

Report to Deputy Leader & Cabinet Member for Transportation

Decision to be taken on or after 19th July 2019

**Decision can normally be implemented at least
5 working days after decision has been signed.**

**Cabinet Member Report No. T19.19
(Member Services will fill this information in)**

Title: Proposed Waiting restrictions in High Street, Pound Lane,
Station Road and The Causeway in Marlow Town Centre

Date: 11th July 2019

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Local members affected: Cllr Alex Collingwood; Marlow

For press enquiries concerning this report, please contact the media office on 01296 382444

Summary

- 1. Transport for Buckinghamshire was commissioned to install an uncontrolled pedestrian crossing point on the High Street and The Causeway in Marlow Town Centre. After the Road Safety Audit was undertaken, the suggested comments by the auditor to enable the crossing to be implemented safely was to undertake a waiting restriction review at these sites to comply with DfT departmental advice Note TA 12/81 Table 1 April 1995 which refers to the advised line of sight for the crossing. The project involves removing two parking bays on eastern side of The Causeway near the junction with Station Road and replace with No Waiting / No Loading at any time; Removing two parking bays on the western side of High Street, south of the junction with Pound Lane and replace with No Waiting / No Loading at any time. The proposals also include implementing No Loading at any time in addition to the existing No Waiting at any time on Pound Lane and Station Road in the vicinity of the roundabouts to further enforce the required sight lines.*

2. *This Key Decision Report relates to the subsequent review and the Statutory Consultation and makes Recommendations to the Deputy Leader & Cabinet Member for Transportation.*

Recommendation

It is recommended that:

- a. The Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Transportation authorises the Director of Growth, Strategy and Highways to make the Traffic Regulation Order (TRO) for the scheme outlined in this report as advertised during the Statutory Consultation process.**
- b. That responders to the Statutory Consultation be informed of the Deputy Leader & Cabinet Member for Transportation Decision**

A. Narrative setting out the reasons for the decision

- 1.1 Buckinghamshire County Council is responsible for the highway network within its boundary; this includes the provision, management and enforcement of waiting and parking restrictions.
- 1.2 This proposal has arisen following requests to Marlow Town Council for introducing an uncontrolled pedestrian crossing point at the High Street/ The Causeway, which is only able to be installed if the required line of sight is achieved. This is achieved by removing the first two limited waiting parking bays on High Street and The Causeway.
- 1.3 Therefore the following measures were proposed:
 - 'No Waiting at any time / No Loading at any time' (double yellow line) parking restriction to replace the first two limited waiting bays on the High Street and The Causeway. This is to encourage compliance with the DfT departmental advice Note TA 12/81 Table 1 April 1995 which refers to the advised line of sight for the crossing.
 - 'No Loading at any time' in addition to the existing 'No Waiting at any time' on Pound Lane and Station Road in the vicinity of the roundabouts to further enforce the required sight lines.
- 1.4 These proposed restrictions were advertised and promoted locally through a statutory consultation process carried out between 17th May 2019 and 7th June 2019 in accordance with the requirements of the Local Authorities' Traffic Orders (Procedure) (England and Wales) Regulations 1996. The Police, Fire & Rescue and the Ambulance Services were included in the consultation.
Copies of the statutory consultation documents are located here:
<https://democracy.buckscc.gov.uk/mgConsultationDisplay.aspx?ID=9492>
- 1.5 Thames Valley Police confirmed that it had no objection to the proposals going ahead.

B. Other options available, and their pros and cons

- 1.6 Option 1 -
Not to proceed with the waiting restrictions TRO, this would not address the issues raised by the Road Safety Audit and compliance with the DfT departmental advice Note TA 12/81 Table 1 April 1995 which refers to the advised line of sight for the crossing.

C. Resource implications

- 1.7 The cost associated with this scheme has been allocated by Marlow Town Council and sufficient budget remains to make the Traffic Regulation Order and implement the measures on the ground.
- 1.8 Any further reviews or waiting restrictions TRO would require a Project Initiation Document and further agreed funding streams.

D. Value for Money (VfM) Self Assessment

- 1.9 Any income from the existing Penalty Charge Notices (PCN) will be retained by Buckinghamshire County Council and may be used, to fund and address future waiting restriction schemes for example and maintain existing signs and lines.

E. Legal implications

- 1.10 Section 122 of The Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 places a duty on Buckinghamshire County Council to secure the expeditious, convenient and safe movement of vehicular and other traffic (including pedestrians) and the provision of suitable and adequate parking facilities on and off the highway.

When the decision is taken and recommendations agreed, the Traffic Regulation Order will be made and signed. The respondees to the consultation and persons likely to be affected will be informed of the decision made, representations considered and the TRO will be signed and re-advertised by Buckinghamshire County Council.

F. Property implications

- 1.11 None identified.

G. Other implications/issues

- 1.12 Equality and Diversity Issues – Equality Act 2010. This proposal will not have any disproportionate effect upon people with protected characteristics. This scheme will introduce “No waiting at any time” restrictions which will allow enforcement across the whole width of the designated Public Highway, this will discourage pavement parking as the waiting restrictions apply from highway boundary to highway boundary. This will facilitate ease of pedestrian access along the footways.

- 1.13 No other issues.

H. Feedback from consultation, Local Area Forums and Local Member views

- 1.14 The Statutory Consultation was undertaken between 17th May 2019 and 7th June 2019. A summary of the feedback is shown in Appendix A.
- 1.15 The full written responses to the statutory consultation are contained in Appendix B. These have been reviewed and considered against the Statement of Reasons.
- 1.16 The responses raised a number of comments and issues. These have been summarised as follows
- a) Some respondents felt that we were removing valuable parking spaces.

b) Some respondents felt that businesses/their business would be negatively impacted.

1.17 As has already been stated, the proposed measures have been developed to encourage compliance with the suggested comments by the road safety auditor and the DfT departmental advice Note TA 12/81 Table 1 April 1995 which refers to the advised line of sight the proposed crossing.

1.18 The installation of the pedestrian crossing point will provide an increase of pedestrian access from the town to the Higginson Park, so whilst this measure provides a safe access for pedestrians, it will also encourage pedestrians to go to the park.

1.19 Although there have been objections stating that the removal of the spaces would make parking in Marlow more difficult, recent works within TfB (Smart Parking) and consultations (additional bays) meant that even with the removal of these parking spaces, the overall number of bays in Marlow would remain the same after all these changes.

1.20 Although objections has been received regarding to a negative impact on businesses, the objection referred to a food van which only works during the summer months and parks on the bays next to the park on the High Street, by removing two bays, the van will need to park further back, however, the van will still be visible to users and pedestrians. If the van remains in the first bay (if the proposals do not proceed) or the other proposals on The Causeway, Pound Lane and Station Road do not proceed and the crossing is installed, there is a major concern with the visibility of the crossing and it is not compliant with the DfT note already mentioned.

1.21 The area where the waiting restrictions are proposed covers the Marlow County Council electoral divisions, covered by Cllr Alex Collingwood.

Cllr Alex Collingwood has reviewed the proposed measures subsequent objections and feedback and made the following comments: "Having reviewed them (*supporting documents*) I notice there are only 6 objectors out of a population 15,000. I fully support this proposal to ensure the safety of the residents of Marlow."

I. Communication issues

All consultees and responders to the consultation will be contacted by either e-mail or letter and will be informed of the decision and where they can find the details of the statutory consultation and the decision taken. This report will be published on the County Council's web page.

J. Progress Monitoring

If implemented, the enforcement of the restrictions would provide ongoing monitoring of the scheme.

K. Review

No further review of parking restrictions in Marlow is proposed at present but if implemented the restrictions will be monitored via enforcement.

Background Papers

None

Appendices to the Report

Appendix A: Summary of Objections & Feedback

Appendix B: Responses to Statutory Consultation

Appendix C: Plan (map tile Z95) showing proposed changes

Appendix D: Statement of Reasons, Notices & Traffic Regulation Order

Links to current documentation

1. Parking Delivery Plan: <https://www.buckscc.gov.uk/services/transport-and-roads/parking/parking-implementation-plan/>
2. Parking Guide for Local Area Forum: <https://www.buckscc.gov.uk/services/transport-and-roads/parking/parking-guide-for-lafs/>

Your questions and views

If you have any questions about the matters contained in this paper please get in touch with the Contact Officer whose telephone number is given at the head of the paper.

If you have any views on this paper that you would like the Cabinet Member to consider, or if you wish to object to the proposed decision, please inform the Member Services Team by 5.00pm on 18th July 2019. This can be done by telephone (to 01296 382343), or e-mail to democracy@buckscc.gov.uk