



# HIGHWAYS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

20 September 2011

**Subject Heading:**

**ATLANTA BOULEVARD “KISS & RIDE”  
PARKING BAY**

**Report Author and contact details:**

**Outcome of Public Consultation**

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**The subject matter of this report deals with the following Council Objectives**

Clean, safe and green borough	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Excellence in education and learning	<input type="checkbox"/>
Opportunities for all through economic, social and cultural activity	<input type="checkbox"/>
Value and enhance the life of every individual	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
High customer satisfaction and a stable council tax	<input type="checkbox"/>

## SUMMARY

This report sets out the responses to a public consultation for a proposed “Kiss & Ride” parking facility in Atlanta Boulevard to serve Romford Station. This report recommends that the scheme be implemented.

The scheme is within the **Romford Town** ward.

**RECOMMENDATIONS**

1. That the Committee having considered the representations recommends to the Cabinet Member for Community Empowerment that the scheme be implemented as shown on Drawings B0928800/Atlanta Boulevard/1A Rev 2 and B0928800/DFT Approval/Sign 2 Rev 1a.
2. That it be noted that the estimated cost of £1,000 for implementation will be met from the Council's 2011/12 revenue budget for Minor Parking Schemes.

**REPORT DETAIL**

**1.0 Background**

- 1.1 At its meeting of 15<sup>th</sup> July 2008, the former Romford Area Committee received a report for substantial improvements to the area around Romford Station. An aspect of the scheme was to provide a "kiss & ride" parking facility in Atlanta Boulevard so that people could be dropped off or picked up at Romford Station. The proposal was agreed in principle and subject to public consultation.
- 1.2 A "kiss & ride" parking bay is not currently a standard layout defined by Regulations and therefore special authorisation from the Department for Transport is required on a site by site basis.
- 1.3 The bay effectively limits stopping by anyone, except for the permitted times and therefore removes the potential issue associated with an "ordinary" parking bay in that blue badge holders may park for an unlimited time and without charge.
- 1.4 Staff were of the view that Atlanta Boulevard would be an attractive place for long-term parking by blue badge holders and therefore a specially authorised bay was required to limit access.
- 1.5 The bulk of the improvement works to the area around the station were delivered during 2009/10 and 2010/11, but a decision on the "kiss & ride" was outstanding, pending a decision by DfT.
- 1.6 The DfT subsequently authorised a scheme which would allow stopping for 5 minutes for the purposes of dropping off and picking up which is shown on Drawings B0928800/Atlanta Boulevard/1A Rev 2 and B0928800/DFT Approval/Sign 2 Rev 1a.

- 1.4 The proposals were publicly advertised, along with site notices on 5<sup>th</sup> August 2011, with a closing date for representations being 26<sup>th</sup> August 2011. Statutory consultees were also consulted.

## **2.0 Outcome of Public Consultation**

- 2.1 By the close of the consultation, no responses had been received.

## **3.0 Staff Comments**

- 3.1 The “kiss and ride” facility forms part of the wider Romford Station scheme and will assist people in picking up and dropping off passengers lawfully and close to the station. No representations have been received and therefore Staff recommend the scheme be implemented.

## **IMPLICATIONS AND RISKS**

### **Financial implications and risks:**

The estimated cost of £1,000 can be met from the Council's 2011/12 revenue budget for Minor Parking Schemes.

### **Legal implications and risks:**

Parking management schemes (including restrictions and bays) require consultation and the advertisement of proposals before a decision can be taken on their introduction.

“Kiss & Ride” parking bays require special authorisation by the Department for Transport on a scheme by basis and for the Romford Station scheme, this is in place.

### **Human Resources implications and risks:**

None.

### **Equalities implications and risks:**

For this particular scheme, the specially authorised “kiss & ride” parking bay is open for use by all motorists for a period of up to 5 minutes. Whilst this includes blue badge holders, Staff believe it necessary for the same regime to apply; otherwise an “ordinary” parking bay would be potentially occupied by blue badge holders on an unlimited basis.

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There are already locations in central Romford which have specific allocation for blue badge holders and therefore Staff are of the view that the “kiss & ride” facility provides a fair balance.

**BACKGROUND PAPERS**

Project file: QF055 Romford Station Access Scheme