

DUDLEY METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL,

STOURBRIDGE AREA COMMITTEE 30TH JANUARY 2006

REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR OF THE DIRECTOR OF THE URBAN ENVIRONMENT

A458 BIRMINGHAM STREET, STOURBRIDGE: WAITING PROHIBITIONS

Purpose of Report

1. To inform Committee of the results of an investigation into the possibility of introducing waiting prohibitions (double yellow lines) in Birmingham Street and Stamford Road, Stourbridge.

Background

2. At your meeting on 12th September 2005, his Worship the Mayor, Councillor Ian Kettle, requested that consideration be given to the introduction of prohibited waiting on the south side of Birmingham Street, opposite the Council's public amenity site.
3. Commuters regularly park their cars on this section of Birmingham Street, between Foster Street East and a pedestrian refuge.
4. This length of carriageway is between 9 and 12 metres in width, permitting one row of car parking to take place next to two-way traffic flows.
5. Most of this parking does not obstruct vehicle movements. However, the parking nearest to the pedestrian refuge is a cause for concern, as vehicles have difficulties in passing between parked cars and the refuge.
6. Pedestrian safety may be compromised in the vicinity of the refuge where parking narrows the available carriageway space, and might confuse motorists.
7. Accordingly, white "edge of carriageway" lines have been recently introduced, in order to advise motorists of the narrowness of the carriageway in the vicinity of the refuge, deter obstructive parking and assist in reducing vehicle speeds.
8. Access along Foster Street East between Stourbridge bus station and the A458 class I route, and also along Stamford Road between the lorry access of the public amenity site and the A458, require protecting from the threat of obstructive parking to and from these essential service areas.

9. Members are advised that Birmingham Street, Foster Street East and Stamford Road have now been added to a Traffic Regulation Orders Programme for consideration during 2006/2007.

Sustainable Transport

10. The contents of this report highlight problems caused by parking along the A458 major bus and traffic route.
11. If waiting prohibitions are considered for Birmingham Street and adjacent roads, buses and vehicles transporting civic amenity commodities would be able to move along the public highway more efficiently.

Finance

12. There are no financial implications for the current year.
13. Traffic Regulation Orders are financed from the Council's Highway Capital Programme.

Law

14. Traffic Regulation Orders are made under powers contained in Section 1 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, subject to regulations laid down by the Secretary of State.

Equality Impact

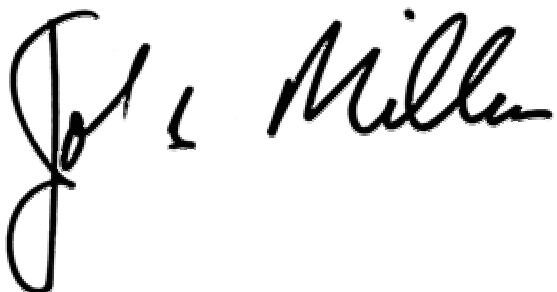
15. Pedestrian refuges and footways adjacent to the public carriageway assist mobility impaired persons, pedestrians and other vulnerable highway users.

Recommendation

16. That Committee notes and supports the contents of this report.

Background Papers

None



John Millar - Director of the Urban Environment

Contact Officers: Graham Isherwood Telephone: 01384 815459
 Email: graham.isherwood@dudley.gov.uk
 Peter Van Geersdaele Telephone: 01384 815437
 Email: peter.vangeersdaele@dudley.gov.uk
 Robert Morris Telephone: 01384 814475
 Email: robert.morris@dudley.gov.uk