

**SOUTH ESSEX PARKING PARTNERSHIP
(TRAFFIC REGULATION ORDERS) SUB COMMITTEE**

WEDNESDAY 14TH FEBRUARY 2024 – 3.15PM

AGENDA ITEM 6

Subject	THE ESSEX COUNTY COUNCIL (CHELMSFORD CITY) (PROHIBITION OF WAITING, LOADING AND STOPPING) AND (ON-STREET PARKING PLACES) (CIVIL ENFORCEMENT AREA) (AMENDMENT NO.56) ORDER 202*
	Relating to Forest Drive, Chelmsford
Report by	South Essex Parking Partnership Manager

Enquiries Contact
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Purpose
 To report the receipt of representations made on part of The Essex County Council (Chelmsford City) (Prohibition of Waiting, Loading and Stopping) and (On-Street Parking Places) (Civil Enforcement Area) (Amendment No.56) Order 202*

Options
 The Joint Committee has the following options available:

1. to agree that the proposed Order be made as advertised.
2. to agree that the proposed Order be made subject to modifications which result in less restrictive provisions or reduced scope; or
3. to agree that the proposed Order should not be made.

Recommendation(s)

1. The Order be made as advertised.
2. The people making representations be advised accordingly.

Consulters	South Essex Parking Partnership
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Policies and Strategies
 The report takes into account the South Essex Parking Partnership Document setting out how the SEPP will deal with requests for parking restrictions requiring TROs.

1.	<p><u>Background</u> The purpose of this Order is to amend The Essex County Council (Chelmsford City) (Prohibition of Waiting, Loading and Stopping) and (On-Street Parking Places) (Civil Enforcement Area) Consolidation Order 2019 as set out below:</p>
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- 1.1 The SEPP received a completed application form on 12 June 2022 from Cllr Lardge requesting 'No Waiting at Any Time' restrictions on the northern side of Forest Drive between Ravensbourne Drive and Harewood Road. The request is to prevent vehicles parking both sides of Forest Drive; causing congestion, access issues and obstruction of the pavement for pedestrians. The application form contained a petition with signatures from 7 residents and also the support of Cllr Eleanor Sampson.
- 1.2 Following receipt of the application the SEPP carried out a number of site visits. During the site visits conducted, several vehicles were observed parking on Forest Drive between Ravensbourne Drive and Harewood Road. Several of these vehicles parked half on/off the pavement and many vehicles were observed parking on both sides of the road. Although no access issues were observed, it was noted that vehicles parking on both sides of the road could cause potential access issues for larger vehicles. There is high demand for parking in this area, due to local amenities, commuter parking and residential properties without off-street parking. However, the highway is intended for the purposes of passing and re-passing and no right of parking exists. Parking provision is therefore a concession and, however desirable, should not be at the expense of the purpose of the highway. Where it is safe and desirable parking can be allowed.
- 1.3 It has been agreed with the SEPP Joint Committee Member and Lead Officer for parking matters for Chelmsford to cost a scheme to propose 'No Waiting at Any Time' restrictions on Forest Drive as per the below example. The cost of the scheme is estimated at £3000 but will be reduced if incorporated with other roads in Chelmsford to publish one Traffic Regulation Order.



- 1.4 The request was placed before the South Essex Parking Partnership Joint Committee on 28 July 2022 for funding. It was agreed at the meeting to proceed with the necessary Traffic Regulation Order.

1.5	<p>SEPP Policy - 1.6 It is acknowledged that all requests for a parking restriction will carry some form of merit and may be beneficial to the particular area. The requests will be submitted for a variety of reasons and depending on the circumstance will be considered as a high or low funding priority to the Partnership. As the amount of funding available for new schemes is limited it is the intention of this policy to provide a criteria, which if met, will be considered a high priority scheme for the Partnership and therefore stand a greater chance of receiving the available funding. Schemes that do not meet all the criteria can still be progressed and considered by the Joint Committee, but schemes with a higher priority will take precedence. All schemes will be subject to available funding.</p> <p>SEPP Policy - 7.1 The SEPP will receive all parking restriction requests that do not meet the criteria of ECC safety and congestion policies, detailed above. Although these schemes do not meet the ECC criteria the Partnership may decide to implement parking restrictions to improve safety and sight lines, if the Partnership consider that the restriction will be beneficial to the area.</p>
1.6	<p>The Order was originally published in the Essex Chronicle and on site on 5th October 2023, and copies of the Draft Order were sent to a number of organisations including Essex Police, Essex County Council (the highway authority), Essex Fire & Rescue Service, Essex Ambulance Service, the Road Haulage Association, the Freight Transport Association, and the Chamber of Commerce and Industry.</p>
1.7	<p>When the Order was published on 5th October 2023 a 21-day period of formal public consultation commenced.</p>
2	<u>Comments</u>
2.1	<p>The details of the representations are summarised in Appendix 2 to this report together with the comments of the Technicians.</p>
3	<u>Conclusion</u>
3.1	<p>Although the correspondents have made a number of points which lead them to believe the Order should not be pursued in whole or part, the SEPP Joint Committee Member, Lead Officer and Technicians consider that none of them are of sufficient weight to warrant the Order not being made.</p>
<p><u>List of Appendices</u> Appendix 1 – List of people making representations Appendix 2 – Summary of objections or support and Technicians comments</p>	

APPENDIX 1

Ref	List of people making representations	Type
1	Email from resident of Forest Drive dated 04/10/2023.	Object
2	Email dated 05/10/2023.	Support
3	Online response from resident of Forest Drive dated 05/10/2023.	Object
4	Email from resident of Forest Drive dated 07/10/2023.	Object

APPENDIX 2

**REPRESENTATIONS & RESPONSES FOLLOWING FORMAL ADVERTISEMENT
05 OCTOBER 2023 – 27 OCTOBER 2023**

Representations & Responses relating to Forest Drive, Chelmsford		
Ref	Representation	Technician Response
1	<p><u>Email 1:</u> Dear Technician</p> <p>Thank you for your letter dated 3rd October 2023 relating to Forest Drive, Chelmsford.</p> <p>I live at [REDACTED] Forest Drive, which is a CHP property. I have a strong view about this proposal, I have 2 vehicles at my address and not being able to park outside my property is so frustrating because of people parking here that do not live on the road and also I've had my car damaged by cars and pedestrians.</p> <p>I have enquired to my landlord CHP if they would install a drive way, my front garden could hold up to 4 cars. I'm the only one on my side of the road without a drive way. Unfortunately this is something I cannot afford to do myself. If I could I would. There are many more chp properties on Forest Drive that are in the same position. And if they wasn't the majority of the cars wouldn't be on the road parked. A vast majority of the cars belong to chp properties tenants.</p> <p>I think it would be beneficial for the change to be permit or on street parking places, but these must be allocated to the owners/tenants of those who live in this area. Otherwise those from outside the area will continue to park here. I want to support the proposal.</p> <p>I would like to hear your views on chp properties not having drive ways.</p> <p>Kind regards</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p> <p><u>Email 2:</u> It doesn't state where people will be parking. Would there not be parking facilities?</p>	<p>Objection noted.</p> <p>It is acknowledged that if the proposal goes ahead, it will limit on-street parking on Forest Drive between Ravensbourne Drive and Harewood Road. However, the width of the carriageway cannot accommodate parking on both sides of the road. Therefore, this proposal seeks to aid traffic flow and improve sightlines and access. All vehicles, resident or otherwise, should avoid parking in locations that would impede sightlines or traffic flow.</p> <p>It is acknowledged that this proposal will have an impact on some residents without off-street parking. However, it should be noted that the highway is intended for the purposes of passing and re-passing and that no right of parking exists. Parking provision is therefore a concession and, however desirable, should not be at the</p>

	<p>Kind regards</p> <p>██████████</p> <p>Email 3: Does it mean there will be no where for anyone to park?</p> <p>Kind regards</p> <p>██████████</p> <p>Email 4: Thank you. I can see that no parking will be available for residents. We cannot be expected to park away from our homes. Why hasn't parking spaces be allocated?</p> <p>Kind regards</p> <p>██████████</p> <p>Email 5: Sorry to keep emailing. Obviously this is going to affect me greatly. There won't be enough room to park. So I am worried what I'm going to do. I've contacted chp and asked them if a driveway could be fitted but I doubt it. There won't be enough spaces on the south side for that many cars.</p> <p>Kind regards</p> <p>██████████</p>	<p>expense of the purpose of the highway. Where it is safe and desirable parking can be allowed. Although some residents may not be able to park directly outside their property, unrestricted on-street parking will still be available in safe locations.</p>
2	I fully support the adobe parking planned restrictions	Support noted.
3	<p>Advice please.</p> <p>We have one off street parking space with a dropped kerb.</p> <p>Question 1. We have Carers (2 Carers sometimes in two cars) visiting 5 times a day for 30 minutes each period - where should they park ?</p> <p>Question 2. We have a community minibus (Essex County Council funded) visit 2 days a week to transport a resident to day care - are they able to stop on a double yellow to load and unload ? If not what options are there ?</p> <p>Question 3. Family visit regularly to assist this may be more than 1 car so where does the 2nd car park ?</p>	<p>Objection noted.</p> <p>It is acknowledged that if the proposal goes ahead, it will limit on-street parking on Forest Drive between Ravensbourne Drive and Harewood Road. However, the width of the</p>

Much of the parking issues in Forest Drive are created by non-residents whom appear to mainly using the railway station or working in nearby retail and warehousing estates etc.
In a previous review you failed to institute parking permits and the parking issues have been exacerbated by this failure and the parking zones you instituted on Beachenlee Estate resulting in pushing more non-resident parking onto Forest Drive area. As we have been resident in [REDACTED] Forest Drive since [REDACTED] and have tolerated the increasing parking problems for many years and so are now not happy to face a complete ban on make our property inaccessible.
We would expect Chelmsford City Council to support us as residents but putting in place parking restrictions will make it impossible for carers and family members carry out their existing responsibilities as there will be nowhere to park to access the property.

carriageway cannot accommodate parking on both sides of the road. Therefore, this proposal seeks to aid traffic flow and improve sightlines and access. All vehicles, resident or otherwise, should avoid parking in locations that would impede sightlines or traffic flow.

It should be noted that the highway is intended for the purposes of passing and re-passing and that no right of parking exists. Parking provision is therefore a concession and, however desirable, should not be at the expense of the purpose of the highway. Where it is safe and desirable parking can be allowed. Although some residents may not be able to park directly outside their property, unrestricted on-street parking will still be available in safe locations.

It should be noted vehicles are permitted to load and unload on yellow line restrictions.

The SEPP have carried out numerous parking reviews with the Beechenlea Estate and Westlands Estate relating to Permit parking. The SEPP

		<p>require at least 50% of residents to respond to a parking review with at least 50% of those that respond supporting the change. When a parking review was carried out with the Beechenlea Estate there was a clear show of support for the scheme with the response rates being met. However, when a parking review was carried out with the residents of the Westlands Estate there was a clear lack of support for the scheme with only 22% of residents responding.</p>
<p>4</p>	<p>Hi,</p> <p>I want to officially object to the proposal for placing no parking within this stretch of road on Forest drive. There are several issues which you should be addressing in advance of effecting the actual residents.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Speak with CHP and work together on a proposal to turn the front gardens into driveways. CHP were not even aware of this proposal. • Speak with the companies on Waterhouse lane, opposite Forest Drive, as all the workers believe that Forest Drive is there parking area whilst they are working. • You placed double yellow lines opposite the shops on Forest Drive, this has done absolutely nothing, as vehicles still park there. <p>Why have you only placed the notices at both ends of the proposed area and not through the middle, where the residents actually live?</p> <p>Why is it that in the private housing areas nearby, Permit parking has been implemented, but with this area in question which is Majority CHP owned and social housing tenants, this feels very much like discrimination against us.</p>	<p>Objection noted.</p> <p>Vehicle crossings come under the remit of Essex Highways (the Highway authority). In addition, permission of the proprietor must be sought.</p> <p>Forest Drive is public highway and is not for the exclusive use of the adjacent residents.</p> <p>Comments regarding enforcement have been noted and have been passed to our Enforcement team.</p> <p>This proposal was published in the Essex Chronicle on 05/10/2023, site notices were</p>

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██████ Forest Drive

also placed on-street in various locations and letters were sent to affected residents. It is felt that residents were fully informed of the proposal.

The SEPP have carried out numerous parking reviews with the Beechenlea Estate and Westlands Estate relating to Permit parking. The SEPP require at least 50% of residents to respond to a parking review with at least 50% of those that respond supporting the change. When a parking review was carried out with the Beechenlea Estate there was a clear show of support for the scheme with the response rates being met. However, when a parking review was carried out with the Westlands Estate there was a clear lack of support for the scheme with only 22% of residents responding.