

Traffic Regulation Order Objections Associated with Proposed Waiting Restriction Amendment in De Freville Avenue, Cambridge

To: Cambridge Joint Area Committee

Meeting Date: 18 December 2024

From: Executive Director of Place and Sustainability

Electoral division(s): County Council divisions within Cambridge: Chesterton
City Council wards: West Chesterton

Executive summary: The proposal would shorten an existing resident permit holder parking space to allow for dropped kerbs and a vehicular access to be installed. The purpose of this report is to inform Members of the feedback received to the publication of these proposals and consider whether the parking restriction amendment should proceed.

Recommendation: The Committee is asked to:

Recommend that the County Council's Executive Director of Place and Sustainability, in consultation with the local Member, approve the amendment to the waiting restrictions as published.

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1. Background

- 1.1 The County Council received an application from a property owner to amend the existing on-street waiting restrictions in De Freville Avenue. The requested change would remove one resident holder parking space and replace it with double yellow lines. This is to allow for dropped kerbs to be installed, so the resident can provide off-street parking for up to three vehicles and install a private electric vehicle charging point. There are no highway or engineering grounds to refuse the application for dropped kerbs, but the parking bay needs to be shortened to facilitate this. A drawing of the proposal is attached at Appendix 1.
- 1.2 De Freville Avenue has a resident permit parking scheme operational Monday to Saturday, 9am to 5pm, which was implemented in June 2012. The parking spaces on this length of De Freville Avenue are for permit holders only during those days and times.

2. Main Issues

- 2.1 Before amending on-street parking restrictions there is a statutory requirement for the Council to publish a notice of intention to inform interested parties of the proposed Traffic Regulation Order (TRO). This process invites the public to formally object to or submit other representations on the proposals in writing within a minimum 21-day notice period. There is also a requirement to consult with certain organisations, such as the emergency services, and others affected by the proposals.
- 2.2 The required notice was published in the Cambridge News on 4 September 2024 and the statutory consultation period ran until 26 September 2024. Additional information was available on the Council's website and the public was able to access further information and submit feedback via the Council's online traffic consultation portal. Residents of that part of De Freville Avenue were individually consulted by letter.
- 2.3 That prompted the receipt of three written representations, from two households, all objecting to the proposed amendment. The objections received are included in the table in Appendix 2, along with officer responses to the objections.
- 2.4 The main point raised by the objectors is the loss of on-street parking capacity, which they claim would make it more difficult for residents to find a parking space.
- 2.5 This amendment would take away only one parking space, which is unlikely to have a significant impact on parking in that part of De Freville Avenue. Many properties already have dropped kerbs giving access to off-road parking and it would seem unfair for the Council to deny this opportunity to the applicant. Additionally, the resident plans to install an EV charging point on their land, which the Council would generally support. Hence, it is recommended that the committee recommends that the proposed change be approved.

3. Significant Implications

3.1 Finance Implications

The required statutory process and highway works will be funded by the applicant.

3.2.1 Legal Implications

The statutory processes relating to the requirement to publish and consult on such proposals have been followed.

3.3 Risk Implications

There are no significant implications for this category.

3.4 Equality and Diversity Implications

There are no significant implications for this category.

3.5 Climate Change and Environment Implications

There are no significant implications for this category.

4. Source Documents

4.1 None