

## SWALE JOINT TRANSPORTATION BOARD

<b>Meeting Date</b>	Monday 19 December 2016
<b>Report Title</b>	Eligibility of New Developments to Purchase Permits in Residents Parking Schemes
<b>Cabinet Member</b>	Cllr Mike Cosgrove
<b>SMT Lead</b>	Dave Thomas
<b>Head of Service</b>	Dave Thomas
<b>Lead Officer</b>	Mike Knowles (SBC)
<b>Classification</b>	Open

<b>Recommendations</b>	Members are asked to :-  1. Note the report which clarifies the current position with regard to the eligibility of residents in new developments to purchase parking permits in existing Residents' Parking Schemes  2. Recommend the current position is reconsidered and strengthened as part of any future planning policy review of Parking Standards.
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### **1 Purpose of Report and Executive Summary**

- 1.1 This report provides details of the current position of the Authority in relation to new developments being built within existing Residents Parking Schemes, and the eligibility of those properties to purchase parking permits to park on-street within the Scheme.

### **2 Background**

- 2.1 There has previously been an adopted policy that any new developments within existing Residents Parking Schemes would not be eligible to purchase permits to park on-street within the Scheme area.
- 2.2 This historical decision was presumably based on concerns that where a former property was re-developed into a larger number of smaller properties, each of these dwellings would be entitled to purchase up to two permits per household, which could substantially reduce the on-street parking capacity within the Scheme.
- 2.3 However, following investigation into this policy it has not been possible to locate any written agreement to that effect, and as such any challenge from such developments could be difficult to defend.

### **3 Issue for Decision**

- 3.1 Discussions have taken place with the Head of Development Services regarding the current informal policy, and the following information in relation to parking standards and new developments has been provided:-
- 3.2 Currently the Council as the Local Planning Authority is dependent upon the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) and Kent County Council's car parking standards for assessing parking requirements in relation to planning applications. For Town Centre sites in close proximity to transport interchanges, car parking requirements are significantly reduced. Planning Committee members have raised concerns about the practicability of imposing such standards and the consequences for neighbouring residential areas. It is intended that once the Local Plan has been adopted (currently programmed for early Summer 2017) work will proceed on preparing a Car Parking Supplementary Planning Document which once agreed, would supplement or replace the KCC car parking standards. The drafting of the document would involve all members, particularly those on the Planning Committee and given the requirements for public consultation would take at least 12 months to adopt.
- 3.3 The current Traffic Regulation Order covering Residents Parking Schemes in Swale states that *"the Council shall not be required to issue a greater number of Residents Parking Permits under the provisions of this Order than the number of parking spaces available in any of the parking places"* but also states that *"it shall be entirely within the Council's discretion in such circumstances whether or not additional Residents Parking Permits beyond the number of parking spaces available may be issued"*.
- 3.4 Based on these provisions, the Head of Development Services is of the opinion that the Council is able to consider each new development within an existing Residents Parking Scheme based on the adjacent parking capacity with regard to the issuing of permits.

### **4 Recommendation**

- 4.1 Members are asked to :-

Note the report which clarifies the current position with regard to the eligibility of residents in new developments to purchase parking permits in existing Residents' Parking Schemes

Recommend the current position is reconsidered and strengthened as part of any future planning policy review of Parking Standards.

## 5 Implications

Issue	Implications
Corporate Plan	Improving Community Safety through safer Highways.
Financial, Resource and Property	None identified at this stage.
Legal and Statutory	Development of Car Parking Supplementary Planning Document.
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.

## 5 Appendices

5.1 None

## 6 Background Papers

6.1 None