

ROTHERHAM BOROUGH COUNCIL – REPORT TO MEMBERS

1.	Meeting:	Regeneration and Development Services Matters
2.	Date:	2 February 2009
3.	Title:	Wellgate South Residents' Parking Scheme - Public Consultation.
4.	Directorate:	Environment and Development Services

5. Summary

To inform Cabinet Member of the outcome of the public consultation carried out in the Wellgate South area about the introduction of a Residents' Parking Scheme.

6. Recommendations

Cabinet Member is asked to resolve that:

- i) the introduction of the Wellgate South Residents' Parking Scheme be abandoned.**
- ii) the Director of Planning and Regeneration use powers delegated to him to promote a Traffic Regulation Order to introduce No Waiting At Any Time restrictions in the Wellgate South Area and to extend the Town Centre Pay and Display Zone to Bernard Street as shown on drawing number 126/18/TT482**
- iii) further consultation is undertaken on a Residents' Parking Scheme on Boston Castle Grove and Boston Castle Terrace as shown on drawing number 126/18/TT483**
- iv) the scheme be funded from the Local Transport Plan Integrated Transport Capital Programme for 2009/10**

7. Proposals and Details

In November 2008 a leaflet outlining the proposed Residents' Parking Scheme, which contained a feedback questionnaire, was sent out to 871 households in the Wellgate South area. Residents were also given the opportunity to put forward their opinions to Officers at a public exhibition held at Rotherham Town Hall on Tuesday 11 November 2008. A plan showing the area consulted is attached as Appendix A and a copy of the consultation leaflet and questionnaire is attached as Appendix B.

A total of 274 responses were received to this consultation giving an overall 31.5% response rate.

Of the people who returned questionnaires

- 42% said that they experienced parking problems in their street
- 47% said they would not support the introduction of a residents' parking scheme with 42% saying they would and 11% being undecided
- of the 42% of respondents who supported the scheme 78% agreed with the proposed hours of operation of Monday to Saturday 9am to 4pm
- 47% said they would support the proposal to use a single yellow line to protect driveways and 47% said they wouldn't support such a proposal with the remaining 6% giving no response

In terms of individual streets the questionnaire indicates that residents on Boston Castle Grove, Boston Castle Terrace, Godstone Road, Hall Road, Rotherstoke Close and Warwick Street broadly support the introduction of a residents parking scheme. Residents on Broom Grove, Broom Terrace, Broom Valley Road, Gerard Road, Harehills Road, Ramsden Road, Richard Road, Tooker Road and Welham Drive do not support the introduction of a scheme. Residents on Farleigh Drive, Hall Grove, Heather Close, Lillian Street, Renville Close and Renville Road expressed no preference. There are no residents directly accessing Bernard Street, Horrace Street and Warwick Street South.

The main reasons given by residents for not supporting the scheme were

- don't see why they have to pay to park in their own street.
- don't have parking problems in their street and do not see the need for the scheme
- that this scheme does not address what is seen as the real issue which is the lack of cheap/free all day parking in the town centre
- that the scheme would do nothing to address parking problems caused by houses with several vehicles and no off street parking
- that the problem could be solved by preventing parking on junctions and by better enforcement of existing restrictions

A 58 signature petition representing 38 households on Richard Road was received who object to the scheme on the basis that they did not have parking problems on Richard Road and that a residents parking scheme would have a negative impact on households particularly those with larger families. A copy of the first page of this petition is attached as Appendix C.

In addition a 464 signature petition representing 162 households was received objecting to scheme. The petition contains signatures from residents on the majority of streets within the area adjacent to Wellgate and the Broom Valley. A copy of the first page of the petition is attached as Appendix D.

Taking into account both responses to the questionnaire and the two petitions a significant number of residents in the Wellgate South area do not support the proposal to introduce a Residents' Parking Scheme. Given this and the fact that residents parking schemes are only successful when they are introduced on a network of streets in a discrete area (which is not the case in the Wellgate South area) it is recommended that the proposed scheme is abandoned.

However given that there is broad support from residents on Boston Castle Grove and Boston Castle Terrace and that these streets form a discrete area it is proposed to undertake further consultation on a Residents' Parking Scheme in this area. Such a scheme would also address some of the problems with parking by students at Thomas Rotherham College and also assist with development plans for Boston Castle Park. Details of these proposals are shown on drawing number 126/18/TT483 which is attached as Appendix E.

It is also proposed to promote a Traffic Regulation Order to introduce a series of No Waiting At Any Time restrictions to address problems with vehicles parking in, and close to, junctions in the Wellgate South area. It is also proposed to include Bernard Street in the Town Centre Pay and Display Zone as there is a high demand for commuter parking on this street. Details of these proposals are shown on drawing number 126/18/TT482 which is attached as Appendix F.

8. Finance

The proposed resident parking scheme on Boston Castle Terrace Boston Castle Grove is estimated to cost £10,000. The proposed new No Waiting At Any Time restrictions and extension to the Town Centre Pay and Display Zone is estimated to cost £12,500. It is anticipated that funding for both of these schemes is available from the Local Transport Plan Integrated Transport Capital Programme for 2009/10.

9. Risks and Uncertainties

Continued requests for Residents' Parking Schemes and complaints about commuter parking will still be made by residents in the Wellgate South area. As part of the initial investigation into the proposed Wellgate South Residents' parking scheme a series of parking stress surveys were undertaken and these will give a base line against which we can check in the future to see if things are getting worse.

10. Policy and Performance Agenda Implications

The proposals are in line with objectives set out in the South Yorkshire Local Transport Plan.

11. Background Papers and Consultation

A plan showing the area consulted is attached as Appendix A.

A copy of the consultation leaflet and questionnaire is attached as Appendix B.

A copy of the first page of the petition from residents on Richard Road is attached as Appendix C.

A copy of the first page of the petition from residents in the Wellgate South area is attached as Appendix D.

Drawing number 129/18/TT483, showing details of the proposed Residents' Parking Scheme for Boston Castle Grove and Boston Castle Terrace is attached as Appendix E.

Drawing number 129/18/TT482, showing details of the proposed No Waiting At Any Time restrictions and extension to the Town Centre Pay and Display Zone is attached as Appendix F.

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