

This Report will be made public on 8 July 2020



Report Number

C/20/27

To: Councillor David Godfrey, Cabinet Member for Transport, Housing and Special Projects
Date: 8 July 2020
Status: Non key
Responsible Officer: Andy Blaszkwicz – Director of Housing & Operations

SUBJECT: THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL (THE DISTRICT OF FOLKESTONE & HYTHE) (SANDGATE EAST PARKING ZONE) (AMENDMENT 3) ORDER 2020. CONSIDERATION OF OBJECTIONS.

SUMMARY: This report considers the objections received in respect of the proposed Amendment Traffic Regulation Order (TRO) for the changes to parking and waiting restrictions during the summer months in Radnor Cliff Crescent and Radnor Cliff.

REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

The Cabinet Member for Transport, Housing & Special Projects is asked to agree the recommendations set out below. The suggested recommendation has been reached because the majority of respondents are against the proposed changes.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

- 1. To receive and note report C/20/27/**
- 2. To uphold the objections to the proposed amendment TRO.**
- 3. That the TRO is not be made as advertised.**
- 4. That officers continue to monitor parking these roads, and a further review is carried out in two years.**

1. BACKGROUND

- 1.1 Radnor Cliff and Radnor Cliff Crescent are part of the Sandgate CPZ and regularly have issues with congestion in the summer months caused by visitors to the coastal park.
- 1.2 The current limited waiting restrictions allow non-permit holders to park for up to two hours, and permit holders for as long as they wish. This free two hour waiting for non-permit holders makes enforcement difficult as officers have to witness and log vehicles for the two hours, and return later to enforce.
- 1.3 In areas where demand for parking is high, 'permit holders only' parking is usually recommended.

2. CONSULTATION

- 2.1 The consultation included proposals to convert the shared used parking bays to 'permit holders only' during the summer months (April-September), extend the operational hours to 8pm, all days, and to include no-loading restrictions at junctions and bends in Radnor Cliff and Radnor Cliff Crescent.
- 2.2 The proposal was advertised in accordance with The Local Authorities' Traffic Orders (Procedure) (England and Wales) Regulations 1996. The 'Proposal Notice' was sent to all stakeholders and advertised in the Kent Messenger papers on week ending 12th June 2020. Copies of this notice were erected on lamp columns in the immediate vicinity, in the public notice display boards outside the Civic Centre, a copy along with covering letter was also sent by post to all addresses in the two roads along with hand delivered copies.
- 2.3 The consultation ended on Friday 3rd July 2020.

3. CONSULTATION FEEDBACK & COMMENTS

- 3.1 Kent Police responded stating they had no specific observations but would expect the restrictions to comply with the regulations, and that the council ensures resources are in place to enforce them.
- 3.2 The council received 30 objections from local residents and 26 in support of proposals. A summary of the reasons provided for the objections have been listed below. The local resident association carried out their own informal consultation where the majority of residents were not in favour of the proposed changes.
- 3.3 Most objections centered on that the summer permit holder only changes would heavily restrict residents abilities to have visitors without the need to purchase visitor parking vouchers online via the RingGo service. Another reason for objecting was that some residents believe that only mild congestion happened occasionally on the busiest summer weekends or bank holidays and therefore didn't warrant a 6 month change to permit holders only during this time. Other residents commented by saying traffic calming measures should be introduced along with better signage alerting motorists to the car parks near Folkestone Harbour.

4 RECOMMENDATION

- 4.1 The majority of respondents do not support changes to the current restrictions, and prefer to maintain the status quo. Many feel the difficulties they encounter only occur for a few hot summer days. In view of this, it is therefore recommended that the proposed changes to the traffic regulation order are not progressed, but officers continue to monitor the situation and review in two years.

5. LEGAL/FINANCIAL AND OTHER CONTROLS/POLICY MATTERS

5.1 Legal Officer's Comments- NE

The Council is required under The Local Authorities Traffic Orders (Procedure) (England and Wales) Regulations 1996 to carry out a statutory consultation in relation to Road Traffic Orders. If objections are received at the statutory consultation stage then in accordance with the regulations a report is presented to the Cabinet Member asking for determination of the objections. If the Cabinet Member determines to reject the objections, a traffic order will be made and implementation of parking restrictions can then commence. The Council is following the due procedure.

5.2 Finance Officer's Comments - RH

There are no financial implications directly affected by this report.

5.3 Diversities and Equalities Implications- PT

There are no diversity or equality implications directly affected by this report.

5. CONTACT OFFICERS AND BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

Councillors with any questions arising out of this report should contact the following officer prior to the meeting

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The following background documents have been relied upon in the preparation of this report:

N/A