

SWALE JOINT TRANSPORTATION BOARD	Agenda Item:
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Meeting Date	Monday 28 th February 2022
Report Title	Faversham Residents' Parking Scheme – Permit Eligibility
Cabinet Member	Cllr Richard Palmer, Cabinet Member for Community
Head of Service	Martyn Cassell, Head of Environment and Leisure
Lead Officer	Mike Knowles (SBC)
Classification	Open

Recommendations	It is recommended to formalise the controls already in place to manage resident permits and for the Traffic Regulation Order to be amended accordingly.
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1. Purpose of Report and Executive Summary

- 1.1 This report provides details of the current administration of the Faversham Residents' Parking Scheme and the issuing of permits to residents located within the town centre.

2. Background

- 2.1 Following a recent request from a resident located in the partially pedestrianised section of Court Street in Faversham for a Zone B Parking Permit, the Parking Administration Team advised the applicant that they were not eligible to purchase a permit. This follows historical guidance which states that residents located within the partially pedestrianised areas of Faversham are not eligible to purchase permits.

3. Issue for Decision

- 3.1 Following a challenge by the resident, the Parking Administration Team have investigated this matter further and have concluded that whilst they have been following previous historic policies for the issuing of permits, the current Traffic Regulation Order does not reflect this policy.
- 3.2 The current Traffic Regulation Order does not differentiate between those properties located inside and outside of the partially pedestrianised area and their eligibility to purchase parking permits for Faversham Zone B. This leaves the Administration

Team in a weak position to respond to challenges around the issuing and refusal of permits.

3.3 An extract from the current Traffic Regulation Order can be found in Annex A, and a plan showing the area where roads are closed to vehicular traffic during certain times and days can be found in Annex B.

3.4 To ensure consistent and transparent operation for the issuing of parking permits moving forward, the policy for issuing permits needs to be aligned with the Traffic Regulation Order. There are two options available to achieve this, and these are discussed below:-

Option 1 – Amend Traffic Regulation Order

3.5 This option would involve amending the current Traffic Regulation Order to specify which properties would and would not be eligible to purchase permits for Zone B of the Faversham Residents' Parking Scheme in the town centre area. In accordance with the Traffic Regulation Order procedure, the proposed amended Order would be advertised for a minimum of 21 days to allow any formal objections to be submitted. These objections would be reported to a future Swale Joint Transportation Board meeting to be considered by Members.

3.6 Whilst this option would enable an up-to-date Traffic Order to be in place to regulate the issuing of permits, there is the risk that those properties which have previously been issued permits and would no longer be eligible could raise formal objections to the Order. To allow those residents time to make alternative parking arrangements, they could be issued with permits for an additional 12 months.

Option 2 – Administer Permits as Detailed in the Current Traffic Order

3.7 This option would not require any legal changes to the current Traffic Regulation Order but would instead define that all future permits are issued in accordance with the current Order.

3.8 In practice, this could allow permits to be purchased by those residents living in the partially pedestrianised area who have previously been refused. Because there are no permit parking bays located in this area, this would result in an increase in the demand on the on-street permit bays in the surrounding areas.

4. Recommendation

4.1 It is recommended to formalise the controls already in place to manage resident permits and for the Traffic Regulation Order to be amended accordingly.

5. Implications

Issue	Implications
Corporate Plan	N/A
Financial, Resource and Property	Cost of Drafting and Advertising Traffic Regulation Order.
Legal and Statutory	Sealing of Traffic Regulation Order by Kent County Council.
Crime and Disorder	None at this stage.
Risk Management and Health and Safety	None identified at this stage.
Equality and Diversity	None identified at this stage.
Sustainability	None identified at this stage.
Health Implications	None identified at this stage.

6. Appendices

- 6.1 Annex A – Extract of Current Traffic Regulation Order
Annex B – Plan of Roads Closed to Vehicular Traffic on certain days and times

7. Background Papers

- 7.1 None