



View of proposals along Earl Street looking towards the new square in front of the Hazlitt Theatre

Contact Information

Should you have any further queries please email the team at:

publicrealm@maidstone.gov.uk

You can also submit your Feedback Form and any further comments to the above email address.

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Maidstone Borough Council Public Realm Improvement Project Phase 3 - Earl Street

Revised Consultation Document



2nd Consultation
March 2014



Feedback Form

We welcome your comments on these proposals and would appreciate your thoughts on the following questions:

What do you like about the proposals? What benefits might they bring?

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What do you NOT like about the proposals? What difficulties might they bring?

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What do you think is missing from the proposals? What would you like to see?

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Any other comments:

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Name

Business

Email

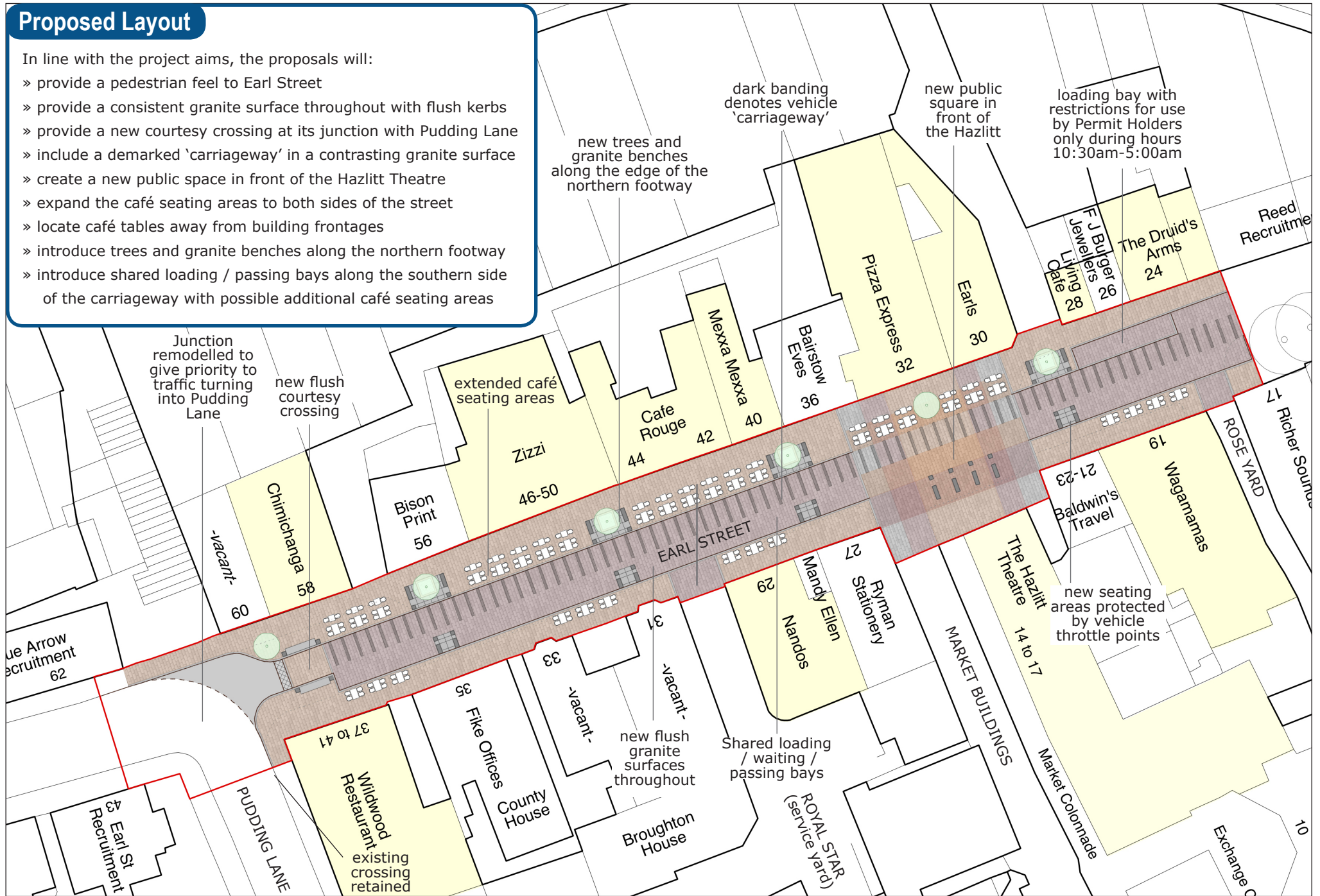
Please return your completed form to the address below, or hand deliver them to reception at the Gateway Building on King Street.

Steve Goulette
Head of Environment and Public Realm
Maidstone Borough Council
Maidstone House
King Street
Maidstone
ME15 6JQ

Proposed Layout

In line with the project aims, the proposals will:

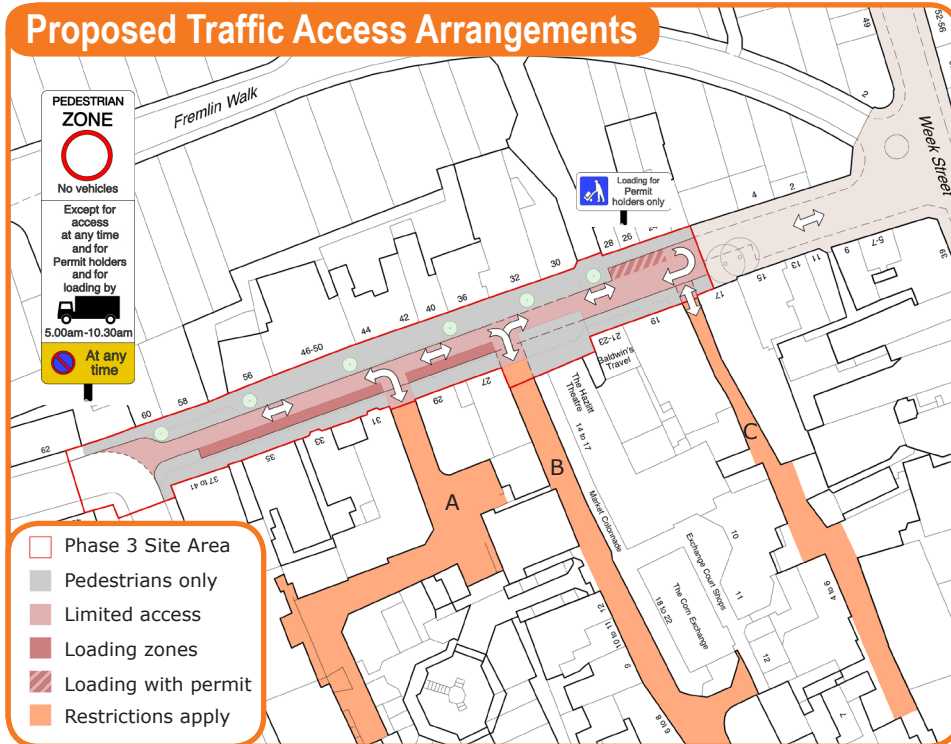
- » provide a pedestrian feel to Earl Street
- » provide a consistent granite surface throughout with flush kerbs
- » provide a new courtesy crossing at its junction with Pudding Lane
- » include a demarked 'carriageway' in a contrasting granite surface
- » create a new public space in front of the Hazlitt Theatre
- » expand the café seating areas to both sides of the street
- » locate café tables away from building frontages
- » introduce trees and granite benches along the northern footway
- » introduce shared loading / passing bays along the southern side of the carriageway with possible additional café seating areas



Project Aims

- » to provide a **pedestrian feel** to Earl Street and limit vehicle access
- » to **restrict** vehicle loading within Earl Street to mornings / permit holders only
- » to enhance the visual **appearance** of the street
- » to introduce a **flush**, consistent granite surface throughout
- » to increase areas for **café / outdoor seating** to both sides of the street
- » to improve the setting of the **Hazlitt Theatre** with a new public space
- » to contribute to the greening of the street by introducing **street trees**
- » to enhance the street at night with functional and decorative **lighting**

Proposed Traffic Access Arrangements

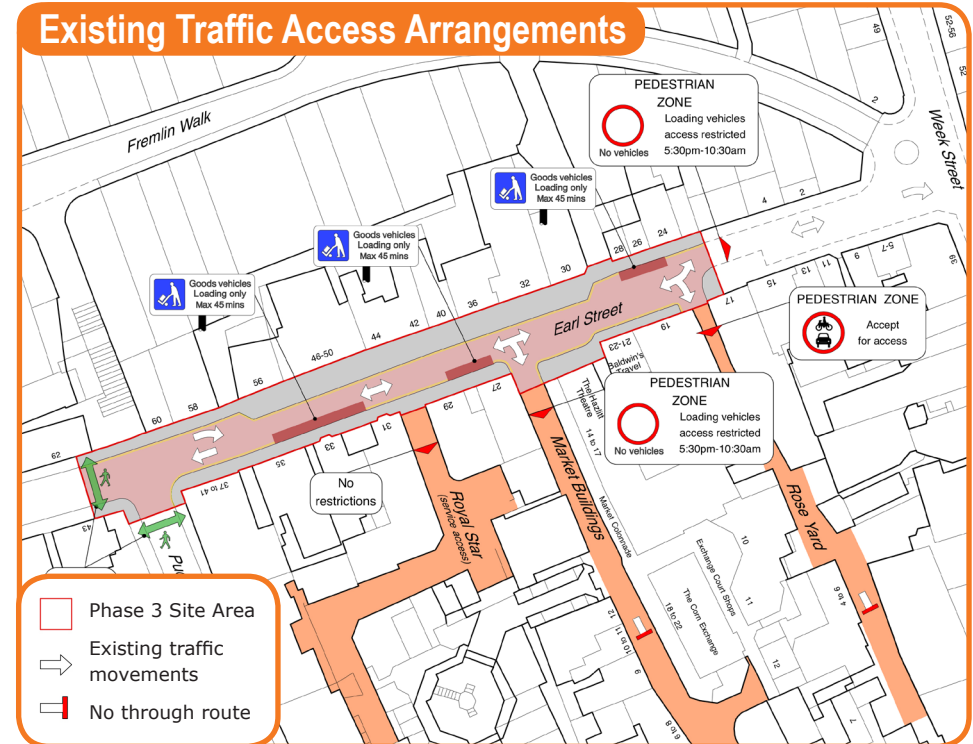


- » New Pedestrian Zone along Earl St from its junction with Pudding Lane, prevents parking / waiting on Earl Street
- » Loading on Earl Street and Market Buildings restricted to 5:00am - 10:30am
- » Loading permitted in marked bay from 10:30am - 5:00am for Permit Holders
- » Earl St will operate one-way from 5:00am to 10:30am with exit via Week St
- A » Access permitted to Royal Star service yard at all times
- B » Access permitted to Market Buildings between 5:00am - 10:30am only
- C » Access permitted to off street parking in Rose Yard at all times

Introduction

Following the successful completion of the public realm works to the High Street and Bank Street, Maidstone Borough Council has committed to continuing this process of improving the town centre environment. We now plan to bring similar improvements to Earl Street to enhance the attractiveness of the street for shoppers, visitors and residents. We are proposing to remove vehicles as much as possible and to introduce a uniform surface across the street. The project aims to significantly enhance the pedestrian environment and enable outdoor café and restaurant seating to expand further into the street.

Existing Traffic Access Arrangements



- » Vehicle access along Earl Street permitted up to its junction with Rose Yard
- » Pedestrian Zone limits vehicle access into Rose Yard
- » Pedestrian Zone restricts vehicle access into Week St
- » Pedestrian Zone restricts vehicle access into Market Buildings
- » No restrictions to vehicle access into Royal Star service yard
- » Yellow lines & markings denote "no waiting" and "no loading" throughout
- » Loading restricted to 45mins in marked bays only