

**Station Road and High Street Otford – Request for new waiting restrictions  
Assessment of proposals by KCC officers**

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To: **Sevenoaks Joint Transportation Board, December 2021**

Main Portfolio Area: **KCC – Growth Environment and Transport**

By: **Director of Highways, Transportation and Waste**

Classification: **For information**

Ward: **Otford and Shoreham**

Division: **Sevenoaks North**

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**Summary:** **KCC have further investigated the request for waiting restrictions at Station Road and High Street, Otford. This report outlines the findings of those investigations.**

**For Information**

**1.0 Introduction and Background**

- 1.1 Kent County Council received petitions from Otford Parish Council requesting waiting restrictions within Station Road and High Street Otford. These petitions were presented to the Sevenoaks Joint Transportation Board meeting on 3rd December 2019. The request related to concerns regarding congestion, pedestrian accessibility and anti-social parking.
- 1.2 It was agreed at the JTB in September 2020 that KCC Officers would re-investigate this matter through collecting site data and discussions. The investigation was delayed until 2021, due to SPD's priority work on the Emergency Active Travel Fund, relating to the Covid19 pandemic.
- 1.3 Officers from Kent County Council met with on site with Cllr Irene Roy in December 2020 to look at the proposed locations and advised that a formal assessment would follow.

**2.0 Assessment**

- 2.1 Applications for waiting restrictions are assessed following a set process which involves both a desktop study and site visit. Sites are scored based on a set of criteria. Those which meet the criteria for intervention are added to a waiting list with the top scoring applications being taken forward to consultation.
- 2.2 The request for waiting restrictions at Station Road, Otford has been assessed and taking into account all the evidence available to us, this location does not meet our criteria for intervention and therefore we have no current plans to introduce waiting restrictions here. Whilst we can appreciate the concerns raised, inconsiderate parking is an issue across the whole county and we ultimately have to review each request from a highway safety perspective. We receive many requests for the implementation of improvement and safety measures on the highway including waiting restrictions and, as such all requests are reviewed and prioritised. We use an evidence-based approach to prioritise investment in Casualty Reduction Schemes as we seek to

ascertain if there is any pattern of personal injury crash records for the past three years that could be addressed by engineering methods.

- 2.3 Having reviewed the personal injury collision record at this location for the last available 3-year period (currently up to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2021), there is no pattern of crashes, making it very difficult to prioritise this site above other sites where there is an evidenced history of incidents occurring.
- 2.4 The request for an extension to the times of operation for the existing restrictions on High Street, Otford has also been assessed. Officers have raised concerns that an extension of the operating times may have a negative impact on residents of the High Street who park their vehicles on this road.
- 2.5 Officers have advised that we would require the parish council to undertake an informal consultation to gauge the level of support locally for the proposals. Should the informal consultation be well-received, KCC would look to progress to a formal consultation.

### **3.0 Conclusion**

- 3.1 Having undertaken an assessment KCC would not support the introduction of waiting restrictions on Station Road.
- 3.2 KCC request that Otford Parish Council undertakes an informal consultation for the proposals to extend the operating times of the existing restrictions at High Street prior to a formal consultation taking place.

Future Meeting if applicable: TBC	Date: 18/11/2021
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