

Agenda Item:

# Regulatory Committee

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**Dorset County Council**



Date of Meeting	11 June 2015
Officer	Andrew Martin - Head of Highways
Subject of Report	<b>Proposed Waiting Restrictions, Sandbourne Avenue/Shottesford Avenue, Blandford</b>
Executive Summary	Following the advertising of proposed changes to parking restrictions in various roads in Blandford, objections have been received to the proposals for Sandbourne Avenue/Shottesford Avenue. This report considers those objections, and whether the proposals in Sandbourne Avenue and Shottesford Avenue should be implemented as advertised.
Impact Assessment:	Equalities Impact Assessment: The proposed waiting restrictions will have the usual exemption for disabled badge holders.
	Use of Evidence:  Site investigations, public consultation and support of Local Member, Town and District Councils and the Police.
	Budget:  The cost of making the Order is estimated at £2500 inclusive of advertising charges.
	Risk Assessment:  Having considered the risks associated with this decision using the County Council's approved risk management methodology, the level of risk has been identified as: Current Risk: LOW Residual Risk: LOW

Recommendation	That having considered the objections received, Cabinet be recommended to approve the proposed waiting restrictions on Sandbourne Avenue/Shottesford Avenue as originally advertised.
Reason for Recommendation	Sandbourne Avenue and Shottesford Avenue has a tight bend which is frequently obstructed by parked cars. The proposals will improve the movement of larger vehicles especially the bus service that uses the road regularly and will improve access for emergency service vehicles.
Appendices	Appendix 1 – Drawing No. 2189/1/65H
Background Papers	Four letters of response are available in the Members Room.  Consultation responses from the District and Town Councils, Dorset Police and the local County Councillor are held on file in the Environment and the Economy Directorate.
Report Originator and Contact	Name: Andrew Brown Tel: 01305 225142 Email: a.brown@dorsetcc.gov.uk

## 1. **Background**

- 1.1 Proposals were advertised for public consultation on 27 February 2015 for a variety of changes to waiting restrictions in Blandford. The only objections received were to the proposed No Waiting restrictions in Sandbourne Avenue/Shottesford Avenue, Blandford. This report considers those objections.
- 1.2 Sandbourne Avenue and Shottesford Avenue are located on the Persimmons Estate on the northern eastern side of Blandford. The road has a tight bend that leads further in to the estate.
- 1.3 There have been parking problems in Sandbourne Avenue and Shottesford Avenue and the local bus company have requested waiting restrictions. They were particularly concerned that not only buses but emergency, refuse and delivery vehicles were sometimes unable to pass along the road due to parked vehicles. There is no record of any collisions in the area.
- 1.4 The bus service is well used by Blandford residents and serves other parts of the estate that has a high percentage of potential bus users that will be disadvantaged by the long walk to the nearest bus stop in Holland Way for journeys into Blandford and Poole. Double deck buses are used on the route as they are shorter and therefore more manoeuvrable on the estate roads than longer single deck buses.

## 2. **Information**

- 2.1 Sandbourne Avenue and Shottesford Avenue are used by residents and visitors to the Persimmons Estate to park. All the houses next to the proposed waiting restrictions have off-street parking.
- 2.2 County Council officers proposed that No Waiting would be an appropriate restriction on the length of Sandbourne Avenue and Shottesford Avenue as shown in Appendix 1. This restriction would discourage casual on street parking in Sandbourne Avenue and Shottesford Avenue by residents and visitors.
- 2.3 The proposed restriction would improve access for large vehicles including buses and emergency vehicles.

## 3. **Law**

Sections 1 and 2 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 allow the County Council to make an Order prohibiting or restricting the waiting of vehicles or the unloading of vehicles. The circumstances where an Order may be made include:

For avoiding danger to persons or other traffic using the road;  
For facilitating the passage on the road of any class of traffic;

## 4. **Consultation**

- 4.1 Under Dorset County Council's procedure, primary consultation was carried out on the proposed scheme and is supported by the Local Member, North Dorset District Council, Blandford Town Council and the Police.
- 4.2 There have been 4 responses to the public consultation process, and these are summarised below. There are 4 objections to the proposals from residents, 3 who live in Sandbourne Avenue and 1 who lives in Shottesford Avenue:-

Name and Address	Summary of Response
Mr D Wild, 10 Sandbourne Avenue, Blandford	Objects to the proposed yellow lines. The problem has arisen since the X8 bus was routed through the estate. If parking restrictions go ahead it will cause parking problems for visitors in the affected area. Inevitably drivers will start to park away from the yellow lines which could infringe on his property resulting in his driveway being obstructed. The bus route should be re-routed.
Mr G Bassford, 14 Sandbourne Avenue, Blandford	Objects to the proposed yellow lines. Increase of the average speed of traffic flow at and around the junction. The bus is too large to traverse this junction safely. Worsen the already poor parking facilities throughout the Persimmons Estate.
Mr S Cronin, 12 Sandbourne Avenue Blandford	Objects to the proposed yellow lines. The proposed waiting restrictions will adversely impact on the amenities of the local area by restricting the very limited casual on road parking for residents. Removing the casual on road parking will allow vehicles to move through this junction far more freely and at a much higher speed therefore increasing the possible risks. The estate roads are not designed to take a double decker bus.
Helen Sherwood, 24 Shottesford Avenue, Blandford	Objects to the proposed yellow lines. The proposed restriction will result in not being able to load/unload outside her property. Visitors will not be able to park in front of her property. The proposals will degrade the attractiveness of the house to future buyers because of the issues above and as a result it is likely to reduce its value, thus she will suffer financial loss as a direct consequence.

- 4.3 The 4 residents who object all live and regularly park in Sandbourne Avenue and Shottesford Avenue. Sandbourne Avenue and Shottesford Avenue is the nearest on-street parking to their properties. They all consider that there are times when they need to park in Sandbourne Avenue or Shottesford Avenue during the working day, and that the proposed restrictions would be detrimental to them.
- 4.4 Three objectors state that the estate roads were not built to take double decker buses and that there is not the requirement for the bus to make its way through the estate. They state that there has been bus stops close by for a number of years to serve the residents and do not see the need for restrictions as they are wholly disproportionate response to a perceived problem that does not even exist.
- 4.5 Having considered all the responses received, it is considered that the current proposals are a reasonable compromise between the differing views of residents in the Sandbourne Avenue and Shottesford Avenue area. It is considered that the introduction of the proposed restrictions should be progressed rather than leave the situation as existing.

**Andrew Martin**  
Head of Highways  
June 2015

**Appendix 1**

