the restrictions proposed in the 2012/13 review. These proposals were advertised on 21 March 2014.

**Detail**

5. Proposals for all of these sites have been developed and have been advertised as part of the statutory procedure for making Traffic Regulation Orders. As a result of the public advertisement, three letters of representation were received. There were two comments of support and one of objection. These are listed in **Appendix 1**, together with a summary of their comments and officer comments on the points raised.

**Main Considerations for the Council**

6. Consideration needs to be given to the responses received and a decision made on the way forward. Statute states the highway is for the passage and repassage of persons and goods, and consequently any parking on the highway is an obstruction of that right of passage. There are no rights to park on the highway but parking is condoned where the right of passage along the highway is not impeded. The consideration of the objections to the introduction of controls has to be considered in this context.

**Safeguarding Considerations**

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

### **Public Health Implications**

8. There is none in this scheme.

### **Environmental Impact of the Proposal**

9. The introduction of the parking controls will involve the laying of lines and installation of a small number of signs. This will have an impact on the visual aspect but has to be balanced against the need to ensure that safe access and visibility is provided. The impact of unsuitable and inconsiderate parking on traffic flow was also a key consideration.

### **Equalities Impact of the Proposal**

10. There is none in this scheme.

### **Risk Assessment**

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

### **Financial Implications**

12. Funding will need to be sought, in order to implement these proposals.

### **Legal Implications**

13. All changes to existing parking restrictions require amendments to the Traffic Regulation Order. The process is governed by the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 and Associated Procedural Regulations. Failure to adhere to the statutory processes could result in the restrictions being successfully challenged in the High Court.

### **Options Considered**

14. To:
- (i) Implement the proposals as advertised.
  - (ii) Not implement the proposals.
  - (iii) Implement the proposals with amendments.

### **Reason for Proposals**

15. The comments set out in **Appendix 1** on the objection received indicate that it is considered appropriate to implement the proposals as advertised.

### **Proposals**

16. That:
- (i) The restrictions be implemented as advertised.
  - (ii) The objectors be informed accordingly.

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

Letters of representation