

Report to: Andy Smith – Transport & Infrastructure section Head

Date: 06 October 2017

Report of: Brian Scott – Traffic Engineer

**THE BOROUGH OF WATFORD (WATFORD HOUSE LANE, WATFORD) (PROHIBITION OF WAITING,
LOADING & UNLOADING) ORDER 2017**

**THE BOROUGH OF WATFORD (WATFORD HOUSE LANE, WATFORD) (GOODS VEHICLE LOADING BAY)
ORDER 2017**

1.0 SUMMARY

1.1 The purpose of this report is:

1.1.1 To inform the Transport & Infrastructure Section Head of the need to implement the above Traffic Regulation Orders (TROs).

1.1.2 To seek authorisation to publish a “Notice of Proposals” and:

a) where no objections are received or where objections are subsequently withdrawn “Make” the TROs and:

b)where objections are received and not subsequently withdrawn, report the details of the objections together with Officer’s recommendations so that further instructions can be obtained.

1.1.3 To seek authorisation to consult residents and businesses in the immediate vicinity of the proposal by means of a letter and plan drawing their attention to the published “Notice of Proposals” and explaining how they can obtain more details of the proposals and make representations should they wish.

2.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

2.1 That the Transport & Infrastructure Section Head authorises all as described in paragraphs 1.1.2 and 1.1.3 above.

Contact Officer:

For further information on this report please contact:

Brian Scott	Traffic Engineer
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3.0 DETAILED PROPOSAL

- 3.1 In October 2016 Hertfordshire County Council (HCC) advertised a suite of Draft Traffic Orders inviting objection to its proposals to rationalise, update and amend the parking controls & traffic flow arrangements in Clarendon Road (between Beechen Grove and High Street). The driver for this work was HCCs desire to implement a Public Realm enhancement scheme for the section of Clarendon Road fronting The Palace Theatre which would involve the conversion of this section in to one-way operation (south-west bound) with a contraflow cycle-lane.
- 3.2 A number of formal objections were received by HCC including one from the owner of the land containing Watford House Lane, a short, narrow private road connecting Clarendon Road to Beechen Grove. The land owner raised concerns regarding the impact of HCCs proposals on the operation of Watford House Lane. Following negotiations between HCC and the land owner, HCC has agreed to seek the implementation of parking and loading controls on Watford House Lane as set out in the proposals contained within this report as a means of overcoming the objections raised. As this work will be of benefit to the Borough Council in terms of the proposals it is currently developing for enhancement of the High Street and in view of the fact that HCC have now requested the Borough Council to deliver the Clarendon Road scheme on its behalf, the Borough Council is pursuing the introduction of the parking measures which are the subject of this report on behalf of HCC.
- 3.3 Currently Watford House Lane is subject to parking controls introduced by the land owner and enforced by a private parking contractor which prohibits waiting and loading on both sides throughout its length save for a loading bay on the west side of the north-south arm where parking for the purposes of loading is permitted for a maximum of 10 minutes. Enforcement of the current 'private' parking controls is limited and the land owner is anxious for parking enforcement using the Council's Civil Parking Enforcement powers to be introduced so that more regular enforcement as part of the on-going regime in the rest of the town centre can be introduced.
- 3.4 The proposal seeks to introduce a parking regime which is similar in most respects to the current privately enforced scheme in that waiting & loading would be prohibited on both sides of the road at all times. The existing loading bay on the west side of the north-south arm would remain but with a maximum stay of 20 minutes (currently 10 minutes) and no return within 2 hours. The only significant change compared to the current scheme is a proposal to introduce a second loading bay to accommodate one car/ van on the west side close to the Beechen Grove junction. As with the first bay, the proposal is for a maximum stay of 20 minutes with no return within 2 hours. A plan illustrating the proposals is shown at **appendix A**.
- 3.6 The Police and the Highway Authority (Hertfordshire County Council) have been consulted on the detail of the scheme and the content of the draft Orders. Minor comments from Hertfordshire County Council relating to the content of the Orders have been incorporated and neither has raised any substantive objections.

4.0 IMPLICATIONS

4.1 Financial

4.1.1 The cost of promoting and processing the traffic orders and implementing the scheme is estimated at £2,500. The cost is to be met by Hertfordshire County Council.

4.1.2 As the project costs are to be fully met by HCC, the Director of Finance has no comment to make on the content of the report.

4.2 Legal Issues (Monitoring Officer)

4.2.1 The Watford Borough Council, pursuant to arrangements made under Section 19 of the Local Government Act 2000 and the Local Government (Arrangements for Discharge of Functions) (England) Regulations 2000 with the Hertfordshire County Council, and in exercise of the powers conferred on that County Council under Sections 1, 2(1), 2(2), 4(2) and 45,46,46a,49,51,53,55,61,99,100-102 to the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 ("the Act of 1984") and of all other enabling powers, and after consulting with the Chief Officer of Police in accordance with Part III of Schedule 9 to the Act of 1984, may make traffic regulation orders and implement proposals to manage parking on public highways and other roads.

4.2.2 The Head of Democracy & Governance comments that if the recommendation is approved then the necessary statutory procedure will require consultation and may lead to a public inquiry should any objections not be resolved.

4.3 Equalities

4.3.1 A generic Equalities Impact Assessment has been carried out for parking schemes which has been considered and approved by the Equalities Working Group. It is available to view on the Council's website.

4.4 Potential Risks

4.4.1	Potential Risk	Likelihood	Impact	Overall score
	Some members of the public will perceive on-street parking controls as an unnecessary imposition by the Council.	2	1	2
	Failure to implement new parking controls at locations where road safety is perceived to be at risk could result in damage to the Council's reputation	2	2	4
	If objection to the introduction of a prohibition on waiting and loading is received and cannot be	2	4	8

resolved then a public inquiry would result giving rise to significant delay and potential frustration of the scheme.			
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Appendices

Appendix A Plan of proposals. (Drawing 824-825-1)

Background Papers

Copies of:
 The "Draft Order"
 A statement of reasons for making this Order.

NOTIFICATION OF OFFICER DECISION

THE BOROUGH OF WATFORD (WATFORD HOUSE LANE, WATFORD) (PROHIBITION OF WAITING, LOADING & UNLOADING) ORDER 2017

THE BOROUGH OF WATFORD (WATFORD HOUSE LANE, WATFORD) (GOODS VEHICLE LOADING BAY) ORDER 2017

Decision Summary

1. That a "Notice of Proposals" is published and for those proposals where no objections are received or where objections are subsequently withdrawn "Make" the Traffic Orders and where objections are received and not subsequently withdrawn, report the details of the objections together with Officer's recommendations so that further instructions can be obtained.
2. That residents and businesses in the immediate vicinity of the proposals be consulted by means of a letter and plan drawing their attention to the published "Notice of Proposals" and explaining how they can obtain more details of the proposals and make representations should they wish.

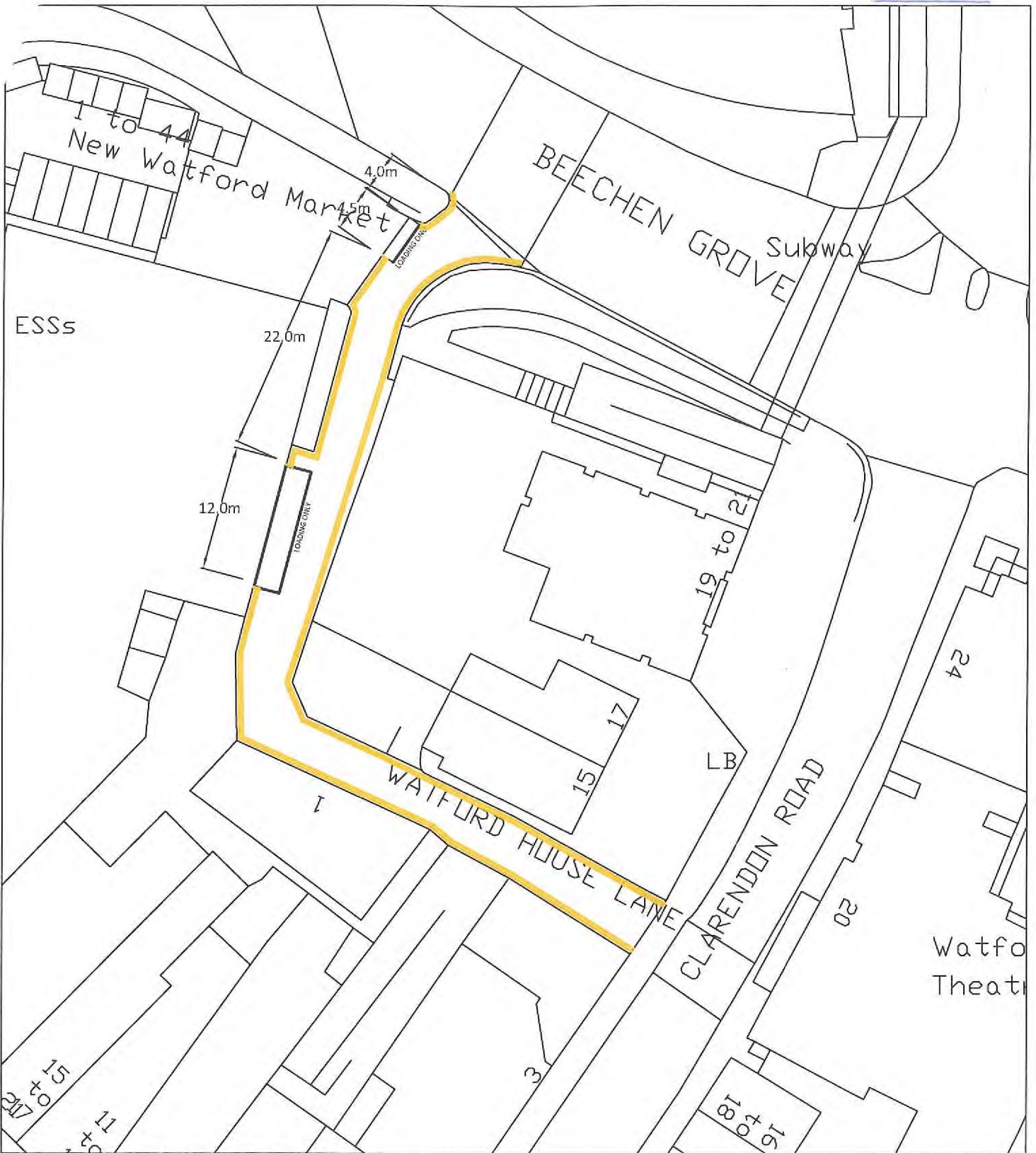
Name of Officer exercising delegated authority:

Andy Smith, Transport & Infrastructure Section Head.

Signature: A. J. Smith

Date: 10th OCTOBER 2017

END



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Location: Watford House Lane, Watford	
Description: The Borough of Watford (Prohibition of waiting, Loading & Unloading) Order 2017; The Borough of Watford (Watford House Lane) (goods vehicle loading bays) order 2017 CONSULTATION PLAN	
Date: October 2017	Drawn by: BS
Scale: 1: 500 at A4	Drawing No: 824/ 825/ 2

Key:
 Proposed no waiting/ no loading
 Proposed vehicle loading bay
 Max stay 20 mins; no return within 2 hours

WATFORD
 Borough Council
 Town Hall
 Watford
 WD17 3EX