

Sidmouth Residents Parking Scheme Update Report

Report of the Chief Officer for Highways, Infrastructure Development and Waste

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

Recommendation: It is recommended that:

- (i) progress is noted; and**
- (ii) the scheme proceeds to formal advertising and consultation once the extent of the residents parking area has been agreed by local Member.**

1. Summary

This report is to update Members on the proposed Sidmouth Residents Parking Scheme (RPS) and to confirm the next stage, as part of the Sidmouth Traffic Management Plan programme.

2. Background

In December 2018 the East Devon HATOC approved the formal advertising and consultation of a proposed RPS for Sidmouth. It was agreed that the extent of the scheme area was to be determined by the Chair/local Member and additional informal consultation with residents of Sidford was required to determine whether they wanted to be included in the proposal.

3. Consultations/Representations

The informal consultation process in Sidford was undertaken in May/June 2021 and the results demonstrate approximately two thirds of residents do not support being in the scheme area. Therefore, after discussion with the local Member it has been decided that Sidford should not be included in the formal advertisement for the Sidmouth RPS.

The informal consultation already undertaken in Sidmouth demonstrated opinion is divided between different areas and representative groups, and that further analysis and discussion is required to identify a feasible and practical scheme area that has widespread support.

Therefore, the scheme area will be finalised and approved by the local member in line with the current HATOC resolution.

4. Financial Considerations

Estimated cost of the proposals is unknown until the scheme area has been finalised.

A total of £100,000 has been set aside from the capital programme to fund Traffic Management Plans on a County-wide basis. It is intended to draw upon this funding to progress the scheme for Sidmouth.

5. Legal Considerations

The lawful implications and consequences of the proposal have been considered and taken into account in the preparation of this report.

When making a Traffic Regulation Order it is the County Council's responsibility to ensure that all relevant legislation is complied with. This includes Section 122 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 that states that it is the duty of a local authority, so far as practicable, secures the expeditious, convenient and safe movement of traffic and provision of parking facilities. It is considered that the proposals comply with Section 122 of the Act as they practically secure the safe and expeditious movement of traffic.

The proposals are subject to the statutory advertising and consultation process which will be undertaken before any decisions regarding implementation can be made.

6. Environmental Impact Considerations (Including Climate Change)

The potential introduction of restrictions will remove commuter parking in residential areas. This will encourage sustainable travel and reduce traffic looking for a parking space, and improve air quality and road safety.

7. Equality Considerations

There are not considered to be any equality issues associated with the proposals as no new policies are proposed. The impact will therefore be neutral.

8. Risk Management Considerations

No risks have been identified. However, a Minor Schemes Safety Assessment will be undertaken to consider signing and lining elements agreed by Committee. All potential impacts and considerations will be reviewed once a scheme area has been confirmed.

9. Public Health Impact

The scheme will have a potential positive public health impact by encouraging sustainable and active travel for commuters, with associated health benefits. Supporting active travel, such as walking and cycling, is a key component of the Devon 'Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy 2013-16.

10. Reasons for Recommendations

The proposals rationalise existing parking arrangements within the HATOC area by:

- Enabling enforcement to be undertaken efficiently.
- Encouraging those working in the town to make more sustainable travel choices e.g. Car Share, Public Transport, Walking and Cycling.
- Reduce traffic in residential areas, potentially improving road safety and air quality.

The proposals contribute to the safe and expeditious movement of traffic in East Devon and therefore comply with Section 122 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984.

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Electoral Division: Sidmouth

Local Government Act 1972: List of Background Papers

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Background Paper	Date	File Ref.
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Nil

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