
Meeting of Executive Members for City Strategy and the Advisory Panel

16th July 2007

Report of the Director of City Strategy

HEWORTH GREEN TRAFFIC REGULATION ORDER OBJECTIONS

Summary

1. This report brings to the attention of the Advisory Panel the receipt of objections to proposed changes to the waiting restrictions on Heworth Green and seeks approval to overturn the objections and implement the restrictions.

Background

2. During the planning approval for three large developments off Heworth Green, improvements to the existing highway were also agreed for inclusion in a section 278 agreement (signalised junction, central islands/refuges, relocated bus stops, right turn lanes, etc.). The planning applications also identified that changes to the existing waiting restrictions would be necessary for the introduction of the improvements. It was clear at that stage that this would result in the loss of a number of residents parking spaces. Whilst it is always regrettable when there is a loss of on street parking opportunity, the primary purpose of a highway is for movement, not parking, and the Traffic Management Act makes it a statutory duty for highway authorities to take this into account when making decisions on highway use.
3. A set of proposed changes to the Traffic Regulation Order (see below and plan in Annex A) were put forward for approval to advertise at an Officer in Consultation meeting. These were in line with the plans previously seen and discussed by the Planning Committee, but included additional measures to reduce the impact on local residents parking needs.
 - A. Convert the No waiting 8am to 6pm restrictions on the NW side of Heworth Green between the roundabout and a point 10m NE of Villa Grove to No waiting at any time.
 - B. Convert the residents parking bays on the SE side of Heworth Green between the roundabout and Villa Grove to No waiting at any time.
 - C. Convert the existing No waiting 8am to 6pm restrictions on the remainder of the SE side of Heworth Green up to the Mill Lane junction to No waiting at any time.
 - D. Convert the existing residents parking bays opposite 11 to 22 Huntington Road for use by R8, R24 and R25 permit holders as well as the existing R26 permit holders and Pay and Display.
4. Prior to supporting the Planning Applications officer observations clearly identified that the two parking areas affected were seldom used. Two surveys have subsequently been carried out to determine the extent of parking. The results of the surveys are shown in Annex B and confirm that parking levels are low in all the residents parking bays. Hence the removal of two of the four bays

and the re-designation of the bay on Huntington Road (which is also under used) for use by R8, R24 and R25 permit holders will not lead to a reduction in parking availability as is claimed by the objectors.

Consultation

5. In line with legal requirements and City Council policy the Traffic Regulation Order proposals have been advertised in the local press, notices put up on street and details delivered to the properties adjacent to the proposals.
6. Six representations were made against the proposals and they are summarised in Annex C along with officer's comments. The main issue raised and officers comments are:

The restrictions will remove the parking available for visitors.

Parking will still be available to meet the actual surveyed needs and some additional parking opportunity will be made available on Huntington Road. The overall parking impact will therefore be neutral.

Options and Analysis

7. The options available are set out below:
 - A. Uphold the objections and take no action.

This is not the recommended action as the highway improvements are necessary to allow the efficient use of the highway once the new developments are up and running.
 - B. Implement a reduced set of restrictions than those advertised.

This is not the recommended action for the same reasons as in option A above.
 - C. Implement the restrictions as advertised.

This is the recommended action for the reasons outlined above.

Corporate Priorities

8. Considering this matter is part of our focus on the needs of customers and residents in designing and providing services.

Implications

9. There are no Financial, Human Resource, Equality, Legal, Crime and Disorder, IT, Property or other implications associated with the recommendations in this report.

Risk Management

10. In compliance with the Council's risk management strategy there are no risks associated with the recommendations in this report.

Recommendations

11. That the Executive Member for City Strategy be advised to Implement the proposals as advertised and inform the objectors of this decision.

Reason: Because the road space is required for the introduction of the improvements that form part of the section 278 agreements related to the new developments.

Contact Details

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Report Approved**Date** 3/7/2007**Wards Affected:** Heworth**All**

For further information please contact the author of the report

Background Papers: None.

Annexes:

Annex A – Plan of the proposed restrictions.

Annex B – Parking survey results.

Annex C - Précis of the objections to the proposals.