

DECISION RECORD ¹

Subject: The Hertfordshire (High Street, Bury Lane, New Town and Heath Lane, Codicote) (Restriction Of Waiting) Order 2017

Staff Contact: Steve Gregory

Executive Member: Terry Douris

Tel: 01992 658330

Portfolio: Highways

1. Decision

To proceed with the implementation of waiting restrictions on High Street, Bury Lane, New Town and Heath Lane, Codicote.

2. Reasons for the decision

Issues reported and observed showed vehicles parking on High Street, Bury Lane, New Town and Heath Lane, restricting visibility and hindering access along the road, to the extent that road safety is compromised.

During the period from 14th July to 26th August 2016 all sites were informally consulted; the formal (public noticing) consultation took place from 25th January to 15th February 2017.

The informal consultation returned the following responses:

- Of the 6 residents consulted for Bury Lane, 2 responded, one of support and one opposing the proposal.
- Of the 15 residents consulted for the junction of Heath Lane one response was received opposing the proposal.
- Of the 21 residents consulted for the New Town North junction one responded who generally supports the proposal.
- Of the 17 residents consulted for the New Town North south junction, two responded. Neither could be seen to support the proposal as the comments received mainly related to access difficulties of their communal drive on the High Street, opposite.

The formal consultation returned one objection, Ref 059/17 about the introduction of restrictions on the South side of New Town opposite Cowards Lane.

Two objections, not previously resolved at the informal consultation stage, were further considered.

A request to install bollards on the pavement outside numbers 40 and 42 Newtown was further received.

At both stages of the consultation Councillor Thake, having given the matter the most careful consideration, whilst acknowledging the concerns set out by the objectors, remained of the opinion that the overall safety considerations that initiated the proposals have to take precedence.

3. Alternative options considered and rejected ²

The measures are consistent with The Highway Code (Rule 243) which states (in part) that "Do not stop or park: 'anywhere you would prevent access for Emergency Services, opposite or within 10 metres (32 feet) of a junction'; no other alternatives were considered.

4. Consultation

(a) Comments of Executive Member ^{3 4}

Consulted on 14th March 2017 and confirmed agreement for proposed decision and for scheme to proceed via e-mail on 15th March 2017.

(b) Comments of other consultees ⁵

Hertfordshire Constabulary have no objections to the proposals and no other comments or objections were received from other consultees. North Herts District Council will be informed when the restrictions come into force to allow enforcement to take place. They were asked to comment on the proposals.

County Councillor Richard Thake, having fully considered the grounds for objection and the responses to them prepared by the designer and officer, the decision to overrule the objection and those carried forward was supported by the local member on 13th March 2017.

Following consultation with, and the concurrence of the Executive Member, I am proceeding with the proposed decision.

Signed:

Title: Hig

Date: 21 MARCH 2017

6. Copies of agreed document to:

- All consultees
- Chairman, and Vice-Chairman of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee
- hard copy (for public inspection) Assistant Head of Member Services - Room 214 County Hall.

¹ for guidance see Chief Legal Officer's note "Taking Decisions"

² details of any alternative options considered and rejected by the officer at the time the decision was made

³ record any conflict of interest declared by any Executive Member consulted. Also record any dispensations granted by the Council's Standards Committee

⁴ If the matter has general significance for the Council and/or is, or is likely to be, controversial, then the officer shall consult the appropriate Executive Member before proceeding. In some cases it will be necessary to consult more than one Executive Member, and in some cases the Leader of the Council will need to be consulted

⁵ If the matter has local significance, but no general significance for the Council and no controversial aspects, the officer shall consult or inform the local member in writing (or by e mail) and proceed. It is essential that all officers responsible for delivering services ensure that local members are kept well briefed on issues affecting their areas.