Traffic Regulation Orders
Formal Consultation Report

High Street, Hemel Hempstead

Dacorum Borough Council

March 2016
DOCUMENT CONTROL

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1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

1.1 Dacorum Borough Council consulted local residents and businesses in High Street, Hemel Hempstead between 20th January and 17th February 2016.

1.2 10 addresses received the consultation material. Formal notices were also placed within the consultation area.

1.3 Representation rate from properties on High Street was 30%.

1.4 Overall, 2 of the 3 responses received indicated their support for the proposals.

1.5 The introduction of the short stay parking place will allow customers to make a quick visit to the shops on High Street without having to park in contravention. The proposals will also ensure a greater turnover of space.

1.6 The Project Centre recommendation is to proceed with implementing the order as advertised in High Street, Hemel Hempstead.

1.7 The introduction of the 1 hour max stay parking bay outside Nos. 109 to 111 High Street will facilitate visitors to park easily whilst making a quick visit to the local businesses in the area. The proposals will also ensure parity throughout the road.
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2. INTRODUCTION AND CONSULTATION METHODOLOGY

2.1 Dacorum Borough Council (DBC) carried out this formal consultation with assistance from Project Centre (PCL) to gain the views of local residents and businesses on the High Street, between the junctions of Fletcher Way and Cherry Bounce, in Hemel Hempstead.

2.2 Formal consultation letters were delivered to properties within the pre-defined study area on 20th January 2016, informing residents and businesses of the proposed changes to parking restrictions. DBC has decided to proceed with the implementation of the advertised proposals, with the support of Hertfordshire County Council as the highway authority.

2.3 A formal notice advertising the proposed changes was published in the Hemel Hempstead Gazette on 20th January, indicating the beginning of the formal consultation period.

2.4 The High Street proposals consisted of (see Appendix A for scheme proposals):

- Limited waiting parking place arrangements (for up to four vehicles) to operate Monday to Saturday 8am – 6pm, with 1 hour maximum stay and no return within 2 hours

- The existing double yellow lines to be realigned around the revised parking place

2.5 All correspondence was sent to DBC. No representations were accepted via telephone.

2.6 The formal consultation took place between 20th January and 17th February 2016.

2.7 Letters and the proposed scheme plans were delivered by hand to properties within the study area, informing residents and businesses of the proposals.

2.8 This report provides details of the representations and opinions provided during the formal consultation.
3. BACKGROUND

3.1 Following the recent street scene improvements introduced in the High Street between Queensway and Cherry Bounce, which included Monday - Saturday 1 hour no return in 2 hours limited stay parking, it was proposed to bring the parking place located outside No. 109 to No. 111 High Street in line with the rest of the street.

3.2 DBC is now seeking to gain public approval for the proposed amendments to reduce short term shopper parking pressure and increase the turnover of spaces.

3.3 By the council providing short stay parking facilities, it is felt this will help support the local businesses and increase the number of available parking spaces for customers throughout the day.
4. CONSULTATION REPRESENTATIONS AND COMMENTS

4.1 A total of 10 addresses received formal consultation letters in the High Street area, 3 email representations were received.

4.2 The formal consultation letter outlined the council’s proposals, providing respondents with a final chance to comment on the plans at the formal Statutory Consultation stage if they so wished.

High Street Comments:

4.3 3 representations were received during the consultation period.

4.4 One email representation was received from a resident in High Street where they indicated they did not support the proposed changes to the current arrangements. They felt the current system works well as it is and the introduction of the short stay parking place would create more parking pressure and does not allow long enough for visitors to use the restaurants in the area.

4.5 One email was received from a resident in High Street where they indicated they supported the proposed changes to the current arrangements. They indicated the proposals would improve the parking situation in the immediate area.

4.6 One email from a business located within the consultation area indicated their support for the proposals, indicating the proposals would help their business and those further down the High Street.

4.7 Representation rate from properties consulted was 30%.

4.8 Overall, 2 of the 3 responses received indicated their support for the proposals.
5. CONCLUSIONS

High Street

5.1 Three representations were received from High Street with one respondent objecting to the proposals by indicating the proposals would not help to improve the current parking situation. As the proposed parking and waiting restrictions will operate until 6pm, which is the same as the current restrictions along High Street, we do not believe this will create any greater pressure on parking demand in the area. Both the second and third respondents supported the proposals indicating they would improve parking in the area.

5.2 The introduction of the short stay parking place will allow customers to make a quick visit to the shops on High Street without having to park in contravention. The proposals will also ensure a greater turnover of space.

5.3 By bringing the parking restrictions in line with the limited waiting parking places on High Street, visitors wishing to stay longer in the area will be able to make use of the off street pay and display car park accessed via Cherry Bounce.
6. **RECOMMENDATIONS**

6.1 Following consideration of the comments received during the consultation process, Project Centre would recommend proceeding with a view to implementing the advertised proposals in High Street.

6.2 The introduction of the 1 hour max stay parking bay outside Nos. 109 to 111 High Street will provide the facility for visitors to park easily whilst making a quick visit to the shops.
Quality

It is the policy of Project Centre to supply Services that meet or exceed our clients’ expectations of Quality and Service. To this end, the Company’s Quality Management System (QMS) has been structured to encompass all aspects of the Company’s activities including such areas as Sales, Design and Client Service.

By adopting our QMS on all aspects of the Company, Project Centre aims to achieve the following objectives:

- Ensure a clear understanding of customer requirements;
- Ensure projects are completed to programme and within budget;
- Improve productivity by having consistent procedures;
- Increase flexibility of staff and systems through the adoption of a common approach to staff appraisal and training;
- Continually improve the standard of service we provide internally and externally;
- Achieve continuous and appropriate improvement in all aspects of the company;

Our Quality Management Manual is supported by detailed operational documentation. These relate to codes of practice, technical specifications, work instructions, Key Performance Indicators, and other relevant documentation to form a working set of documents governing the required work practices throughout the Company.

All employees are trained to understand and discharge their individual responsibilities to ensure the effective operation of the Quality Management System.
APPENDIX A – CONSULTATION MATERIAL
20 January 2016

Dear Householder/Proprietor,

Formal Consultation: Changes to parking and waiting restriction arrangements outside Nos. 109, 109a and 111 High Street, Hemel Hempstead.

In order to ensure parity with parking arrangements in the southern section of High Street, Hemel Hempstead, south of Cherry Bounce, Dacorum Borough Council is proposing to revise the limited stay parking arrangements on the east side of High Street, Hemel Hempstead, outside Nos. 109, 109a and 111.

This letter is to advise you that the intention to make the formal Traffic Regulation Orders (TROs) required to make the scheme operational has been published, marking the beginning of a statutory consultation period that will last for 28 days from 20 January 2016.

During this period anybody may comment or object to the proposals. Comments or objections must be made in writing, stating the grounds on which they are made and sent to the address at the top of this letter or via email to parking@dacorum.gov.uk to be received by e-mail by 23:59 on 17 February 2016 or by last postal delivery to the above address on 17 February 2016. If you have any comments or wish to object in any way, please let me know as detailed above.

The plan over the page provides a summary of the proposals. The new limited waiting parking place arrangements (for up to four vehicles) would operate Monday to Saturday 8am – 6pm, with 1 hour maximum stay and no return within 2 hours and the existing double yellow lines would be realigned around the revised parking place. The TRO will include the restrictions currently on the western side of the road but there would be no change to the current arrangement.

Summary information on how the scheme will work is set out in this letter. Plans are on display in the main reception area corridor at Dacorum Borough Council, Civic Centre, Marlowes, Hemel Hempstead, HP1 1HH and detailed information and drawings are available at The Parking Centre at the same address.

Please note as this is part of a statutory consultation and all comments received will be reported to the Council who will make a decision on how to proceed after considering the feedback from the consultation.

Yours sincerely,

Dacorum Borough Council working in association with Project Centre Ltd
What are the proposals?

The existing on-street limited stay parking arrangements on the east side of High Street, Hemel Hempstead, outside Nos. 109, 109a and 111, would be changed so that the parking place would be redefined with different hours of operation (Monday to Saturday, 8am - 6pm). The maximum stay of 1 hour would remain, although vehicles would not be allowed to return for at least 2 hours, instead of 1 hour. The parking place is shown on the plan overleaf.

What about deliveries, traders carrying out work and carers?

Deliveries may be carried out by vehicles provided this process is observed to be taking place within 5 minutes. Anything longer (including traders carrying out work and carers visits) will require the visitor to park in areas away from the limited waiting parking place during its operational times.

How will the proposals be enforced?

The Council’s Civil Enforcement Officers will patrol the area during operational hours to ensure compliance. Any vehicle parked and not complying with restrictions will be issued with a Penalty Charge Notice.

What happens next?

When the responses from the consultation have been collated and a report produced, your councillors will decide whether to put the scheme into place or abandon it. If it is decided to put the scheme in place a date will be set for the scheme to go live and it will be advertised in the public notices section of the Hemel Hempstead Gazette. Lines and signs would be installed in readiness for the set date.

Data from this consultation will be collected and held by Project Centre and Dacorum Borough Council. The data will be used to produce a consultation report and to provide feedback to Councillors. Individual residents will not be identified in the consultation report without permission. The consultation report will be a public document.
APPENDIX B – CONSULTATION PLAN
Existing limited waiting bay
Mon - Sat 8am - 6pm
1 hour no return within 2 hours

Change existing no waiting Mon - Sat 8-9am and limited waiting bay 9am - 6.30pm 1 hour no return within 1 hour to limited waiting bay Mon - Sat 8am - 6pm 1 hour no return within 2 hours