

Local Members Interest	

**NEWCASTLE BOROUGH JOINT PARKING COMMITTEE
(10 APRIL 2012)**

Review of parking related issues reported and prioritisation of parking related Traffic Regulation Orders

Recommendations of the Director for Place and Deputy Chief Executive

1. That the Newcastle Borough Joint Parking Committee reviews the current list of requests for parking related Traffic Regulation Orders and approves the priority order for further investigation in the 2012/2013 financial year, including the suggested revisions and approves the suggested changes made to the list of issues awaiting priority.

Report of Director for Place and Deputy Chief Executive

Reasons for Recommendations

2. In 2009, the Staffordshire Joint Parking Board agreed that four requests for parking related Traffic Regulation Orders would normally be progressed each year in each District or Borough Authority area, the priority order being determined by the relevant Joint Parking Committee. Subsequently, the Newcastle Borough Joint Parking Committee agreed that the list of requests would be reviewed annually, just before the start of the new financial year, to determine the four priority requests for the coming year and decide provisional priorities for subsequent years.
3. With the start of the 2012/2013 having already taken place, the priority locations to be investigated for this year need now to be agreed. Members will recall that whilst the priorities are set annually, all new requests are reported to each meeting of the Committee to ensure that Members have the opportunity to reconsider priorities in the light of any very urgent requests received during the year.
4. Also, as part of the end of year process, each of the issues reported has been considered briefly and a number of them have been recommended for removal with reasons stated in the report.

Background

5. Although set previously, the provisional priorities for 2012/2013 require the Committee to confirm they are still appropriate before investigation of the locations commences.
6. Since the provisional priorities for future years were set, a number of further requests have been received and these have been reviewed along with the priorities set. As a result, it is recommended that three changes are made to the priority order of requests. A list of the prioritised locations for 2012/2013 to 2014/2015 is shown in Appendix 1.
7. Having reviewed the issues reported a number of recommendations regarding removal have also been put forward for approval. The current list of all requests is shown in Appendix 2. Those highlighted in red are discussed in the report with reasons given as to why they are recommended for removal from the list.
8. Those locations which are now subject to a change in priority or recommended for removal are discussed in the following paragraphs.

Commentary on changes to priorities

9. Quarry Bank Road, Keele
(Current priority reference PR03-00)

Members will recall that the decision was taken to defer the investigation of this location in order to permit the prioritising of an investigation of the restrictions along Old Butt Lane. In addition, opportunity would be provided for the proposed planning application off Quarry Bank Road to become known since this will most likely impact on the investigation into the restrictions appropriate for the location and the current issues. There has been no further application details submitted and unless advised otherwise by the Committee the suggestion is to ignore the planning proposal due to its continued uncertainty and look at the situation as it currently is. Consequently this location now needs to be one of the four locations to be investigated during the 2012/2013 financial year. Bearing in mind the recommendations that follow, should the Committee agree to them, it is recommended that this location replaces the current reference PR03-02 Eccleshall Road, Loggerheads.

10. Brutus Road, Chesterton:
(Current priority reference PR03-01)

The issue at this location does not appear to cause significant obstruction and could, therefore, be considered to be of lower priority. No new reports regarding the matter have been made since the original one (April 2009).

11. Hollinwood Road and Hollinwood Close, Kidsgrove
(Current reference 95)

Representations have been made about the issue of parking when the nearby football club holds events (both football matches and non-football events). This has become of greater concern as the success of the club increases. The concerns expressed by the residents themselves have also been backed by the operator of the sheltered accommodation (Aspire) and the Police due to the need for emergency access to be available at all times. This latter concern being greater than the circumstances of many of the residents.

It is recommended that the current Priority PR03-01 be moved (initially to the Priority 4 location, with its final position to be determined prior to the start of the 2013/2014 financial year) and replaced with this issue.

12. Saunders Road, Milehouse
(Current priority reference PR03-04)

Observations at this location at varying times (including weekends) did not highlight a significant issue although, due to the presence of take-a-ways on Milehouse Lane, it is anticipated that there could be occasions when parking along Saunders Road near to the junction with Milehouse Lane does take place. However it is considered to be a lower priority (no reports have been received since the 2 reports in June 2009).

13. Etruria Way, Basford
(Current reference 96)

Following the opening of the Pure Gym in the old MFI building use of the highway for parking was reported, in particular the parking on the bend. This caused problems for large vehicles entering/exiting the site which is a small industrial estate. Concern was expressed that this may cause congestion which could stretch onto the roundabout. It is understood that this resulted in Police cones being deployed to 'protect' this section of the highway. A number of issues are believed to have contributed to the parking problem. A newly opened facility with membership deals encouraging higher membership; a lack of understanding of car park arrangements whereby Dreams car park area could be used by gym members for a 2 hour period being the main two. The former is expected to reduce in impact as time goes by and members visit less often as they settle into a routine and the latter to be addressed by informing the members of the arrangements. There is however concern that at certain times new membership numbers (New Year being the main time) could lead to a repeat of the parking problem. Given the proximity to the roundabout which serves the A500 and Etruria Road (to Newcastle and Festival Park) there is concern about impact extending to this location.

It is recommended that the current Priority PR03-04 be moved (initially to the Priority 4 location, with its final position to be determined prior to the start of the 2013/2014 financial year) and replaced with this issue.

Commentary of issues reported which can be considered for removal

14. Reference 4: Clayton Road, Clayton

Both lay-bys (outside and opposite the shops near to the Abbot's Way junction) have enforceable markings and associated plates. No further action can be taken other than enforcement of the restriction as considered necessary and achievable.

The recommendation is to remove this request from the list of issues to be prioritised.

15. Reference 08: Cypress Grove, Chesterton

The request is very specific and such obstruction can be dealt with by the police. It is considered inappropriate to use a Traffic Regulation Order to deal with this issue. No further complaint has been received since the original report in March 2008.

The recommendation is to remove this request from the list of issues to be prioritised.

16. Reference 16: Gainsborough Road, Chesterton

The request is from an individual seeking assistance when using their driveway (i.e. wants parking restricted opposite his property). The use of a Traffic Regulation Order is considered to be inappropriate for such an issue.

The recommendation is to remove this request from the list of issues to be prioritised.

17. Reference 43: Wolstanton Road, Chesterton

A work instruction has been issued to carry out works at the bus stop in order to permit enforcement of parking on it since no legal process has to be undertaken.

The recommendation is to remove this request from the list of issues to be prioritised.

18. Reference 64: Ravens Lane, Bignall End

The request is not one which can be justifiably resolved with a Traffic Regulation Order.

The recommendation is to remove this request from the list of issues to be prioritised.

19. Reference 69: John Street, Knutton

The request for a Residents Parking Zone (RPZ) has been logged on the appropriate list which is maintained separately from this one.

The recommendation is to remove this request from the list of issues to be prioritised.

20. Reference 70: Church Street, Audley

The location is not suitable to permit parking.

The recommendation is to remove this request from the list of issues to be prioritised.

21. Reference 79: Loring Road, Dimsdale

The request is from an individual seeking assistance when using their driveway (i.e. wants parking restricted opposite his property). The use of a Traffic Regulation Order is considered to be inappropriate for such an issue.

The recommendation is to remove this request from the list of issues to be prioritised.

22. Reference 94: Spencroft Road, Chesterton

The request to remove restrictions on an industrial estate feeder road to permit parking is considered inappropriate and not something which we would support.

The recommendation is to remove this request from the list of issues to be prioritised.

Equalities implications:

This report has been prepared in accordance with the County Council's policies on Equal Opportunities.

Legal implications:

There are no significant legal implications arising out of this report.

Resource and Value for money implications:

Sufficient resources are currently available within the Community Highway Liaison team to advertise and implement four new, or amendments to existing, parking related Traffic Regulation Orders per authority per rolling 12 month period.

Risk implications:

There are no significant risks arising out of this report.

Climate Change implications:

There are no Climate Change implications arising from this report.

Appendix 1: Priority lists (2012/2013 to 2014/2015)

Appendix 2: Awaiting Priority list

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List of Background Papers

Previous Committee reports