

DUDLEY METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL

PROHIBITION OF WAITING ORDER – PAINT CUP ROW, DUDLEY WOOD

SUMMARY OF CONSULTATION FEEDBACK

A consultation exercise, involving the formal advertisement of the proposed Traffic Regulation Order was undertaken via on-street and local press notices between 3rd December 2009 and 31st December 2009 and was complemented by the circulation of 11 letters, plans and questionnaires to those local residents who were most likely to be directly affected between the 12th October and 6th November 2009.

8 (72%) replies were returned as part of the residents consultation exercise of which 5 (62%) were in favour of the proposals with the remaining 3 (38%) raising concerns about the proposals in the vicinity of their respective properties. A further objection was received as part of the formal advertisement procedure although this was from one of the residents who had already made the same comments during the initial consultation process.

In summary, therefore, the objections to the proposed Order were as follows:

- i) Loss of ability to park directly outside or along the side of property for residents, visitors and tradesmen carrying out work.
- ii) Lack of off-street parking for affected properties.
- iii) Concern that proposals may lead to an increase in vehicles being parked in Dudley Wood Road right up to junction with Paint Cup Row, restricting visibility for drivers trying to exit Paint Cup Row.
- iv) Loss of ability to park along the side of property and concern that the proposals may lead to neighbourly disputes if / when affected residents park in the vicinity of nearby properties.

COMMENT

Whilst it is quite normal for vehicles to be parked in the highway, particularly if the level of the local residents who own off-street parking is limited and insufficient to accommodate their needs, the primary purpose of a highway is for the legitimate users of that highway to be able to pass and re-pass without hindrance from obstruction.

Furthermore, Section 217 of the Highway Code states 'Do not park your vehicle or trailer on the road where it would endanger, inconvenience or obstruct pedestrians or other road users' and it then goes on to identify places where you should not stop such as, near to a school entrance or anywhere that you would prevent access for emergency services.

Consequently, in the event that parked vehicles are considered likely to compromise this position and, therefore, raise safety issues for other road users, the introduction of a Prohibition of Waiting Order is an appropriate course of action to consider.