

To: Maidstone Joint Transportation Board
By: Tim Read, Head of Transportation
Date: 18th July 2012
Subject: Rushmead Drive, Maidstone – Parking Restrictions
Classification: For Decision

Summary: The purpose of this report is to provide members with updated results of the Rushmead Drive parking proposal consultation and ask Members to decide whether to implement the proposals.

1. Background

Mr Chittenden has been approached by residents to seek whether he supports their request for parking restrictions at the junction of Rushmead Drive and the A229 Loose Road. After much research and discussions between Mr Chittenden and residents; he supports their concerns and is willing to fund the proposals from his Member Highway Fund budget.

Rushmead Drive is a minor residential road serving approximately 40 properties. The road also acts as an overspill parking area for residents on the A229 Loose Road.

2. Proposals

A public notice of intention to implement parking restrictions on Emsworth Grove was published in March 2012. The notice requested comments and objections be made to the Highway Authority by 23rd April 2012 for consideration.

The proposals consist of Double Yellow Lines (DYL) on Rushmead Drive from its junction with the A229 Loose Road for a distance of 17m. The proposals are to purely improve junction visibility for drivers using this junction.

Details of these proposals can be seen in the drawings attached to Appendix 1 of this report.

The reasons stated for the restrictions were as follows:-

- 1) Drivers park inconsiderately and obstructively in the roads, this has led to frequent access issues for residents and emergency service vehicles. By stopping the parking on both sides of the roads it will provide better access into the road for residents and visitors.

3. Results of the Consultation

Notices were erected on-site identifying the proposals asking for comments during the consultation period.

Summary of Results

	Support	Object
Proposed Parking Restrictions	1	1
Total	1	1

The results provided show the overall results of the consultation showing that 1 supported the proposal and 1 objected to the proposal. The main reasons given for supporting the proposals were the improvement of highway safety at the Rushmead Drive/A229 junction. The main reasons given for objecting was due to the loss of on-street parking for residents of the A229 Loose Road

4. Discussion

As there have not been any recorded personal injury crashes at this location in the last three years the Highway Authority can not state that the proposals will statistically improve road safety in the area.

The environmental impact of installing parking restrictions will result in yellow lines on its entire length or the restrictions

Installation of parking restrictions can increase the vehicular speed of vehicles using the road, given the length of the proposals; speeding will not be a factor. Mr Chittenden is very aware of the carriageway layout and wants to eradicate inappropriate parking on the road together with allowing an ease of access onto the A229 for residents using Rushmead Drive.

5. Conclusion

The purpose of this report is to provide members with results of the Rushmead Drive consultation.

Members are therefore asked to decide whether to implement proposed parking restrictions on Rushmead Drive based on the consultation responses.