

DECISION RECORD ¹**Subject:**

Traffic Regulation Orders, Field Lane, Letchworth

THE HERTFORDSHIRE (VARIOUS ROADS, ROYSTON, LETCHWORTH, GREAT ASHBY AND BALDOCK) (RESTRICTION OF WAITING) ORDER 2012

Staff Contact: Richard Jones

Executive Member: CC Stuart Pile

Tel: 01438 757830

Portfolio: Highways & Transport

1. Decision

To proceed with the single yellow line waiting restrictions on both sides of the road as advertised, with the exception of two 12m sections to be left unrestricted. Double yellow lines to be placed at the junction with Sollershott East.

2. Reasons for the decision

Issues reported for this road were that vehicles were parked closely on both sides of the road leaving inadequate gaps for passing, and hindering access for large/emergency vehicles. At the informal consultation we received 13 objections and were informed by the residents that commuters were the major problem, and during the formal consultation we received 4 objections with concerns from a couple of residents without off-street parking. The final proposals show single yellow lines on both sides of the road with 1 hour restrictions in the middle of the day to prevent commuter parking. The hour is different on opposite sides of the road to enable parking somewhere on the road throughout the day, and space has been left unrestricted outside two properties to help those residents without off-road parking.

3. Alternative options considered and rejected ²

The proposal issued at informal consultation had overlapping sections of single yellow lines on opposite sides of the road with day time restrictions. The focus was on creating passing areas, but comments from residents suggested the remaining parking will fill up with commuters and there will be no space for residents or visitors. We adjusted the proposals to focus on commuters as we were informed that if they were removed, there would not be a problem. The lines were extended to the full length of both sides of the road but restricted to just one hour, but a different hour on each side. This option, however penalised residents without off-road parking who would have to move their cars during the day.

A further option considered was to just have passing place provided by double yellow lines in a couple of places along the road. This would mean no signs or posts would be required, and North Herts DC could sort the commuter problem next year. But it was deemed necessary to do more this financial year.

4. **Consultation**

(a) Comments of Executive Member^{3 4}

The Executive Member Stuart Pile was consulted on the 03 April 2012 and having read this document, has agreed that the proposals should go ahead.

(b) Comments of other consultees⁵

Correspondence has been maintained with the local member and district councillors throughout the informal and formal consultations. Following the formal consultation a meeting was convened on the 17th February 2012 to discuss the objections. This meeting was attended by the chairman and vice-chairman of the NHJMP, the local member, district councillors and representatives of Hertfordshire Highways. Following the meeting the objectors were then re-consulted with the recommendations. Two of the four objectors were willing to accept the proposal, but the others still wanted to be able to park outside their property all day, and thought the restrictions were heavy handed. After further correspondence with the chairman and vice-chairman of the NHJMP, the local member and district councillors it was recommended that we continue as proposed, as these objectors have driveways.

Apart from Hertfordshire Constabulary who had no objections, no other comments or objections were received from other consultees.

5. **Following consultation with, and the concurrence of the Executive Member, I am proceeding with the proposed decision.**

Signed:  Mr Richard Jones

Title: N&E Herts Area Service Manager Date: 5 April 2012

6. Copies of agreed document to:

- All consultees
- Chairman, and Vice-Chairman of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee
- hard copy (for public inspection) Assistant Head of Member Services - Room 211 County Hall.

¹ for guidance see Chief Legal Officer's note "Taking Decisions"

² details of any alternative options considered and rejected by the officer at the time the decision was made

³ record any conflict of interest declared by any Executive Member consulted. Also record any dispensations granted by the Council's Standards Committee

⁴ If the matter has general significance for the Council and/or is, or is likely to be, controversial, then the officer shall consult the appropriate Executive Member before proceeding. In some cases it will be necessary to consult more than one Executive Member, and in some cases the Leader of the Council will need to be consulted

⁵ If the matter has local significance, but no general significance for the Council and no controversial aspects, the officer shall consult or inform the local member in writing (or by e mail) and proceed. It is essential that all officers responsible for delivering services ensure that local members are kept well briefed on issues affecting their areas.