

NOTICE OF PROPOSAL (PUBLIC CONSULTATION) REPORT

STATION ROAD, HEMEL HEMPSTEAD

Client: Dacorum Borough Council

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REPORT CONTROL

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 (Public Consultation) Report Dacorum Borough Council

Project: Station Road, Hemel Hempstead

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1.0 INTRODUCTION AND PROPOSALS

1.1 Context

- 1.1.1 Concerns have been raised with regards to the current gap in the existing No Waiting at Any Time (Double Yellow Line) restrictions on the north-western side of Station Road, Hemel Hempstead immediately southwest of its junction with The Plough Roundabout.
- 1.1.2 Dacorum Borough Council are therefore undertaking a review of the current parking arrangements here. As part of this review, a site assessment was undertaken by officers in April 2022 and following this a design has been produced outlining the proposed changes on the section of road under investigation.

1.2 Proposals

- 1.2.1 The proposed alterations to the existing parking arrangements on Station Road are shown in Appendix A and outlined below.
- 1.2.2 Additional No Waiting at Any Time (Double Yellow Line) restrictions are proposed on Station Road to fill in a gap that currently exists on its north-western side immediately southwest of its junction with The Plough Roundabout.
- 1.2.3 Currently, vehicles are parking on the verge and occasionally straddling the verge and the road itself. This is causing an obstruction to passing traffic on Station Road, which is a very busy major through route in the town, contributing to concerns about road safety and amenity at this location.

2.0 NOTICE OF PROPOSAL (PUBLIC CONSULTATION)

2.1 Methodology

- 2.1.1 The Notice of Proposal (Public Consultation) process took place from 22nd June 2022 to 21st July 2022 – a period of 4 weeks.
- 2.1.2 During this process, Site Notices and Plans were erected on street furniture on site, the Notice of Proposal documents were made available on the Council website, and they were also published in the Hemel Hempstead Gazette. A copy of the Site Notice and Plan was also directly posted to residents and businesses of the area – a total of 297 addresses.
- 2.1.3 A copy of the Notice of Proposal document package was sent to all Statutory Consultees. A copy of this is included as Appendix B.

2.2 Consultation Responses

- 2.2.1 Following the completion of the Notice of Proposal (Public Consultation) process, two responses were received from the Statutory Consultees. The Traffic Management Unit of Hertfordshire Police noted the proposals with no comment. The District Commander for Hertfordshire Fire and Rescue Service offered no objections to the proposal.
- 2.2.2 Fourteen responses were received from the general public. Thirteen were in support of the scheme and one was in objection to the scheme.
- 2.2.3 The one objection represents 0.3% of the total consulted properties. The objector stated that they currently park on the verge and that they do not have a residents parking permit. However, there are parking places provided within the tower blocks located adjacent to Station Road exclusively for residents and there are resident permit parking bays on Cotterells.
- 2.2.4 Additionally, the current parking trends on Station Road cause a severe obstruction for vehicles travelling upon it which is detrimental to road safety and amenity.

2.3 Conclusion

2.3.1 It is clear that the vast majority of the general public consider the scheme to be acceptable, with just one objection being raised.

2.3.2 No objections have been received from the Statutory Consultees.

2.3.3 Further, the scheme aligns with the following sections of the Road Traffic Regulation Order 1984:

- Section 1 (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.
- Section 1 (c) For facilitating the passage on the road or any other road of any class of traffic (including pedestrians).
- Section 1 (f) for preserving or improving the amenities of the area through which the road runs.
- Section 122(2)(a) Securing and maintaining reasonable access to premises.
- Section 122(2)(c) Facilitating the passage of public service vehicles.

3.0 RECOMMENDATION

- 3.1 In light of the above and the above, it is recommended that the proposals be implemented in full as shown in Appendix A.