

# HIGHWAYS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

## **REPORT**

20 March 2012

Subject Heading:	PROPOSED PARKING SCHEMES - comments to advertised proposals
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The subject matter of this report deals with the following Council Objectives

Clean, safe and green borough	[X]
Excellence in education and learning	[]
Opportunities for all through economic, social and cultural activity	[]
Value and enhance the life of every individual	[X]
High customer satisfaction and a stable council tax	

**SUMMARY** 

This report looks at the responses received to the public advertisement of proposals, which were agreed in principle by this committee at various meetings and recommends a further course of action in each case.

#### RECOMMENDATIONS

 That the Committee having considered the information set out in this report and the representations made, recommends to the Cabinet Member for Community Empowerment, that the proposals set out in Appendix A, schemes 1-9, be implemented as advertised and that the effect of implementation of the schemes be monitored.

#### REPORT DETAIL

## 1.0 Background

- 1.1 During previous meetings of this Committee, a number of requests for the implementation of minor parking schemes were considered. This Committee recommended a number of the schemes to go forward for public consultation.
- 1.2 The schemes were subsequently designed by staff and publicly advertised. This report outlines the responses received arising out of the public consultation for nine proposed schemes.
- 2.0 A description of the proposals, the Ward the proposals are located in, the responses received to the public consultation, plans outlining the proposals, staff comments and a further recommended course of action for each location, are all outlined in Appendix A.

## **IMPLICATIONS AND RISKS**

#### Financial implications and risks:

The total estimated cost of Schemes 1,-9 is £4,700. The Schemes can be funded from the 2011/12 Minor Parking Schemes budget.

The costs shown are an estimate of the full costs to implement the proposed schemes. It should be noted that the Cabinet Member approval process will be completed where a scheme is recommended for implementation.

Overall costs will need to be contained within the overall revenue budget.

#### Legal implications and risks:

Waiting restrictions and parking bays require consultation and the advertisement of proposals before a decision can be taken on their introduction.

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

None.

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

Parking restrictions in residential areas are often installed to improve road safety and accessibility for residents who may be affected by long-term non-residential parking.

Parking restrictions have the potential to displace parking to adjacent areas, which may be detrimental to others.

Disabled 'Blue' Badge holders are able to park with an unlimited time in resident permit bays and in Pay & Display parking bays and for up to three hours on restricted areas (unless a loading ban is in force).

**BACKGROUND PAPERS** 

## Drawings:

Drawing No. FRC/01/01

Drawing No. T&TE16-OF-101

Drawing No. TCP16-0F-101

Drawing No. QF210/501

**Drawing No. GO1** 

Drawing No. QF210/501

Drawing No. TPC98-OF-101

Drawing No. QJ115-OF-101

Drawing No. SFG/01/01

Appendix A

## Scheme 1 – Frazer Close– Drawing No. FRC/01/01

The scheme is situated within Brooklands Ward and was recommended for consultation by Committee on 20<sup>th</sup> September 2011.

The proposals are to introduce 'At any time' waiting restrictions on all four arms of the north to south and east to west arms of Frazer Close for a distance of 10 metres, extending on the southern side of the east to west arm, to cover the currently unrestricted area.

## Outcome of Public consultation - Responses received

At the close of public consultation 2 responses were received. The first respondent thought that the proposals were a very good idea. The respondent suggested that few complaints would be made to the scheme and noted that cars parked in these areas made it difficult to drive in and out of the close. The second respondent outlined their support for the proposals, noting that residents parking was not an option at this stage and suggesting that further restrictions could be installed outside flats 58- 60 and 61-69, as parking outside these properties still created problems and that if restrictions were to be installed at this location they would ensure access for emergency services.

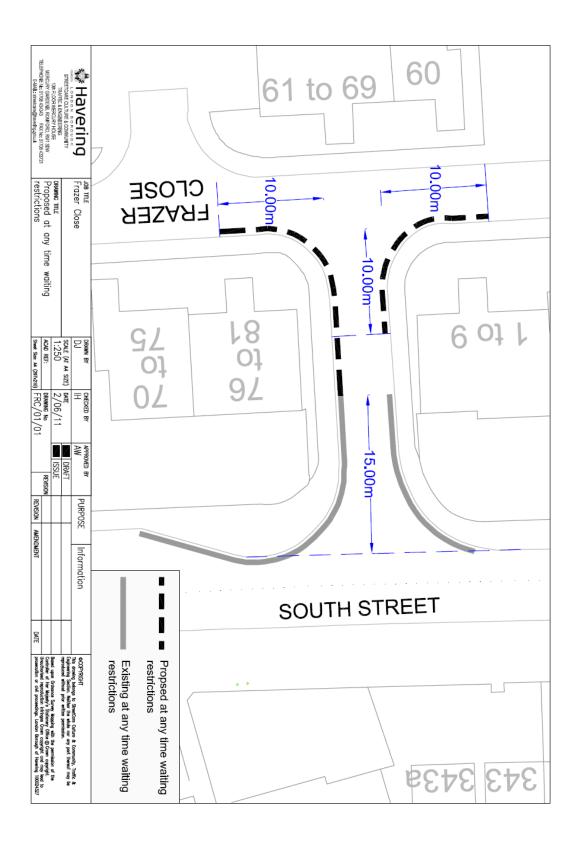
#### Staff comments

Further restrictions could be considered at the location outlined, which would improve access for emergency and service vehicles.

#### **Estimated Cost**

The estimated cost of the Scheme is £500

#### Recommended Action



## Scheme 2 – Park Drive – Drawing No. T&TE16-OF-101

The scheme is situated within Pettits Ward and was recommended for consultation by Committee on 22<sup>nd</sup> February 2011.

The proposals are to extend the existing 'At any time' waiting restriction that terminates outside No.7 Park Drive, westwards to the vehicular entrance to the Romford Bus Garage.

## Outcome of Public consultation - Responses received

At the close of public consultation 1 response were received. The response was from the residents of No.7 Park Drive, who stated that they and their neighbours were in full support of the proposals, as the scheme would vastly improve visibility when exiting their driveways.

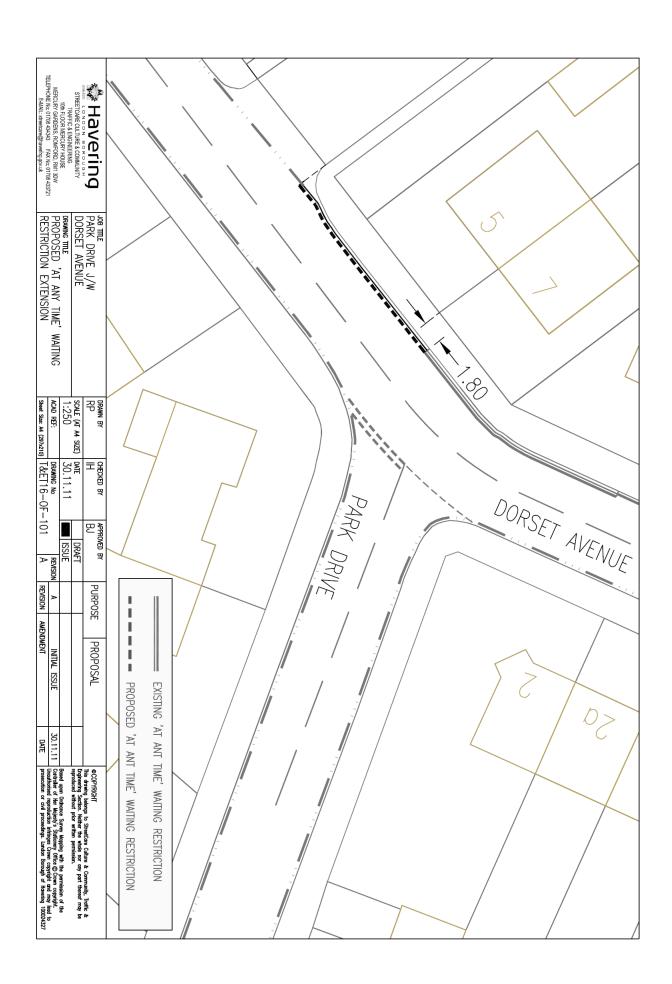
#### Staff comments

None

#### **Estimated Cost**

The estimated cost of the scheme is £500

## **Recommended Action**



## Scheme 3 – Wayside Close – Drawing No. TCP16-0F-101

The scheme is situated within Pettits Ward and was recommended for consultation by Committee on 19<sup>th</sup> April 2011.

The proposals are to introduce 10.30am to 11.30am Monday to Friday waiting restrictions in the currently unrestricted section of the road.

#### Outcome of Public consultation - Responses received

At the close of public consultation 1 response was received. The respondent was very much in favour of the proposals, which they felt would have a positive effect on the current commuter parking problems. It was noted that there are still a significant number of residents vehicle parked in the road, which would affect access to service and emergency service vehicles. It is felt allowing parking along the flank wall of No.74 Pettits Lane would work better, as this was the case some years ago.

#### Staff comments

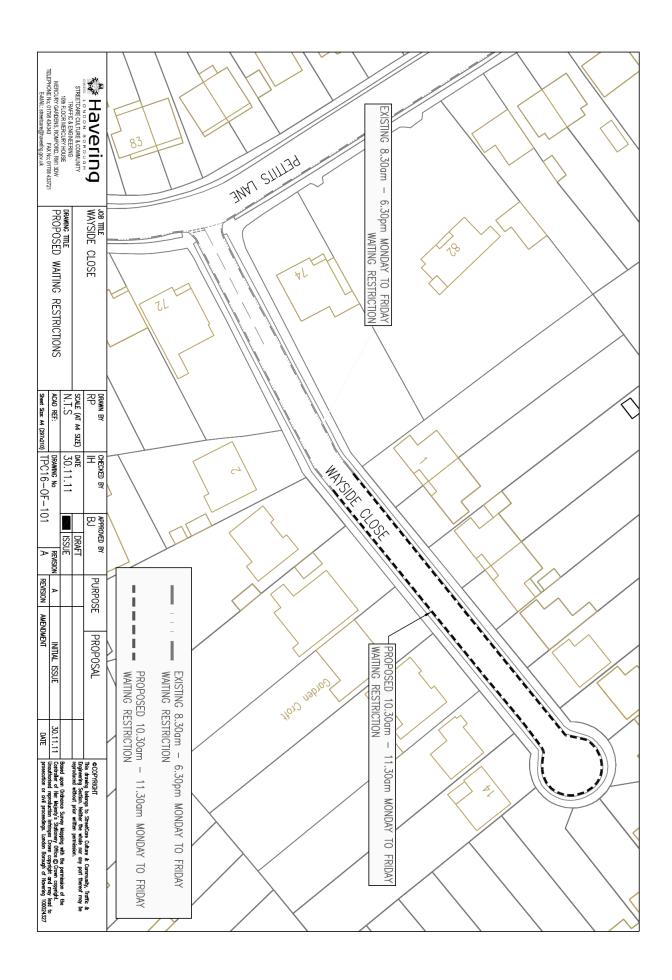
Providing a parking bay alone the flank wall of No.74 Pettits Lane could be considered. However, an uncontrolled parking facility at this location would likely attract longer term non-residential parking and the resident of No.74 may object to the proposals.

#### **Estimated Cost £**

The estimated cost of the Scheme is £1000

#### **Recommended Action**

That the proposals be implemented as advertised and the effects be monitored.



## Scheme 4 – Wennington /Brady – Drawing No. QF210/501

The scheme is situated within Rainham and Wennington Wards and was recommended for consultation by Committee on 20<sup>th</sup> September 2010.

The proposals are to extend the existing 'At any time' waiting restrictions on the north-eastern side of Wennington Road, from the entrance of the Brady School site, north-westwards to a point 2.51 metres south-east for the common boundaries of Nos.240 and 242, and to introduce an 8.30am to 9.30am and 2.30pm to 4.00pm Monday to Friday waiting restriction on the south-western side of Wennington Road, from a point 13.24 metres south-east of the common boundary of Nos. 240 and 242, to a point opposite the common boundary of 211 and 213.

#### Outcome of Public consultation - Responses received

At the close of public consultation 1 response was received. The response was from the Head Teacher of Brady School, who stated that they were delighted with the proposals, as it is felt that they would make a significant difference to safety for the school community and other road users. The respondent requested an extension to the proposed hours of operation to 4.30pm, to cover the times of after-school clubs.

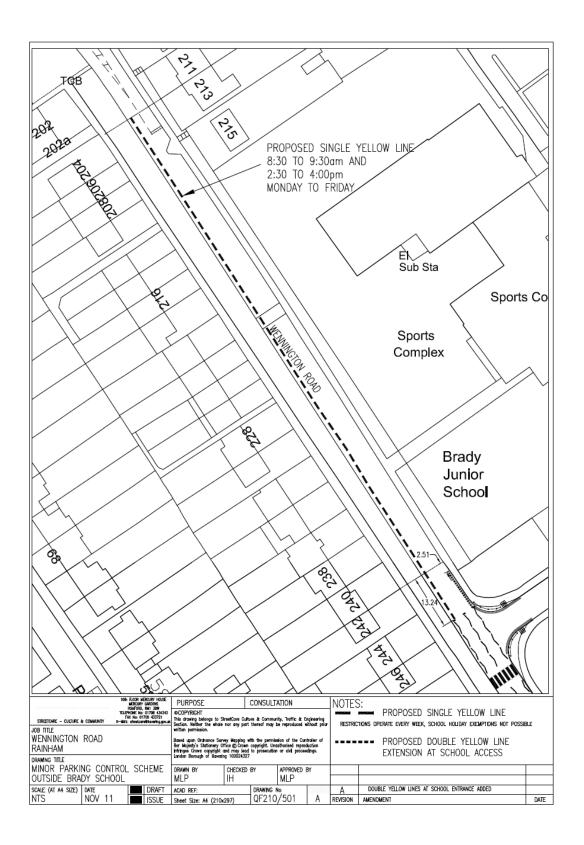
#### Staff comments

Further changes to these proposals would require approval in principle by this Committee and further public advertisement followed by a further report to the Committee to consider any subsequent responses.

#### **Estimated Cost**

The estimated cost of the Scheme is £500

#### Recommended Action



## Scheme 5 - Walden Road/ Goodrington School - Drawing No. GO1

The scheme is situated within Emerson Park Ward and was recommended for consultation by Committee on 13<sup>th</sup> July 2010.

The proposals are to introduce 'At any time' waiting restrictions on the north-east and south-east sides, between the common boundary of Nos. 30 and 32 Walden Road and a point 5 metres north-east of the north-eastern kerb-line of Walden Road and to introduce a School Keep Clear marking on the south-west and north-west sides, from a point 8.4 metres south-east of the north-western boundary of No. 15b Walden Road to a point 6 metres north-east of the common boundary of Nos. 17 and 19 Walden Road operational 8.00am to 5.00pm Monday to Friday inclusive.

## Outcome of Public consultation - Responses received

At the close of public consultation 4 responses were received. The first respondent is a resident of the road who stated that the road is cul-de-sac with a school that has tripled its student numbers; that the attitude of parents/motorists, towards parking, has become increasingly problematic, boarding on anti social behaviour.

The respondent stated that the school appeared to have little regard for the residents of the road and that since the PCSO's ceased patrolling the area the situation has got worse. The respondent noted that twice a day the road is inundated with vehicles dropping off or collecting children with vehicles parking as close to the school gates as possible; with drivers showing little regard for parking restrictions.

The respondent stated that the road is narrow and raised concerns over access for emergency vehicle.

The respondent suggested that the proposals would simply displace parking further up the road. It was noted that the school has a staff car park protected by a barrier, which parents are prevented from using; the school is a private school, and consideration could be given to the introduction of a school bus to drop children off at Butts Green Road.

It should be noted that the school is a business in a small residential cul-de-sac and that the respondent would welcome the enforcement of parking restrictions at appropriate times of the day.

The second respondent stated that they did not feel that the proposals would be of benefit to the school or residents of the road as traffic, at peak times would always be busy, with parents stopping to drop off their children each day. is the respondent suggested that it would be unlikely that the restrictions would be enforced and that parking would be displaced elsewhere in the road. The respondent suggested that the money could be better spent on other projects; that it should be the responsibility of the school e to remind parents to park considerately, encourage walking to school and to ensure that teachers use the school car park.

The third respondent raised objects to the proposals citing that: the restrictions would only cover a short length of the road and not all of it; restricting parking outside the school would exacerbate the current parking issues in Butts Green Road and Walden Road, caused primarily by commuters, business related vehicles, and parents doing the school run. The respondent concluded that if the aim of the proposals is to improve safety in the vicinity of the school the restrictions should apply throughout the road.

The fourth respondent raised objections to the proposals as they live next to the school and feel they would be aversely affected by the proposed restrictions.

The respondent suggested that the council would not have the resources to enforce the restrictions. The respondent suggested that the inconvenience to residents affected by the restrictions would far outweigh the benefits for a school term that is less than 40 weeks a year. The proposals would affect residents throughout the year.

The respondent suggested that the restrictions would be detrimental to house prices and would have a negative impact on the quality of the lives of residents. The respondent cited that residents should not be inconvenienced by parents on the school run, many of whom are coming from outside the borough, and who would likely not take account of the parking restrictions even if they were to be implemented.

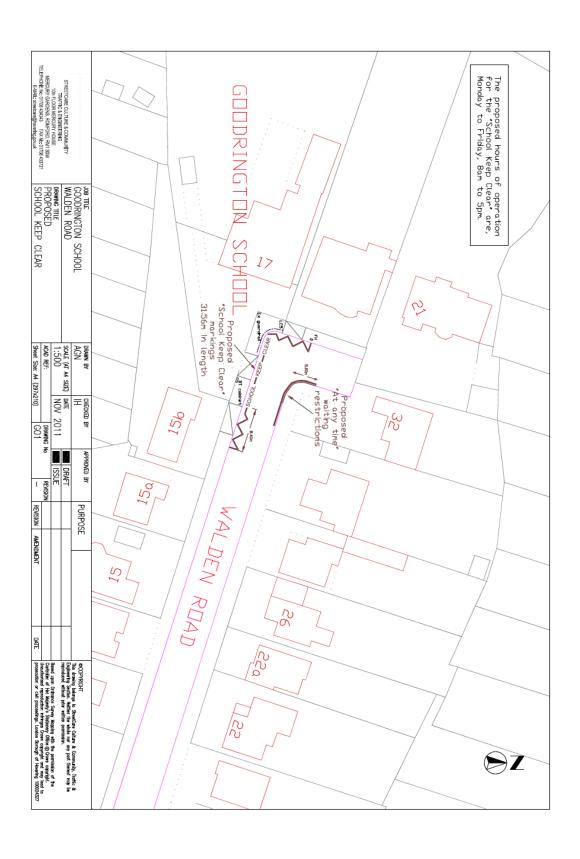
#### Staff comments

Further changes to these proposals would require approval in principle by this Committee and further public advertisement followed by further report to the Committee to consider any subsequent responses.

#### **Estimated Cost**

The estimated cost of the Scheme is £500

#### **Recommended Action**



## Scheme 6 – Meadway/Heath Drive – Drawing No. QF210/501

The scheme is situated within Pettits Ward and was recommended for consultation by Committee on 25<sup>th</sup> January 2011.

The proposals are to introduce 'At any time' waiting restrictions on all four arms of the Meadway and Heath Drive junction for a distance of 10 metres.

## Outcome of Public consultation - Responses received

At the close of public consultation 1 response was received. The respondent outline that they do not have any objections to the proposals in principle, but are concerned at how far into Meadway the restrictions will extend. This is due to the respondent being severely disabled and only able to walk short distances. The respondent is concerned that they would have to walk further to get to their car or a taxi.

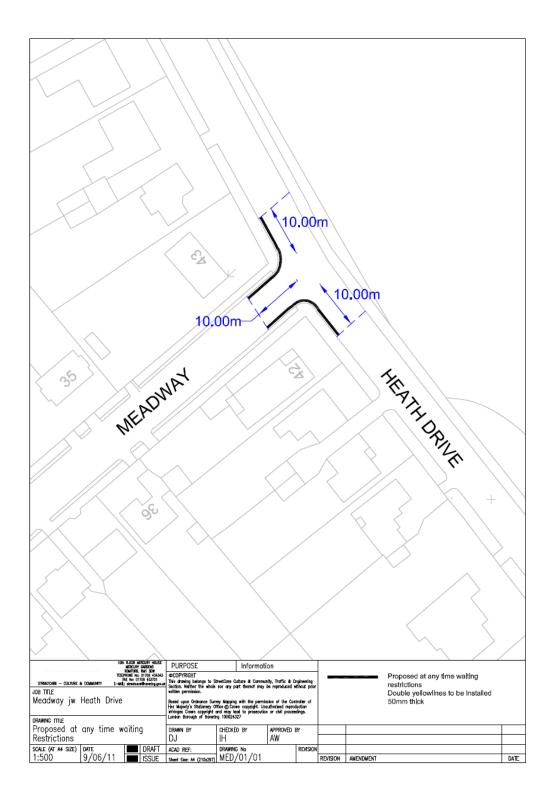
#### Staff comments

The proposed restrictions extend into Meadway for 10 metres, which comes up to the resident's pedestrian gate. As this is the case, it is considered that the proposed restrictions will have little or no effect on the respondent.

## **Estimated Cost**

The estimated cost of the scheme is £250.

#### **Recommended Action**



## Scheme 7 – Kew Close – Drawing No. TPC98-OF-101

The scheme is situated within Havering Park Ward and was recommended for consultation by Committee on 20<sup>th</sup> September 2011.

The proposal is to extend the existing 'At any time' waiting restrictions on the south-western side of Kew Close, to a point opposite the north-western kerbline of the turning head situated opposite flats nos. 15 to 20.

## Outcome of Public consultation - Responses received

At the close of public consultation 1 petition was received, in the form of 4 letters standard letters, from residents of the even numbered side of the road, with 2 of the signatories of the petition also writing further letters. The standard letters outline the following objections: that the proposals would de-value their properties; the majority of those residents with three bedroom properties have more than two cars; emergency services have access at all times; the restrictions would adversely affect home services to private properties. The letters suggested that the residents of Kew Close know each other well the issues would be discussed further by the residents.

The first individual letter outlines problems experienced by a resident with vehicles parking opposite their property outside a bin shed. The resident noted that there are no restrictions on parking and that vehicles regularly park in a manner that restricts access and egress from their driveway. The resident stated that they have left notes on vehicles that have been inconsiderately parked and they admit to having had arguments with other residents over access issues. The resident also noted that in trying to exit their driveway their vehicle has been damaged as a consequence of inconsiderate parking. The resident noted that they have been forced to park outside their property due to other vehicles being parked opposite their driveway; on one occasion the resident received a parking fine.

The resident has requested that the restrictions should be installed on the opposite side of the road outside the bin sheds opposite their drive way. The resident also raised issues over their property being devalued if the scheme is implemented. The resident has requested that the council reconsider the proposals and look at the parking problems outside the bin shed, which have also been raised with the management company.

The second individual letter suggests that the problems in the road have been caused by certain residents in the street parking outside opposite a previously vacant sales office. It is suggested that as the sales office is now occupied this has led to parking congestion.

The letter states that all the residents have allocated parking elsewhere on the estate and that problems are caused by inconsiderate parking. The letter notes that visitors also acerbate the parking congestion. The letter raises concerns that deliveries and tradesman will not service the properties. The letter notes that there are between 6-8

vehicles that would be affected by the proposals and that these vehicles would be displaced elsewhere. The letter notes that the Council should act to regulate the behaviour of drivers in relation to parking and act to ensure that vehicles are parked in their allocated space at all times; it is considered that the Council needs to intervene in this regard.

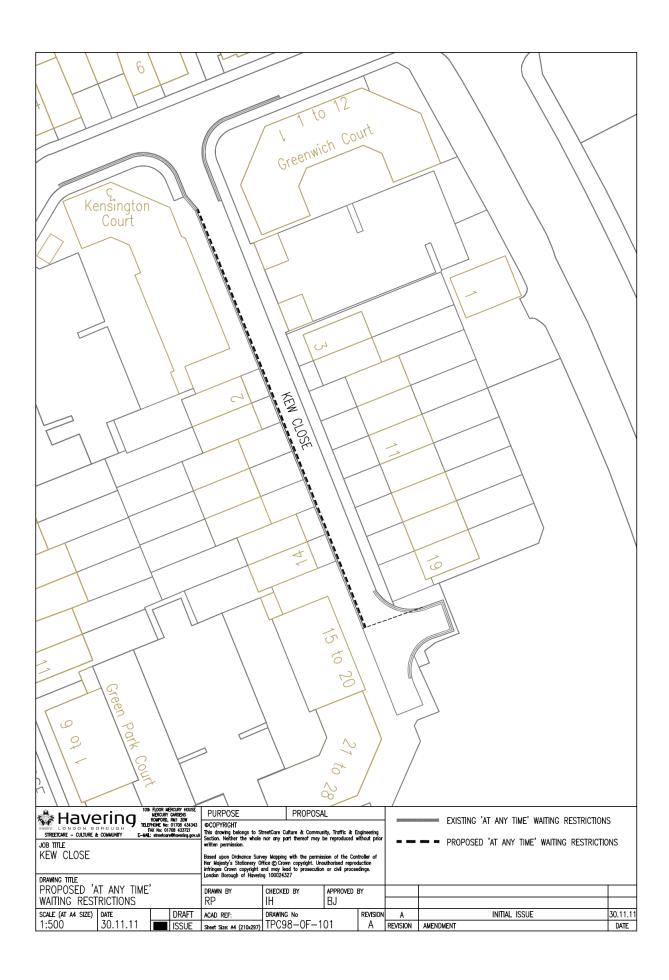
#### Staff comments

As it reported that residents are not cooperation with each other and the road is being obstructed, the proposed restrictions would improve access for emergency and service vehicles.

#### **Estimated Cost**

The estimated cost of the scheme is £200

#### **Recommended Action**



## Scheme 8 - Como Street- Drawing No. QJ115-OF-101

The scheme is situated within Brooklands Ward and was recommended for consultation by Committee on 19<sup>th</sup> October 2010.

The proposals are to introduce a residents parking bay operational between 8.30am and 6.30pm Monday to Saturday, on the south-eastern side of Como Street, from a point 10 metres north-east of the north-eastern kerbline of Linden Street, extending north-eastwards for a distance of 10 metres

## Outcome of Public consultation - Responses received

At the close of the public consultation no responses were received.

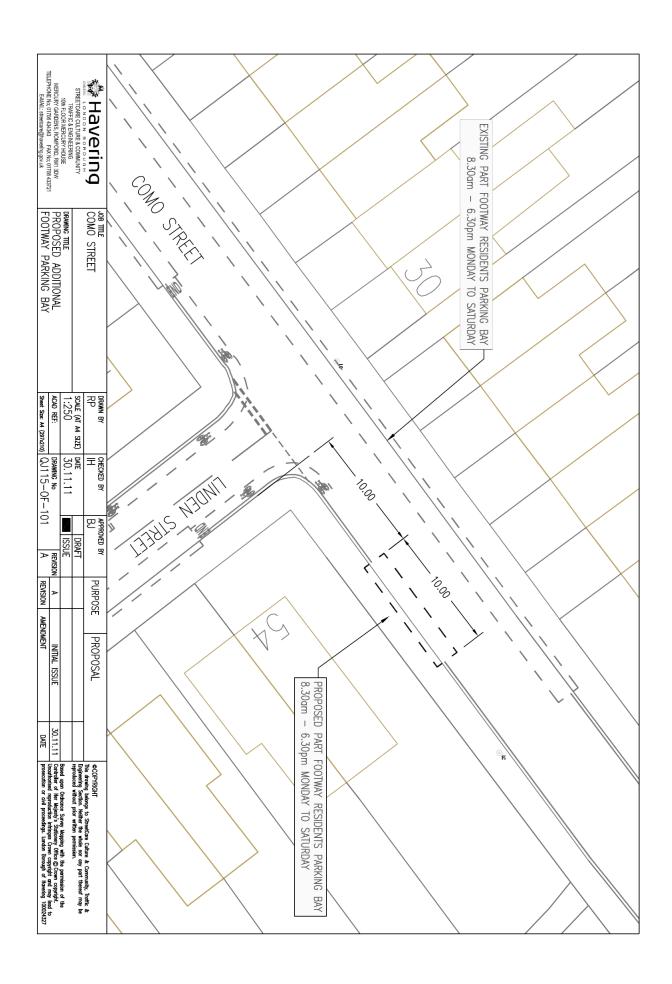
#### Staff comments

None.

#### **Estimated Cost**

The estimated cost of the scheme is £750

#### **Recommended Action**



## Scheme 9 - Springfield Gardens/Argyle Gardens - Drawing No.SFG/01/01

The scheme is situated within Upminster Ward and was recommended for consultation by Committee on 16<sup>th</sup> November 2010.

The proposals are to introduce 'At any time' waiting restrictions on all four arms of the Springfield Gardens and Argyle Gardens junction for a distance of 10 metres.

### Outcome of Public consultation - Responses received

At the close of the public consultation 4 responses were received.

The first respondent is a resident who lives in a corner property at the junction and feels that the restrictions place further limitations on their parking options. The respondent noted that the footway parking bays in Argyle Gardens are continually used by Waitrose employees, commuters or students limiting parking options for residents.. The respondent claimed that they were unable to park outside their property before 8am and that the parking bays are generally occupied by long term parking. The respondent stated that the proposals would affect the amenity they have enjoyed for 27 years and requested that the council extends the parking restrictions in Argyle Gardens so that residents and their visitors can use the available parking spaces.

The second respondent has been a resident of Argyle Gardens for 8 years and is in total agreement with the improvements relating to visibility and safety for pedestrians at the junction. The respondent complained that the phone booth acts to block site lines and is often vandalised. The respondent has suggested that the phone booth should be removed. The respondent also raised concerns over the parking of light commercial vehicles in the vicinity of the junction and has requested that such vehicles be prevented from parking in this location and that the owners of such vehicles be required to park them off street.

The third respondent is a resident of Springfield Gardens and has expressed their approval of the proposals. The respondent feels it is becoming increasingly dangerous to negotiate the junction at certain times. The respondent was hoping that the council would extend the restriction further along Springfield Gardens as has been done by the Baptist church. The respondent noted that there is commuter parking at this location and that it is difficult to get in and out of the road by the sheer volume of traffic using the road. The respondent also outlined difficulties at the time of the Remembrance Day Parade. The respondent feels that the Controlled Parking Zone should be extended in the area although it is noted that there may be issues with displacement.

The forth respondent, a local resident, stated that this section of Argyle Gardens is experiencing increasingly heavy levels of parking due to the area being close to the end of the Controlled Parking Zone. The respondent noted that there is long term parking taking place by Waitrose staff, commuters and students from Coopers School. The respondent noted that Argyle Gardens is a very busy rat run to avoid the town centre and suggests that the restrictions being proposed for 10 meters is not an adequate distance on Argyle Gardens. The respondent suggests that drivers speed along Argyle Gardens which leads to confrontation of vehicles turning left out of Springfield gardens;

that vehicles meet heading South in the middle of the road due to parking on both sides of the road.

#### Staff comments

To extend the zone, this Committee would have to approve such proposals in principal prior to public advertisement, with a further report outlining any comments received being presented back to this Committee to agree a further course of action.

#### **Estimated Cost**

The estimated cost of the scheme is £500

## **Recommended Action**

