

SWALE JOINT TRANSPORTATION BOARD	Agenda Item:
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Meeting Date	Monday 5 th December 2022
Report Title	Results of Informal Consultation – Proposed Amendments to Waiting Restrictions
EMT Lead	Emma Wiggins, Director of Regeneration and Neighbourhoods
Head of Service	Martyn Cassell, Head of Environment and Leisure
Lead Officer	Mike Knowles (SBC)
Classification	Open

Recommendations	<p>Members are asked to note the results of the recent informal consultations and recommend that:-</p> <p>(1) the proposed amendments to the parking bays, and installation of double yellow lines, in Tanners Street, Faversham either be progressed to a Traffic Regulation Order or be abandoned;</p> <p>(2) the proposed installation of new Residents' Parking Bays and double yellow lines in Forbes Road, Faversham, be investigated further through liaison with KCC Officers and a possible further informal consultation.</p>
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1. Purpose of Report and Executive Summary

- 1.1 This report provides details of recent informal consultations which have taken place with residents and statutory consultees on proposed amendments to on-street waiting restrictions in the Faversham area. The proposals detailed in this report have been requested by either the Ward Member for the area or by residents.

2. Background

- 2.1 The informal consultation on two proposals, one for the slight amendment to existing parking bays and the installation of a short section of double yellow lines in Tanners

Street, and the other for the proposed installation of parking bays and double yellow lines in Forbes Road, took place between 5th and 28th October 2022.

3. Issue for Decision

- 3.1 A copy of the consultation material can be found in Annex A, and a summary of the feedback received can be found in Annex B.

(1) Amendments to Parking Bays and Double Yellow Lines – Tanners Street

- 3.2 A resident of Tanners Street in Faversham contacted the Engineering Team with suggestions for minor amendments to a couple of the residents' parking bays in the road. This follows reports of refuse freighters being unable to access the road at times due to parked vehicles, resulting in abortive bin collections.
- 3.3 As the vehicles causing the obstruction were legally parked in designated parking bays, the proposals from the resident were to reduce the length of this bay and to extend a bay further along Tanners Street to compensate for the reduced parking capacity. As part of the proposals, we also included replacing an existing white bar marking near one of the bays with double yellow lines to ensure that vehicles did not park on this line and create an obstruction to the highway.
- 3.4 Of the 24 residents consulted a total of 7 responses were received, 4 supporting the proposals, 1 objecting and 2 providing comments. One of the comments received was that the option of a smaller refuse freighter for the collections in Tanners Street should be debated before serious consideration to the proposed amendments is given, and these comments were echoed in the objection received. These comments have been forwarded to the Environmental Contract Manager, who has responded by saying that we currently only have one narrow access vehicle for refuse collections, and it is already at maximum capacity so if there are alternative solutions we have, to avoid putting any more pressure on that crew and vehicle, these would be welcomed. The officer has also confirmed that they are able to access Tanners Street with the normal freighters as long as that one parking bay is not occupied.
- 3.5 Another comment provided by a resident was that they have no objection to the proposals as long as the change does not reduce the size of the overall parking spaces available along that section of Tanners Street.
- 3.6 Ward & County Member Comments: One Ward Member has stated *"I am happy to support the proposal. It seems to maintain the volume of parking in the street and resolve the problem related to waste collection. I would presume the alternative solution of a smaller truck being used would be more expensive in the longer term than the re-lining required."*

(2) Proposed Parking Bays and Double Yellow Lines – Forbes Road

- 3.7 A Ward Member has requested the installation of three sections of resident parking bays to replace existing single yellow lines in Forbes Road, Faversham. *"The rationale behind this is dual purpose – (1) residents have requested more bays due*

to the demand in the nearby Victorian streets, and (2) Forbes Road is now 20mph and the width of Forbes Road encourages excessive speeds. These three strips of residents parking bays would contribute to our aim of a more self-enforcing nature of the 20mph speed limit leading to more Active Travel.”

- 3.8 Prior to developing the proposals and undertaking an informal consultation, we contacted Kent County Council’s Highways Team to obtain their views on the proposals. A response was received from the Road Safety Engineering Project Manager confirming that there appeared to be sufficient width to enable vehicles to pass each other where parking is to be allowed and confirmed that the existing double yellow lines near junctions should remain to stop dangerous or obstructive parking.
- 3.9 Following this response, plans were prepared including installing some sections of additional double yellow lines to replace some single yellow lining, to ensure vehicles did not park opposite the proposed parking bays.
- 3.10 Of the 35 residents consulted a total of 20 responses were received, 9 supporting the proposals and 11 objecting. Many of the indications of support received included additional requests and suggestions. The main theme around the objections received related to concerns around traffic negotiating parked vehicles, particularly during peak times when vehicles travelling towards the A2 backed up along Forbes Road.
- 3.11 Bus Operator Objections: Objections have also been received from the bus operator in the area, and these comments can be found in the separate table at the end of Annex B. These objections are around negotiating parked vehicles along a road which can already present issues for bus movements.
- 3.12 Ward Member Comments: A Ward Member for the area has stated that the proposed recommendation sounds sensible, as does reviewing the length of the sections of the bays and has added that the key point is that the proposed bays should cause traffic to slow.

4. Recommendation

- 4.1 Members are asked to note the results of the recent informal consultations and recommend that:-

(1) the proposed amendments to the parking bays, and installation of double yellow lines, in Tanners Street, Faversham either be progressed to a Traffic Regulation Order or be abandoned;

(2) the proposed installation of new Residents' Parking Bays and double yellow lines in Forbes Road, Faversham, be investigated further through liaison with KCC Officers and a possible further informal consultation.

5. Implications

Issue	Implications
Corporate Plan	Improving Community Safety through safer Highways.
Financial, Resource and Property	Cost and Resource for Drafting Traffic Regulation Order, including Formal Consultation. Cost and resource for further investigations, design and informal consultations. Cost of Installing Lines and Signs on site. Cost of £55 for Kent County Council to arrange Sealing of Traffic Regulation Order.
Legal and Statutory	Formal Consultation of Traffic Regulation Order, and 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	For Tanners Street, the health implications will be minor as the proposed changes are minimal, although several residents may have to walk further from their parked vehicles. For Forbes Road, the wellbeing of residents could be improved through increased on-street parking capacity and a natural reduction in traffic speeds. However, several disabled residents have expressed concern that they will no longer be able to park outside of their properties which could impact on their wellbeing and mobility. Whilst these residents could apply for a disabled persons' parking bay, this would be subject to the layout of the new parking bays, their eligibility to meet the KCC criteria for bay applications and the maximum permitted disabled bay classification of 5% of total on-street parking capacity. Any addition congestion or impediment of vehicle movements could also result in a negative impact on drivers' mental wellbeing through incidents of road rage.

6. Appendices

- 6.1 Annex A – Copy of Informal Consultation Documents
- Annex B – Summary of Responses to Informal Consultation
- Annex C – Additional Documents Submitted with Consultation Responses

7. Background Papers

- 7.1 None