

## **Report to Crawley County Local Committee**

**December 2020**

### **Crawley – Byron Close & Park Way - Proposed Traffic Regulation Order**

#### **Report by Director of Highways, Transport and Planning and Head of Highways Operations**

**Electoral division: Pound Hill**

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#### **Summary**

The proposal relates to a request from residents of Pound Hill for parking restrictions in a residential area in the vicinity of Three Bridges railway station.

Approved by the Crawley County Local Committee (CLC) on 15<sup>th</sup> November 2018 for delivery in the 2019/20 Traffic Regulation Order (TRO) works programme, delay to progression of this TRO was due to potential conflict with the Crawley Road Space Audit and then with the Covid 19 virus restrictions.

Obstructive and inconsiderate parking close to junctions and accesses is affecting driver and pedestrian access and visibility. There is a feeling that commuters and holidaymakers use the unrestricted sections of Byron Close and Park Way to park their cars for long periods of time.

Following the Statutory Public Consultation, between 29th July 2020 and 26th August 2020, there were 10 objections received, along with 3 expressions of support. All objections are included in Appendix B to this report.

#### **Recommendations**

That Crawley CLC considers the objections to the scheme, and the responses in Appendix B, and authorises the Director of Law and Assurance to make the Order as advertised except for any amendments as detailed in the revised scheme referred to in paragraph 2.3 and attached in Appendix C.

#### **Proposal**

##### **1 Background and context**

- 1.1 Obstructive and inconsiderate parking is negatively affecting driver and pedestrian access, safety and visibility. The application for the Traffic Regulation Order was prompted by the local observation that some motorists were using the area for long-term parking.

- 1.2 It is also observed that the parking area is frequently used by commuters who use Three Bridges train station. There are pay and display facilities at the train station, but because the parking area subject to the proposal is not pay and display, and currently has no parking restrictions, the amount of short-term parking is limited due to this being a desirable parking option to commuters seeking not to pay.
- 1.3 Residents have reported inconsiderate and obstructive parking in Byron Close for several years making it difficult for local drivers and other road users to see oncoming traffic when pulling out and causing obstruction to traffic movement.
- 1.4 An 18-person signature petition was submitted by residents of Byron Close in February 2018. Further informal consultation submitted in July 2019 indicated that 21 out of 24 residents supported parking restrictions.
- 1.5 It is proposed to introduce double yellow lines in and around the junctions of Byron Close and opposite No.19 Park Way to enforce Highway Code Rule 243. This aims to discourage drivers from parking in unsuitable locations and will mean that enforcement action can be taken against drivers contravening the waiting restrictions.

## **2 Proposal details**

- 2.1 Byron Close - Vehicles are routinely parking in close proximity to private driveways and at the junction of Byron Close and St Marys Drive so as to obstruct visibility and affect the free flow of traffic. Reports indicate that drivers and pedestrians have difficulty accessing the road with poor forward visibility due to parked cars. Double Yellow Line (DYL) protection will deter inconsiderate parking at these areas and will reinforce Section 243 of the Highway Code.
- 2.2 Park Way opposite No.17/19 - Vehicles are routinely parking in close proximity to private driveways and access is regularly blocked by large vehicles parking on the bend in the cul-de-sac. Double Yellow Line (DYL) protection will deter inconsiderate parking at these areas and will reinforce Section 243 of the Highway Code.
- 2.3 The original restrictions advertised included lengths of road that were the subject of the proposed Order, as shown on plans TQ2837NES, TQ2937NWS, TQ2837SEN and TQ2937SWN. The original advertised plans are shown in Appendix A.
- 2.4 Following public consultation, the proposals have been reviewed to reduce the extent of the proposed parking restrictions. This was a community led TRO. There is scope to restrict parking at locations with public support to improve visibility and safety whilst retaining some local parking provision.
- 2.5 The amended proposals after public consultation can be viewed on the maps TQ2837SEN and TQ2937SWN provided in Appendix C.

## **3 Other options considered**

The other option considered was to do nothing at the present time and await the possible introduction of the Crawley Road Space Audit. However, it was considered that the local community has expressed concerns about long-term parking in the area for a long period of time, indicating that the proposal to take action in the short term has merit.

## **4 Consultation and engagement**

- 4.1 The 28-day Statutory Public Consultation period took place from 29th July 2020 to 26th August 2020. Between these dates copies of the drawings and Statements of Reasons were placed at the local library, on the County Council website and a notice was placed in the West Sussex County Times. Notices were also posted to residents and placed on street lighting columns in the parking areas subject to the proposal.
- 4.2 The local Member Cllr Richard Burrett was consulted and expressed his support for the scheme.
- 4.3 Sussex Police and the WSCC Parking Strategy Team were consulted and expressed no objection to the proposal.
- 4.4 Following the Statutory Public Consultation between 29th July 2020 and 26th August 2020 there were 10 objections received, along with 3 expressions of support. All objections are included in Appendix B to this report.
- 4.5 Of the 10 objections received:
- 5 expressed concerns about proposals for restrictions in Wordsworth Close. They believed this should be considered as an unnecessary proposal for this location.
  - 2 expressed concerns about proposals for the Park Way junction with Chaucer Road. They believed this should be considered as an unnecessary proposal for this location.
  - 1 expressed the concern that there would be a loss of parking space in Park Way and requested dedicated parking bays for residents who are permit holders and their short-term visitors.
  - 1 expressed the concern that there would be a loss of parking space in the area and requested a new speed limit of 20 miles an hour.
  - 1 expressed the opinion that while they supported the restriction for double yellow lines in Byron Close there was need for additional parking restrictions to ensure commuters do not block up the close all day.

Please note that some objections included more than one of these concerns.

## **5 Finance**

- 5.1 The estimated cost for installation of this scheme is £500. This will be managed within the £50,000 capital funding for Traffic Regulation Orders in the Highways and Transport Delivery Programme 2020/21.
- 5.2 The proposal represents good value as it has been scored in accordance with the STEP scoring system.
- 5.3 The proposal will be processed within existing staff resources.

## 6 Risk implications and mitigations

Risk	Mitigating Action (in place or planned)
Should the TRO be made, the risk to the County Council is that car drivers will need to find alternative parking provision and may migrate further into the residential area and into neighbouring roads.	The planned Crawley Road Space Audit should look at limited waiting and pay and display dedicated parking bays in suitable locations away from junctions and bends throughout the area as a whole.
Due to obstructive parking at junctions, should the proposed TRO not be made the risk to the County Council is that parked vehicles will continue to obstruct access for residents, refuse vehicles and emergency services.	To install the restrictions as planned.

## 7 Policy alignment and other matters taken into account

- 7.1 There is social value to the scheme, in that it allows for improved parking facilities for those seeking to access the Pound Hill and Three Bridges area.
- 7.2 The scheme was proposed to improve safety at junctions and manage demand for parking and as such did not directly impact on climate change or public health policy. However, improving safety for pedestrians at junctions assists those traveling by foot, indirectly contributing to the council's aims in these areas.

### **Matt Davey**

Director of Highways, Transport and Planning

### **Michele Hulme**

Head of Highway Operations

**Contact:** John Cunningham – [John.Cunningham@westsussex.gov.uk](mailto:John.Cunningham@westsussex.gov.uk)

## Appendices

Appendix A – plans of existing restrictions and advertised proposals

Appendix B – summary of objections

Appendix C – revised final proposal

**Background Papers – none**

**Agreed**



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**Katharine Eberhart**

Director of Finance and Support  
Services

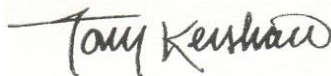
...see email below.....

**Cllr Richard Burrett**

Vice Chairman  
Crawley County Local Committee

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**Action Authorised**



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**Tony Kershaw**

Director of Law and Assurance

Date.....22/12/20.....

**From:** Richard Burrett <richard.burrett@westsussex.gov.uk>

**Sent:** 14 December 2020 12:00

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**Subject:** RE: Informal Crawley CLC - Highways reports

**Importance:** High

Monique,

Thanks for your message. As requested, I can confirm that I am happy for you to proceed with Urgent Action Decisions for both the Byron Close/Park Way TRO report and the Turners Hill Road Pedestrian Crossing report.

Best regards,

Richard.

**From:** Monique Smart <[monique.smart@westsussex.gov.uk](mailto:monique.smart@westsussex.gov.uk)>  
**Sent:** 14 December 2020 11:24  
**To:** Bob Lanzer <[bob.lanzer@westsussex.gov.uk](mailto:bob.lanzer@westsussex.gov.uk)>; Duncan Crow <[duncan.crow@westsussex.gov.uk](mailto:duncan.crow@westsussex.gov.uk)>; Richard Burrett <[richard.burrett@westsussex.gov.uk](mailto:richard.burrett@westsussex.gov.uk)>; Brenda Burgess <[Brenda.Burgess@westsussex.gov.uk](mailto:Brenda.Burgess@westsussex.gov.uk)>; Brenda Smith <[Brenda.Smith@westsussex.gov.uk](mailto:Brenda.Smith@westsussex.gov.uk)>; Karen Sudan <[Karen.Sudan@westsussex.gov.uk](mailto:Karen.Sudan@westsussex.gov.uk)>; Chris Oxlade <[chris.oxlade@westsussex.gov.uk](mailto:chris.oxlade@westsussex.gov.uk)>; Michael Jones <[michael.jones@westsussex.gov.uk](mailto:michael.jones@westsussex.gov.uk)>; Brian Quinn <[brian.quinn@westsussex.gov.uk](mailto:brian.quinn@westsussex.gov.uk)>  
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**Subject:** RE: Informal Crawley CLC - Highways reports

Dear All

Following this mornings informal Crawley CLC I can confirm that Members approved the recommendations for both the Highways reports circulated.

Richard as Chairman of the informal meeting and Vice Chairman of Crawley CLC please can I ask you to respond to this email stating your approval for me to proceed with the Urgent Actions for both the Byron Close TRO and Turners Hill Road Pedestrian Crossing reports?

Kind regards  
Monique

**Monique Smart**  
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