

## **Statement of Reasons**

### **PTO1058 – Bournes Green School – Parking Restrictions**

#### **Proposal**

Southend-on-Sea City Council are proposing to amend the current parking controls / restrictions in: Ladram Road, Burlescoombe Leas, Daines Close and Burlescoombe Close. The parking controls / restrictions are proposed to be amended permanently.

In Ladram Road, there was an Experimental Traffic Order (ETO) for this scheme, which expired prior to being implemented permanently, due to issues linked to COVID-19. However, due to the success of the scheme, backed up by a public consultation (further information provided below) it is now proposed to implement the waiting restrictions permanently.

The permanent waiting restrictions proposed in Ladram Road are No Waiting, Monday – Friday, 8am - 9.30am and 2.30pm – 4.30pm (single yellow lines). This will be in three locations in the road:

- On the west side, from the existing No Waiting at Any Time restrictions (southern end) at the junction with Burlescoombe Road, to meet the existing school keep clear restrictions (northern end).
- On the north side, from the common boundary of No.2 & No.4, to the common boundary of No.16 & No.18.
- On the south side, from the existing School Keep Clear restrictions (southern end), to the common boundary of No.11 & No.15.

The Council are also proposing to implement the scheme with the addition of waiting restrictions in three cul-de-sacs; Burlescoombe Leas, Daines Close and Burlescoombe Close.

The permanent waiting restrictions proposed in Burlescoombe Leas, Daines Close, Burlescoombe Close are No Waiting, Monday – Friday, 2pm – 3pm (single yellow lines). The extent of restrictions in all of the cul-de-sacs will be from the existing No Waiting at Any Time restrictions, along the entire length of the roads, both sides and including the turning heads.

#### **Background and Reasons**

A 'School Street' is a scheme which restricts access of motorised traffic to the roads outside schools, during school drop-off and pick-up times during term time only with the aim of creating a safer and less congested street around the school to encourage alternative and greener modes of transport such as cycling and walking, and improving air quality in and around our local schools. Funding was announced by the Secretary of State for Transport in May 2020 as part of the work to combat the COVID-19 pandemic. The grant funding supported local transport authorities with producing cycling and walking facilities.

As part of this initiative a school streets scheme was introduced to Bournes Green Infants School in Burlescoombe Road. Due to visibility concerns for School Street marshals, the School Street could not be extended to Ladram Road, to cover the Bournes Green Junior School entrance. Therefore waiting restrictions were also introduced in Ladram Road under an Experimental Traffic Order (ETO).

Following a meeting with Ward Councillors, the School Street was discussed and the wider implications of displacement parking caused by the school closure. It was agreed propose

waiting restrictions in Burlescoombe Close, Burlescoombe Leas and Daines Close. This aims to alleviate displacement parking.

The proposals aim to improve the operation of the parking controls to contribute to highway safety, improve sightlines and to reduce pedestrian/vehicle conflicts which is critical outside of a school. The permanent amendment to the parking restrictions in this area will ensure parking and traffic is managed while maintaining adequate access for emergency vehicles and general traffic flow, continuously. This is consistent with the Council's Vision and Corporate Priorities of Safe, Prosperous and Healthy. It also complies with the Council's Permit Parking Policies.

These proposals have been carefully considered, for a balance to accommodate residents and school children to this area of the City of Southend-on-Sea.

## **Consultation**

A residential and stakeholder consultation was carried out on *Your Say Southend* which ran from 12th October to 11th November 2022 for the School Streets at West Leigh and Bournes Green:

- A total of 1,200 people accessed the campaign of that 244 responded online, the rest were informed, but chose not to comment on the survey. The consultation included a survey with questions and a free text box for further comments requesting feedback on certain elements of the whole project. Not every respondent answered all the questions
- The consultation was promoted across social media and was available on the Council's interactive consultation portal <https://yoursay.southend.gov.uk/> it was also made available in a hardcopy format if requested. Letters were sent to those properties that fall under the proposed schemes. The results were as follows:
  - The overall consensus from those responding was that they understood and supported what the Council is trying to achieve in considering making permanent the School Street Scheme
  - Of those responding 85% do not feel that their day had been made more difficult due to the restrictions, 14% believed they had and 1% were unsure.
  - 66% stated that they would not support the School Streets being made permanent if we introduced further parking restrictions on the adjoining roads, 34% would support further parking restrictions.

## **Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984**

The sections which the City Council are using for the implementation of the proposed scheme as above are 1, 2, 4, and 122. The grounds that encompassed the reason for these proposals in Section 1 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 are:

- (a) for avoiding danger to persons or other traffic using the road or any other road or for preventing the likelihood of any such danger arising, or
- (b) for preventing damage to the road or to any building on or near the road, or
- (c) for preserving or improving the amenities of the area through which the road runs.

In addition, thorough consideration was given to the factors set out in Section 122 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 in proposing this scheme.

## **Traffic Signs Regulations and General Directions 2016**

All of the associated signing and lining will be in accordance with Traffic Signs Regulations and General Directions (TSRGD) 2016.

## **Equality Act 2010**

Thorough consideration was given to the equalities duty of Southend-on-Sea City Council under Section 149 of the Equality Act 2010.