

## **Traffic Regulation Orders: Review of Market and Coastal Towns Traffic Management Arrangements**

Report of the Head of Highways and Traffic Management

***Please note that the following recommendations are subject to consideration and determination by the Committee before taking effect.***

**Recommendation: It is recommended that:**

- (a) the work carried out to date on Parking and Traffic Management Reviews is noted, and**
- (b) the process for reviewing and implementing traffic regulation orders in towns is noted.**

### **1. Summary**

This report details the work carried out to date on the Parking and Traffic Management Reviews and the proposed principle for carrying out reviews in the future.

### **2. Background**

At the last meeting on 5 March 2012, this Committee considered the joint report of the Head of Planning, Transportation and Environment and Head of Highways and Traffic Management (PTE/12/9) on the various programme of works for the next three years in the Torrige area funded from the Local Transport Plan Integrated Transport Block and corporate funding.

In addition to the programme of works included in this report, a provision has been made within the On-Street Parking Account Programme for 'Parking reviews of market & coastal towns & implementation of traffic regulation orders'. This programme was considered and agreed by Cabinet, 14 March 2012, report HTM/12/16 refers.

In the past couple of years, Highways and Traffic Management officers have been working with local Members and Town Councils where pay and display proposals were previously advertised; reviewing the traffic management arrangements within those towns, looking at the parking and traffic issues in a more holistic way and reviewing traffic regulation orders.

To date, work has progressed in the following locations:

- **Budleigh Salterton** - Pay and Display on seafront agreed with Town Council, amendment currently being advertised. Implementation in Summer 2012.
- **Combe Martin** – Pay and display introduced at the end of 2010.
- **Dartmouth** – Town Council working on a traffic management plan, currently carrying out a residents' survey to establish local priorities.
- **Honiton** – Town Council working on a Traffic Management Plan for the town.
- **Ilfracombe** – Pay and display introduced in 2011.
- **Kingsbridge** – review of Traffic Regulation Orders (TROs) currently being undertaken with Town Council.
- **Lynton and Lynmouth** - Local Member carried out a review of parking.
- **Okehampton** - Town Council working on a Traffic Management Plan for the town.

- **Seaton** – Pay and display introduced in 2010 and a review of traffic orders is currently being carried out with the Local Member.
- **Tavistock** – Traffic Management review taking place with local Member and stakeholders, long and short term actions to be agreed by working group. Short term actions to be implemented as soon as practicable.

In addition to these towns, a review of parking took place last year in **Newton Abbot**, resulting in the implementation of further residents parking and pay and display schemes. **Totnes** is currently being considered as one of the Local Sustainable Transport Fund towns and traffic orders will be reviewed as part of that process. As part of the Market and Coastal Towns Rural Foundation programme local schemes, previously reported, there is also a scheme to consider ‘moving traffic’ regulation orders in **Barnstaple**, and any other traffic orders required will be considered at the same time.

### **3. Proposal**

Whilst Traffic Management Reviews are being progressed in 11 out of the 28 Market and Coastal towns, there are a further 17 towns that have not recently been considered as part of the above programmes. It is therefore proposed that Parking and Traffic Management reviews are carried out within these towns over the next few years, as a rolling programme, in consultation with local Members and Town Councils, as appropriate and available resources allow.

It is proposed that in the future, whenever possible, traffic regulation orders will be progressed on a town by town basis, rather than on an ad-hoc basis. This Review process and any resulting traffic regulation orders will be funded from the On-Street Parking Account programme as described above. The County’s Traffic Orders Team will lead on the Reviews of towns. Neighbourhood Highway Teams will also play a vital role in the Review process by assessing and consulting on requests for amendments to traffic orders. Following agreement by the Town Council and Local Member, potential traffic orders will be collated for consideration for when the next full review takes place.

A new traffic order outside of this review process may still be considered if safety critical and resources allow. However, wherever possible if a traffic regulation order is not safety critical, it will be preferable to include it within a town’s Review.

It is noted from the minutes of the last meeting that Members consider a review is required urgently in Torrington. If the local Member agrees, capacity can be made to deliver a review of traffic orders in Torrington during this financial year. This review can be funded from the On-Street Account and will be led by the Traffic Orders Team with support from the Neighbourhood Highway Team.

### **4. Consultations/Representations**

Parking and Traffic Management reviews will be carried out in consultation with the Local Member and Town Councils. Any traffic orders resulting from the review process will be advertised in line with national regulations and residents will have an opportunity to comments and object to proposed orders.

### **5. Financial Considerations**

The cost of carrying out reviews will be funded from the On-Street Parking Account. Where new traffic orders are identified, the advertisement and implementations costs will also be funded from this account. It is recognised that these reviews need to take place to ensure that parking and traffic management restrictions best meet customer needs.

## 6. Legal Considerations

There are no specific legal considerations of the proposed course of action. As set out above, any traffic orders required as a result of the reviews will require advertisement and implementation in line with national legislation.

## 7. Risk Management Considerations

No risks have been identified.

## 8. Options/Alternatives

In order to ensure that traffic regulations are fit for purpose and meet customer needs, they may need amending from time to time and will require a regular review. The alternatives to deliver this are:

- Status-quo, if current traffic regulations are working and are meeting the needs of customers.
- Ad-hoc amendments as and when required. This can be costly as it will result in advertisement and resources each time an amendment is required.
- Regular reviews on a town by town basis. This can be programmed according to requirements and resources available, with amendments made to the traffic orders on a town wide basis, addressing all issues and concerns in a single amendment. This is a more efficient method and use of resource.

## 9. Reason for Conclusion

Wherever possible, the review of parking and traffic management restrictions will be carried out on a town by town basis, as set out above. This is an efficient method of review and amendment, that can be programmed and resourced as required.

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Head of Highways and Traffic Management

## Electoral Divisions: All in Torridge

Local Government Act 1972: List of Background Papers

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Background Paper	Date	File Reference
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None

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sc/cr/TRO review 2012 market and coastal towns  
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