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## **Traffic Management - Parking & Waiting Restrictions – Thanet**

**To: Thanet Joint Transportation Board – 27 March 2014**

**By: Civil Enforcement Manager**

**Classification: Unrestricted.**

**Ward: Across the District – Various**

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**Summary: The report presents the results of investigations at various locations where parking restrictions have been requested over the last four months.**

### **For Recommendation:**

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#### **1. Introduction and Background**

- 1.1 Since 2005 the responsibility for parking matters in the Thanet District is split between Kent Highways and Transportation for requests relating to safety and Thanet District for amenity requests. Requests that both councils have received over the past four months have been investigated and those that are considered to be viable are shown with recommendations in annex1.
- 1.2 Making changes to Traffic Regulation Orders is a lengthy and costly process involving changes to legal documents and thorough public consultation. In order to optimise the handling of these changes, the requests are consolidated into an annual review. Objections that are received during the public consultation will be brought back to the Board later in the year for a decision about whether to implement the proposed changes.
- 1.3 The officers' recommendations as to whether each proposal should be implemented are based on the General Provision for Traffic Regulation in the Road the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984. Within the Act changes are considered to be justified:
- a) where a road safety hazard exists;
  - b) where traffic flow on main roads is impeded;
  - c) where access is seriously obstructed, particularly for emergency vehicles;
  - d) where damage to the highway or to buildings is caused by particular classes of vehicle;
  - e) where serious loss of amenity is caused.
- 1.4 Additionally, as a general rule, parking restrictions are not recommended in remote locations where there is little chance of enforcement. The opportunity has also been taken to review locations where parking restrictions can be removed.

## **2. Options available**

2.1 Members of the Board can:

2.11 Support the officers' recommendations about whether to consult on each of the proposals,

2.12 Make a different recommendation about whether to consult on individual proposals,

2.13 Recommend amendments to any of the proposals to be advertised.

## **3. Corporate Implications**

### **3.1 Financial**

3.1.1 Parking and waiting restrictions are funded, managed and enforced by the Thanet District Council using the decriminalisation budget.

3.1.2 No additional staffing resources are proposed, as the majority of the controls should be self-enforcing.

### **4.2 Legal**

4.2.1 There are no legal implications.

### **5.3 Corporate**

5.3.1 The proposals are intended to improve access, sight lines and the free flow of traffic. This is applicable not only to residential traffic but also to Emergency Service vehicles and stagecoach. If controls are not introduced, having identified a problem and proposed a solution and if an incident were to occur, it is possible that Members could be challenged for a failure to discharge their duty of care.

### **6.4 Equity and Equalities**

6.4.1 Some proposals will improve sight lines not only for drivers but also for pedestrians. Additionally, some waiting restrictions on corners will discourage inconsiderate parking and improve pedestrian access to footways. This will be of benefit to both able bodied and disabled road users.

## **7.0 Recommendation**

7.1 That subject to the views of this Board, the recommendations shown in appendix 1 are approved, and

7.2 That the proposals which require statutory consultation are advertised, and that any traffic related objections are reported back to a future meeting of the Board.

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**Background Papers**    None

<b>Annex List</b>	
<i>Annex 1</i>	<i>List of sites and site plans to be advertised.</i>