

## **Report to Director of Highways Transport and Planning**

**October 2021**

### **Bognor Regis – Westloats Lane - Proposed Waiting Restrictions**

#### **Report by Head of Local Highway Operations**

**Electoral Division: Bersted**

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#### **Summary**

At its meeting of 27 November 2019, the then Joint Western Arun Area Committee (CLC) was presented a report on traffic regulation order prioritisation.

An application had been made to the County Council, supported by a petition with some 73 signatories, for parking restrictions at the junctions of Applegate Way and Westloats Gardens with Westloats Lane. This was considered and approved at that meeting for inclusion in the 2021/22 works programme. The proposals were then advertised between 29 July 2021 and 26 August 2021 and 3 Objections were received which have been summarised and responded to in [Appendix B](#) (PDF, 49KB) to this report.

#### **Recommendation**

- (1) That the Director of Highways Transport and Planning, having considered the objections to the proposals, authorises the Director of Law & Assurance to make the Traffic Regulation Order as advertised and for the restrictions to be implemented.
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#### **Proposal**

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

- 1.1 At its meeting of 27 November 2019, the then Joint Western Arun Area Committee (CLC) was presented a report on traffic regulation order prioritisation.
- 1.2 Proposals for Westloats Lane area were considered and approved at that meeting for inclusion in the 2021/22 works programme.
- 1.3 Westloats Lane is residential in character, with properties fronting the road having very limited off-street parking. Consequently, the roads are subject to high levels of on-street parking.
- 1.4 Concern has been raised by the local community that cars are being parked on the corners at the junctions of Applegate Way and Westloats Gardens with Westloats Lane, obstructing access and obscuring visibility, thereby causing congestion and making it hazardous to use the junction. An additional concern

is for the safety of pedestrians, especially school children of all ages, as this location is very close to the main school campus that serves Bognor Regis, as well as the Arena Sports Centre.

- 1.5 Currently, there are no restrictions at this crossroads junction.
- 1.6 An application was made to the County Council for parking restrictions, supported by a petition with some 73 signatories, raising concern about the congested on-street parking, which restricts visibility at this road junction which and inhibits the passage of through traffic.

## **2 Proposal details**

- 2.1 The proposal will introduce localised parking restrictions at the junction of Westloats Lane, with Westloats Gardens and Applegate Way. extended to address local conditions, such as the obstruction traffic calming measures, placed in the Westloats Lane for road safety reasons.
- 2.2 The lengths of road which are the subject of the proposed Order is shown [Appendix A](#) (PDF, 1MB) to the report with the following drawing number:
  - SU9200sws

## **3 Other options considered (and reasons for not proposing)**

- 3.1 The proposal relates to the introduction of new parking restrictions, requiring the introduction of a Traffic Regulation Order (TRO) as the only legal mechanism for delivering enforceable parking restrictions. Consequently, there are no other options that would deliver the desired outcome.

## **4 Consultation, engagement and advice**

- 4.1 **Members** - At the design stage, the then local member for Bersted was consulted; supported the proposals and approved the wider consultation and public advertisement.
- 4.2 **External** - Sussex Police were consulted and raised no objection.
- 4.3 **Public** –The four week formal consultation period for the traffic regulation orders to support the scheme ran between 29 July 2021 and 26 August 2021. This included the Police, Arun District Council, Bognor Regis Town Council and motoring organisations. During this consultation period, notices were erected on site; copies of the notice sent to frontagers immediately abutting the proposals; the advertisement placed in the local press and on the County Council’s website. Due to social distancing requirements during the COVID-19 restrictions, paper copies of documents were not made available in council offices or libraries. People without access to a computer who wished to view of the scheme details were advised to telephone the West Sussex County Council to receive the documents by post.
- 4.4 During the consultation period 3 objections were received to the proposals which have been summarised in [Appendix B](#) (PDF, 49KB) to this report together with comments from the Director of Highways, Transport & Planning.
- 4.5 The general points raised by the objectors were:
  - Concerns about displacement of parking

- Preventing access to properties.

4.6 No reasonable alternative for residents to use.  
The current local County Councillor has confirmed his continued support for the proposals.

## 5 Finance

5.1 The estimated cost for installation of this scheme is £200. This will be managed within the £50,000 capital funding for Traffic Regulation Orders in the Highways and Transport Delivery Programme 2021/22. Future maintenance will be met from the Highways Maintenance budget.

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. Future maintenance costs are not expected for at least 10 years as and when the signs need to be replaced.

## 6 Risk implications and mitigations

Risk	Mitigating Action (in place or planned)
Should the proposed TRO be made the risk to the County Council is that parked vehicles will create problems in other roads in the locality.	The Council will monitor the situation and propose further restrictions if necessary.
Should the proposed TRO not be made, the risk to the County Council is that the concerns raised by the local community through its CLC, and local member will not have been addressed.	To implement the parking restrictions as determined following public advertisement

## 7 Policy alignment and compliance

7.1 Waiting prohibitions are subject to civil enforcement; it is not considered that the modest increase in their extent proposed will introduce any significant legal implications for the County Council.

7.2 It is considered that the proposal does not raise issues under the Crime and Disorder Act. Sussex Police has been consulted and raised no concerns in this respect.

7.3 Anyone who holds a disabled persons' Blue Badge would be able to park on the proposed yellow lines for up to three hours, if they do not cause an obstruction to other road users. It is considered that any remaining effect of this proposal on those with protected characteristics under the Disabilities or Equality Acts is minor in nature and is justified by the need to preserve safety and access in the

area through which the affected roads run, particularly in the event of an emergency.

- 7.4 There are no human rights, climate change or public health implications associated with this proposal.
- 7.5 There is social value to this scheme, which complies with the Council's policy of providing a Strong, Safe and Sustainable Place, as it seeks to address an issue that has safety implications and improving access requirements for all residents of the affected roads.

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### **Appendices**

[Appendix A – Plan showing the existing and advertised restrictions](#) (PDF, 1MB)  
[Appendix B – Summary of comments and objections](#) (PDF, 49KB)

### **Background papers**

None