

SOUTH CAMBRIDGESHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL

REPORT TO: New Communities Portfolio Holder 10 March 2009
AUTHOR/S: Executive Director / Corporate Manager (Planning and Sustainable Communities)

CAMBRIDGESHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL CONSULTATION ON PROHIBITION OF WAITING FOR COMMERCIAL VEHICLES IN HISTON AND IMPINGTON

Purpose

1. The purpose of this report is to agree the response to Cambridgeshire County Council's draft Traffic Orders proposing the prohibition of waiting of commercial vehicles in various streets in Histon and Impington.

Background

2. The issue of heavy commercial vehicle parking controls was reported to the South Cambridgeshire Traffic Management Area Joint Committee on 7 July 2008 (Agenda Item 6, available to view on Cambridgeshire County Council's website: <http://www2.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/db/council2.nsf/e0c624b01b2e9ade80256b14004eb73b/a6079e01f8dbb7db80257478003b951a?OpenDocument>). The report outlined how the closure of some lay-by facilities on the A14, for safety reasons, combined with the closure of a popular lorry service area at Alconbury led to various sites on the county road network being used for parking when drivers are required to take breaks, particularly when stopping overnight.
3. This is an issue at various locations in South Cambs, usually in villages close to the strategic road network and stems from a lack of parking facilities for Heavy Commercial Vehicles (HCVs) using the strategic road network. As well as undermining the amenity of the highway, lorry parking in residential areas also raises environmental health issues, particularly when drivers are taking overnight stops in areas where there are no public amenities available.
4. In the longer term it is recognised that there is a need for a clear strategy for managing driver breaks for lorries using the national strategic road network but this is likely to take some time to deliver. The County Council is pressing the need for a long term strategy at regional and national level.
5. In the short term, specific concern had been raised by local residents in Station Road, Impington where the parking of lorries impacts significantly on the environment for local residents, although it does not cause any significant highway safety concerns.
6. The Area Joint Committee resolved to consider parking controls to address lorry parking in residential streets in Impington and other villages adjacent to the strategic road network, and continue to work with other agencies to provide more appropriate locations for lorry parking as soon as possible.

Proposed prohibition of waiting of heavy commercial vehicles

7. Cambridgeshire County Council has issued a draft Traffic Order proposing to prohibit vehicles with maximum gross weight that exceeds 7.5 tonnes from waiting between

the hours of 8.00pm and 7.00am Monday to Friday and at any time on Saturday or Sunday, in Histon and Impington. A map of the proposal is appended to this report.

Issues for South Cambridgeshire

- 8. The proposal to prohibit waiting for heavy commercial vehicles in Histon and Impington will greatly improve the quality of the environment for local residents. However, the lack of appropriate parking facilities for heavy commercial vehicles may result in spill over into unrestricted roads in other villages along the strategic road network.

Proposed Response to Cambridgeshire County Council

- 9. As a result, it is suggested the Council make the following comments to Cambridgeshire County Council in response to the draft Traffic Order on the prohibition of waiting of commercial vehicles in Histon and Impington:

South Cambridgeshire District Council supports the proposed prohibition of waiting of commercial vehicles in various streets in Histon and Impington.

However, the Council would request careful monitoring following implementation of the waiting restrictions to ensure there is no knock-on effect, either elsewhere within Histon and Impington or in other villages along the strategic road network.

The Council would also stress the urgency for a clear strategy for managing driver breaks for lorries using the strategic road network and the development of suitable alternative parking provision to avoid the displacement of commercial vehicles onto other streets in villages, particularly those along the A14 corridor.

Implications

10.	Financial	None
	Legal	None
	Staffing	None
	Risk Management	None
	Equal Opportunities	None

Consultations

- 11. None.

Effect on Corporate Objectives and Service Priorities

12.	Work in partnership to manage growth to benefit everyone in South Cambridgeshire now and in the future
	Cambridgeshire County Council, as the highways authority, is proposing the restriction of heavy commercial vehicles to the benefit of local residents in Histon and Impington.
	Deliver high quality services that represent best value and are accessible to all our community
	The waiting restrictions will contribute to improving the quality environment for our community to live in within South Cambridgeshire.

Enhance quality of life and build a sustainable South Cambridgeshire where everyone is proud to live and work

The waiting restrictions will contribute to improving the quality environment for our community to live in within South Cambridgeshire.

Recommendations

13. It is recommended that the New Communities Portfolio Holder agree the response to Cambridgeshire County Council's consultation as set out in paragraph 9.

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