

Bath & North East Somerset Council

DECISION MAKER:	Cllr Roberts, Cabinet Member for Transport	
DECISION DATE:	On or after 30th November 2013	EXECUTIVE FORWARD PLAN REFERENCE:
		E 2524
TITLE:	Warminster Road Parking Restrictions	
WARD:	Bathwick	
AN OPEN PUBLIC ITEM		
List of attachments to this report: TC8428 / TRO rev. D - "Existing / Proposed Layout" EIAWR - Equality Impact Assessment / Equality Analysis WR / IC - "Informal Consultation Report" WR / FC - "Formal Consultation Report"		

1 THE ISSUE

- 1.1 As part of the works to install a pedestrian refuge island on Warminster Road, it is necessary to remove approximately seven of the existing eleven limited waiting and unrestricted parking spaces. This is proposed to be done under the TRO entitled "Bath and North East Somerset Council (Warminster Road, Bath) (Prohibition of Parking) Order 201-" The reduction in parking spaces is required to provide the necessary visibility for people using the refuge, and therefore increase their safety. Parents who use these spaces while dropping off / picking up their children from St. Mary's school have objected, on the grounds that they will need to stop further away, and so increase the danger to their children of walking along a busy road.

2 RECOMMENDATION

- 2.1 The Traffic Regulation Order "the Bath and North East Somerset Council (Warminster Road, Bath) (Prohibition of Parking) Order 201-" should be approved as per the proposal.

3 RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS (FINANCE, PROPERTY, PEOPLE)

- 3.1 Update the parking restrictions; removing existing lining and painting double yellow lines, will cost in the region of £250, and amending the TRO will cost around £3000, depending on the amount of objections received. These works are being carried out on behalf of the Traffic & Safety Team, under the integrated transport block of funds in the capital programme. This budget covers works on Safer Routes to School schemes, and is recorded under the TC8428 reference.
- 3.2 It should be noted that the installation of additional parking restrictions will have implications for the Parking Service as this creates an additional area to patrol. This is not quantifiable on an individual TRO basis, but the cumulative effect of a series of similar increases in areas to patrol may result in a requirement for additional resource and therefore additional cost. Parking Services have been consulted on these proposals as part of the TRO process.

4 STATUTORY CONSIDERATIONS AND BASIS FOR PROPOSAL

- 4.1 A proportionate equalities impact assessment has been carried out on the scheme, to see if any discriminatory factors can be highlighted. There are no situations that could be thought of that discriminated against one over another.

5 THE REPORT

- 5.1 The TRO "Bath and North East Somerset Council (Warminster Road, Bath) (Prohibition of Parking) Order 201-" would remove the existing unlimited and some of the restricted parking along that part of Warminster Road. This is required to provide the necessary visibility for people using the proposed crossing.
- 5.2 As part of the TRO process, informal and formal consultations with both internal council and external bodies and members of the public were undertaken. The consultation results are summarised as appendices to this report.
- 5.3 The proposed Traffic Regulation Order will not remove all of the existing unlimited and restricted parking spaces, as residents' feared; four limited waiting spaces will remain. This means that there will still be spaces available to drop off children as they do currently.
- 5.4 The members of the public have objected on a few points of the design:
- 5.4.1 The loss of the parking spaces in the vicinity of the crossing will just increase parking congestion further along the road.
- 5.4.2 A lot of them were under a misapprehension that all of the unrestricted and limited waiting parking spaces were going, whereas 65% of them would be lost.
- 5.4.3 Although the refuge will increase child safety while crossing the road, removing the parking will increase the distance the children who get dropped off by their parents have to walk along the road.
- 5.5 The initial public consultation was carried out in March 2013. As a result, a section of pedestrian guardrail has been added to either side of the northern tactile crossing point outside of Bathwick St. Mary Primary School. A second public consultation was then carried out in September 2013 on the revised layout.

6 RATIONALE

- 6.1 In accordance with Section 1 of the Road Traffic Regulations Act 1984, the proposals are designed to 'facilitate the passage on the road of any class of traffic and pedestrians', and to 'avoid danger to persons or other traffic using the road or to prevent the likelihood of any such danger arising'.

7 OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED

- 7.1 During the design process, other locations for the refuge were considered, but the current one was preferred as it is the closest feasible place to the Warminster Road school entrance. Any location along the road would still mean the loss of some spaces, and double yellow lines are seen as the best option, as they are enforceable. There are insufficient pedestrians crossing at this location to justify a zebra crossing, and it would still have the same issues with visibility at this location, and would also mean the loss of spaces due to the inclusion of the required zigzags.

8 CONSULTATION

- 8.1 Cabinet members; Parish Council; Town Council; Overview & Scrutiny Panel; Staff; Other B&NES Services; Local Residents; Community Interest Groups;
- 8.2 Consultation was carried out by e-mailing internal and external contacts. Notices were also advertised in the local press and erected on either end of the road for a 21 day period. All affected people had the opportunity to participate in the consultation process, and to make their opinions known.

9 RISK MANAGEMENT

- 9.1 A risk assessment related to the issue and recommendations has been undertaken, in compliance with the Council's decision making risk management guidance.

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Background papers	
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