

SWALE JOINT TRANSPORTATION BOARD

Meeting Date	Monday 11 th September 2017
Report Title	Sittingbourne Market Re-location
Cabinet Member	Cllr Mike Cosgrove
SMT Lead	Martyn Cassell
Head of Service	Martyn Cassell
Lead Officer	Mike Knowles (SBC)
Classification	Open

Recommendations	Members are asked to note the contents of the report and consider any formal objections to the Traffic Regulation Order, to be tabled at the meeting.
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1. Purpose of Report and Executive Summary

- 1.1 This report provides background on the recently advertised Traffic Regulation Order, in preparation of formal objections to be tabled at the September 2017 JTB Meeting.

2. Background

- 2.1 Previous extensive consultations have taken place with businesses in Sittingbourne High Street, Market Traders and Operators, and statutory consultees such as Kent County Council and Bus Operators, on proposed amendments to the times and days of the current Saturday closure of the High Street to traffic, and changes to on-street parking restrictions. This is to accommodate the re-location of the existing Sittingbourne Market, as part of the regeneration of Sittingbourne. It is now proposed to take these proposals forward, to be effective from 1st January 2018, and the relevant Traffic Orders have been drafted and formally advertised.

3. Issue for Decision

- 3.1 Copies of the recently advertised Traffic Regulation Orders can be found in Annex A. The effect of the Traffic Orders is to change the times of the current Saturday closure from 10am-6pm to 7am-5pm, between the junctions of Station Street and Bell Road, and to introduce a Friday closure for the same times between the junctions of Station Street and Central Avenue. The Orders will also reverse the

direction of the current one-way traffic movements in Central Avenue, to a northerly direction from the mini-roundabout to High Street. The Swale Amendment 8 Order will make some changes to the current parking restrictions in the High Street. Full details of all the amendments can be found in the copy of the Statement of Reason in Annex B, and copies of the plans of the proposals in Annex C.

- 3.2 The Traffic Regulation Orders were originally advertised at the beginning of 2016, and formal objections were reported to the March 2016 JTB Meeting where Members recommended that the proposals be progressed. As the proposed changes will not come into effect within two years of these original Traffic Orders being drafted, it is a legal requirement that the Traffic Order process be started again, hence the new Traffic Regulation Orders.
- 3.3 At the time of writing this report the formal consultation process is in progress, having commenced on 18th August and ending on 8th September 2017. For this reason, any formal objections received will be tabled at the JTB Meeting in September 2017 for Members' consideration.
- 3.4 Should Members recommend that the proposed Traffic Orders be progressed, they will be sent to Kent County Council for formally sealing, so that the Orders can come into effect on 1st January 2018.

4. Recommendation

- 4.1 Members are asked to note the contents of the report and consider any formal objections to the Traffic Regulation Order, to be tabled at the meeting.

5. Implications

Issue	Implications
Corporate Plan	Embracing Localism Open for Business Healthy Environment
Financial, Resource and Property	Costs associated with the Traffic Regulation Order, and necessary signing and lining. Costs associated with Traffic Sign Strategy, Enforcement Policy, Feasibility and Safety Audit, possible costs associated with Bus Route changes, Letter of Agreement and appointment of Highway contractor(s). The work will be funded through the Regeneration Fund.
Legal and Statutory	Traffic Regulation Orders to be sealed by Kent County Council.
Crime and Disorder	None at this stage.
Risk Management and Health and Safety	The technical work which has yet to be undertaken will consider these issues.
Equality and Diversity	The consultation undertaken to date indicated that there will be a greater 'buy-in', support and project sustainability moving forward.
Sustainability	The initiative supports the economic vitality of the area and the town centre in particular and provides an opportunity to demonstrate localism in action through the contract award (Sittingbourne Market Operative).

6. Appendices

- 6.1 Annex A – Copy of Traffic Regulation Orders
- Annex B – Copy of Statement of Reason
- Annex C – Copy of Plans of Proposals

7. Background Papers

- 7.1 None