

Summary of Objections to the Proposal

Worthing: Portland Road and Chandos Road Public Realm Scheme

Comments	Officer Response
<p>Resident of Bruce Avenue: Worthing is a town with a large elderly population and the town centre needs drop-off areas to give access for these vulnerable citizens.</p> <p>Taking this facility away from Portland Road mainly for the benefit of a local restaurant owner who is a donor to the Conservative Party is disgraceful. Soon a scheme to close Montague Place will be started, leaving Liverpool Gardens as the only drop-off point in the whole town centre. Liverpool Gardens is already chaotic as it seems to have become an unofficial hub for Deliveroo/Just Eat drivers.</p> <p>Driving around Worthing is already difficult due to poor roads and traffic and these schemes will make matters worse.</p> <p>Portland Road is a third-rate shopping street with poor footfall and low occupancy, shoppers use the proper centre of the town.</p> <p>The scheme will ruin delivery schedules for shops nearby, and cause congestion and confusion for drivers passing along Buckingham Road.</p>	<p>The Portland Road scheme is designed to create a pedestrian friendly place that will make an underused and unattractive area of Worthing town centre into a new public space to the benefit of all visitors to the area and all businesses operating there.</p> <p>The new area will be more attractive to the public than the current layout, and is expected to increase footfall and attract new businesses to available retail units.</p> <p>It is accepted that the new arrangement will result in a loss of parking and close an area previously used by drivers to drop off passengers. However, it is considered that the benefits of this new public space and improved access for all pedestrians outweigh the inconvenience of pick up/drop off activity being moved to other roads nearby.</p> <p>The scheme has been designed in consultation with all businesses operating in the affected roads, none of which have submitted objections to the impact of the project on deliveries.</p>