
PETITION: CAR PARKING IN ADDISCOMBE ROAD, MARGATE

To: **Thanet Joint Transportation Board, 23 November 2011**

Main Portfolio Area: **KCC – Environment & Enterprise**

By: **Director of Highways, Kent County Council**

Classification: **Unrestricted**

Ward: **Margate Central, Dane Valley**

Division: **Margate & Cliftonville**

Summary: A petition has been received, requesting parking restrictions in Addiscombe Road, Margate

For Decision

1. Introduction

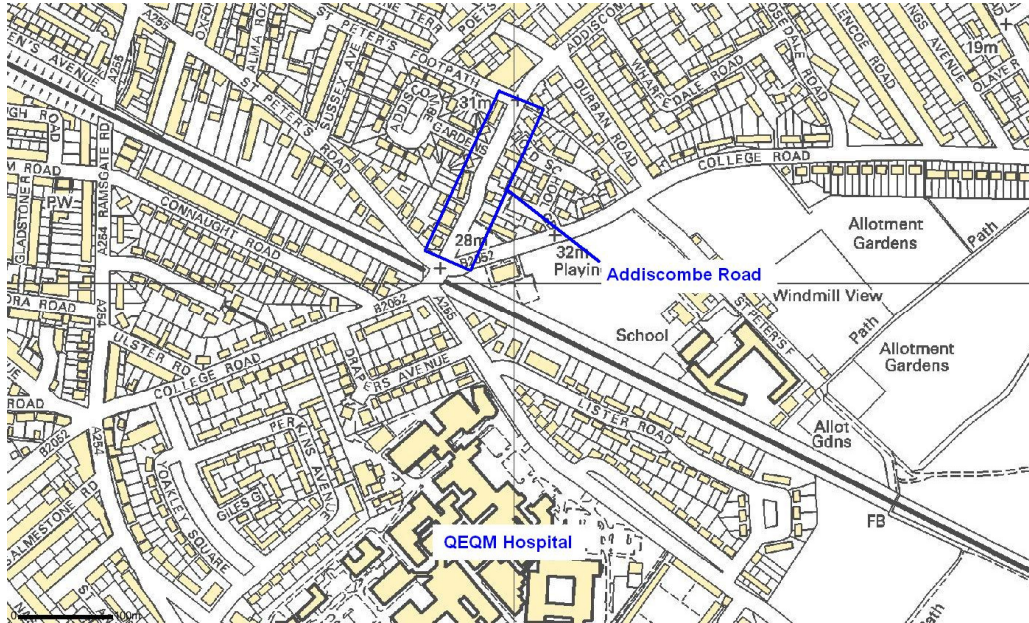
- 1.1 A petition of 31 signatures was received by Kent County Council (KCC) in September 2011, from residents who live in Addiscombe Road, Margate. A covering letter contained the following text:

“We are writing to you with deep concern over the parking in Addiscombe Road. Due to being close to the QEQM hospital parking is an issue, due to double yellow lines being put in College Road and also Addiscombe Gardens the issue has escalated. My neighbours and I have witnessed two accidents in the past two months, daily there are numerous near misses. The parking is becoming so congested that people are parking across the parking bay entrance on occasions making it impossible to leave our own car park. We have three houses with disabled badge holders who if can not access their own car and require a taxi it can not park close enough to pick up the disabled person as there is no where to pull in. On another occasion a midwife could not get to a resident who was in labour as she could not park. On talking to all the neighbours we would like double yellow lines on both sides of the road from St Peters Footpath to the roundabout, as we feel this is where the main congestion is. A few of the residents have already individually complained to Thanet District Council regarding this issue to no avail, it was advised to contact you and on doing so we leave this in your capable hands.”

2. Investigation

- 2.1 Addiscombe Road is a local distributor road, between Dane Park and the A255 St Peters Road (see plan below). Double yellow lines are present, to protect the side road junctions. It can be used for on-street parking by persons accessing the QEQM hospital, not wishing to be restricted by the amount of time they can remain, or having to pay parking charges.
- 2.2 KCC has access to a database that includes a log of all crashes resulting in personal injury that have been reported to Kent Police. For the section of Addiscombe Road between St Peters Road and St Peters Footpath, in the last 3 year crash investigation period to 30/06/11, there have been no reported personal injury crashes where the presence of restrictions could have assisted with the prevention of the incident.

Addiscombe Road, Margate: Site location



- 2.3 The issue of on-street parking associated with the hospital is a complex matter, and is not unique, as there are similar scenarios in Canterbury and Ashford. In this context, specific sites should not be considered in isolation, without due regard to the wider situation.

3. Current financial situation

- 3.1 KCC receives numerous requests every year for new highway works, including double yellow lines. Unfortunately due to substantial Government cuts in funding, KCC does not have the budget to meet this huge demand, and has to prioritise what works can be delivered with the limited funding available. On this basis, KCC is prioritising new works deemed as being 'safety critical'; i.e. a record of personal injury crashes, where it can demonstrated that a reduction in crashes can be achieved, through implementing the measure being requested. With the lack of such a pattern of personal injury crashes at this location, the works being requested are not a priority for the limited funding available.

4. Conclusion

- 4.1 A petition with 31 signatories has been received, requesting parking restrictions in Addiscombe Road, Margate. Given the current financial situation and a lack of recorded crashes, this request for highway improvements cannot be justified at the current time.
- 4.2 It is recognised that there are wider parking issues associated with the hospital, which cannot be dealt with by tackling isolated locations. A cross-authority working group should be formed, to look at the whole situation regarding parking and access to the hospital.

5. Recommendation

- 5.1 To advise the lead petitioner that no further action can be taken at this time;
- 5.2 To approve the formulation of a cross-authority working group, to look at the wider issue of parking and access to the QEQM Hospital.

Contact Officer:

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