

STOCKPORT COUNCIL
EXECUTIVE REPORT – SUMMARY SHEET

Subject: Bus Pinch Points, Bramhall Lane Highway Improvements Objection Report

Report to: (a) Central Stockport Area Committee
2024

Date: Thursday, 7 March

Report of: (b) Joint report of the Director of Place Management and Assistant Director -
Legal & Democratic Governance

Key Decision: (c) **NO / ~~YES~~** (Please circle)

Forward Plan General Exception Special Urgency (Tick box)

Summary:

To consider a number of objections to proposed Traffic Regulation Orders (TRO)s for Heathfield Road, Beech Road and Bramhall Lane, Davenport, Stockport.

Recommendation(s):

The Director of Place Management requests that the Central Stockport Area Committee consider the comments in the report and recommend that the Cabinet Member for Parks, Highways and Transport Services resolve that the Traffic Regulation Order be made as originally advertised.

Relevant Scrutiny Committee (if decision called in): **(d)**
Communities & Transport Scrutiny Committee

Background Papers (if report for publication): **(e)**

There are none.

Contact person for accessing
background papers and discussing the report

Officer: Zoe Allen

'Urgent Business': (f) **YES / NO** (please circle)

Certification (if applicable)

This report should be considered as 'urgent business' and the decision exempted from 'call-in' for the following reason(s):

The written consent of Councillor _____ and the Chief Executive/Monitoring Officer/Borough Treasurer for the decision to be treated as 'urgent business' was obtained on _____ /will be obtained before the decision is implemented.

Bus Pinch Points, Bramhall Lane Highway Improvements Objection Report**Joint report of the Director of Place Management and Assistant Director - Legal & Democratic Governance****1. INTRODUCTION AND PURPOSE OF REPORT**

- 1.1 This report is to advise committee members of an objection/s received to a proposed introduction of Traffic Regulation Orders (TROs) for Heathfield Road, Beech Road and Bramhall Lane, Davenport, Stockport. The TROs are proposed as part of the Bramhall Lane Highway Improvements Bus Pinch Points scheme.
- 1.2 To ensure that objections to the permanent Traffic Regulation Order are appropriately and efficiently considered.

2. INFORMATION AND ADVICE

- 2.1. In considering the objections the Area Committee should be mindful that unless otherwise authorised, the only right the general public has over the highway is a right of passage along it. The Authority has both a duty of care to ensure the safety of the travelling public and a duty under the Traffic Management Act 2004 to secure and facilitate the expeditious movement of traffic.

3. OBJECTIONS AND COMMENTS

- 3.1. Nine objections have been received, five are residents of Heathfield Road and four objections were raised by residents of Bramhall Lane.
- 3.2. All objections received expressed concerns in relation to the proposed TROs in general, however the five residents of Heathfield Road also expressed concern regarding the proposed 'Prohibition of Entry Except for Cycles' TRO on Beech Road and its impact on Heathfield Road.
- 3.3. All objections received stated that the proposals to introduce TRO's will have a negative impact on local residents. The objectors advised that parking in the area is already at a premium and consider that further parking restrictions will have a negative impact on local residents and business due to a number of factors, these include; increase in stress for residents if they are unable to park outside or close to their homes, driveways being blocked and less space available for delivery/pick-up drivers and tradespeople facilitating businesses and residents on Bramhall Lane. Other negative effects mentioned included the potential increase in congestion and aggressive/speed related driving in the local area, the impact on pedestrian safety and noise levels due to increased traffic on Heathfield Road caused by the 'Prohibition of Entry Except for Cycles' proposed for Beech Road.
- 3.4. The objections in relation to the proposal to introduce 'No Waiting at Any Time' restrictions on Heathfield Road and proposed 'Prohibition of Entry Except for Cycles' on Beech Road are summarised below:

The first concern related to the reduction in parking for local residents and businesses and the impact this will have. They stated that the increase in waiting restrictions will cause undue parking difficulties to residents, visitors, and local businesses may suffer a loss of trade.

The second point raises concerns that the proposals to introduce 'Prohibition of Entry Except for Cycles' on Beech Road could result in an increase in traffic congestion and antisocial driving behaviours such as speeding in the area, increased noise levels and pedestrian safety.

The third point raises concerns that some affected residents have not been provided with information about the proposed changes.

The fourth point raises concerns that the proposed scheme is in a conservation area and the increase in parking congestion and volume of traffic must be considered in relation to this.

- 3.5. The objections in relation to the proposal to introduce 'No Waiting at Any Time' waiting restrictions on Bramhall Lane in the area between Cale Green and Beech Road are summarised below:

The first concern is that the proposed 'No Waiting At Any Time' restrictions will impact upon houses that have no alternative option to park, they currently have limited parking (No Waiting Mon-Sat 7.30 – 9.30am and 3.00 – 6.30pm)

The second point raises concerns relating to obtaining the services of trades people who need to park to access tools/materials. This leads to additional expense when securing their services.

The third point raises concerns relating to disability / Blue Badge holder parking.

Response

- 3.6. A response is provided below to the objections received:

Impact on On-Street Car Parking – Bramhall Lane

Transport for Greater Manchester have identified this location as an area of congestion. Bramhall Lane is classed as a 'Strategic Distributor' route and the proposals will improve the flow of traffic generally as well as improving journey times for buses. Permits can be requested by tradespeople to be exempt from parking restrictions due to short term special circumstances and a request can be made via the Stockport Council website.

Residents with disabilities in receipt of a Blue Badge are legally permitted to park on Double Yellow Lines/No Waiting restrictions for up to 3 hours.

Impact on On-Street Car Parking – Heathfield Road

In response to the objections which raise concern regarding the impact on on-street car parking on Heathfield Road, the parking restrictions included as part of this scheme are proposed to support Rule 243 of the Highway Code which prohibits parking within 10 metres of a junction. The proposed extension of the No Waiting at Any Time restrictions on Heathfield Road near the junction of Heath Road extends the existing No Waiting at Any Time restrictions of 7.5 metres by a further 3.5 metres so the loss of parking will be minimal. The extension of the existing restrictions are designed to prevent vehicles from

parking within the area and accommodate for the swept path of a coach to and from the nearby school. The proposed extension of the No Waiting at Any Time restrictions on the southern side near the junction of Heathfield Road and Bramhall Lane are designed to prevent parking opposite the on-street disabled car parking bays on the northern side of Heathfield Road. This is proposed in order to reduce congestion at the junction of Heathfield Road and Bramhall Lane.

Increase in Traffic, including antisocial driving, noise and pedestrian safety

In the initial report to Area Committee on 22nd June 2023 - <https://democracy.stockport.gov.uk/ieDecisionDetails.aspx?ID=6524> , traffic counts were included which show that the impact of traffic re-routing due to the proposed 'Prohibition of Entry Except for Cycles' on Beech Road is not forecast to represent a significant impact on traffic levels. In respect of pedestrian safety it is anticipated that the proposed TROs should improve intervisibility between pedestrians and drivers at the junctions.

Insufficient Information

In total 41 letters were hand delivered to residents and 22 on-street notices were installed within the area of the proposed scheme. It was advertised on the Councils website and advertised in the local press.

Conservation Area

The entirety of the proposed scheme is within a conservation area. It is not anticipated that there will be any detrimental effects as a result of implementation.

4. PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO THE ORDER

4.1. It is proposed that no amendments be made to the proposals.

5. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

5.1. There are no financial implications arising from the recommendations in this report.

6. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

6.1. The Council has a statutory duty to ensure that its highways operate safely for the safe passage of all traffic including pedestrians and powers to regulate and restrict traffic to assist in that duty.

7. REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

7.1. To comply with the Local Authorities' Traffic Orders, Regulations 1996 the Authority must consider all objections submitted during the consultation period of at least 21 days before 'Making' a Traffic Regulation Order.

7.2. The Committee should make a decision in respect of the objection/s received so that the scheme can be progressed and the No Waiting At Any Time and Prohibition of Entry Except for Cycles restrictions introduced or abandoned.

8. ALTERNATIVES CONSIDERED

- 8.1. The alternative to the proposals laid out in this report is to continue with the current lack of restriction on the highway by not introducing the proposed traffic regulation orders.

9. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 9.1. It is recommended that the Area Committee and Cabinet Member for Highways, Parks & Transport Services note all Traffic Regulation Orders where objections have been considered by officers.
- 9.2. the Area Committee and the Cabinet Member for Highways, Parks & Leisure Services resolve that the Traffic Regulation Order be made as originally advertised.
- 9.3. That the objectors are informed of the decision.

Background Papers

Bus Pinch Points – Bramhall Lane Highway Improvements submitted to the Central Stockport Area Committee held on 22nd June 2023.

This can be viewed via the following link:

<https://democracy.stockport.gov.uk/ieDecisionDetails.aspx?ID=6524>

Anyone wishing further information please contact c.aylmer-shanks@stockport.gov.uk by email on graham.oconnor@stockport.gov.uk