

# Agenda Item IMD36

## INDIVIDUAL EXECUTIVE MEMBER DECISION REFERENCE IMD: 2016/36

<b>TITLE</b>	<b>Nightingale Road, Woodley - Proposed Traffic Regulation Order 2016</b>
<b>DECISION TO BE MADE BY</b>	Cllr. Malcolm Richards, Executive Member for Highways and Transport
<b>DATE AND TIME</b>	Friday 16 December 2016, 2.30pm
<b>WARD</b>	South Lake
<b>DIRECTOR</b>	Josie Wragg, Interim <b>Error! Bookmark not defined.</b> Director of Environment
<b>REPORT TO BE PUBLISHED ON</b>	Thursday 8 December 2016
<b>VENUE</b>	Room LGF2, lower ground floor, Shute End offices

### **OUTCOME / BENEFITS TO THE COMMUNITY**

Following a formal advertisement of proposals to introduce double yellow lines to protect the turning head at the western end of Nightingale Road, and to keep an entrance to an electrical substation clear, it is recommended that the proposals in the turning ahead are abandoned and an advisory Access Protection Marking (APM) is installed to protect the sub-station entrance. This change reflects the majority view of responses to the advertisement, whilst safeguarding the access to the substation entrance should the need arise in an emergency.

### **RECOMMENDATION**

It is recommended that the Executive Member for Highways and Planning:

- 1) Abandons the proposed WOKINGHAM BOROUGH COUNCIL (NIGHTINGALE ROAD, WOODLEY) (PROHIBITION OF WAITING) ORDER 20XX
- 2) Instruct officers to install an APM across the electrical substation.
- 3) Instruct officers to inform those who have responded accordingly.

### **SUMMARY OF REPORT**

Following concerns from a local ward member, on behalf of a constituent, the Council proposed a Traffic Regulation Order (TRO) to introduce short stretches of yellow lines in Nightingale Road near an electricity substation and at the end of the cul-de-sac that leads to a footbridge to Earley Station. The TRO was advertised in July 2016 and letters were sent to statutory consultees, organisations and local residents. 12 responses were received, with only minor support for some of the proposals. The report recommends abandoning the order but installing an advisory marking near the substation.

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## **Background**

Rail commuter-parking takes place in Nightingale Road, at the western 'cul-de-sac' end, where there is a pedestrian footbridge over the A3290 to Earley station. In 2015, local ward member Cllr Laura Blumenthal raised concerns on behalf of a constituent about emergency access to the electricity substation in this section of road and that some vehicles parked on verges nearby. Officers visited the site and recommended some short stretched of yellow lines, at the substation entrance and in the turning head of the cul-de-sac only, in order to minimize any displacement of the commuter parking into nearby residential streets.

The proposed yellow lines are illustrated on Drawing No. 5049-2156

A notice of proposal was published in the Reading Chronicle on the 28 July 2016 with a deadline for responses by the 18 August 2016; a copy of the notice was erected on-street. A letter was also sent to statutory consultees and other organisations, including 14 local residents.

## **Responses to TRO Consultation**

The Council received 12 replies.

Another local ward member supports the proposals outside the electricity substation entrance but objects to the proposals in the turning head. The Police also share that view. Woodley Town council had no objection to the proposals.

Of the other 9 replies, 6 respondents objected and 2 commented upon the proposals (including one who made partial objections).

In general, no comments were received in support of the proposals to prohibit parking in the turning head, but the proposal to restrict parking outside the electricity substation had some degree of support.

All consultation feedback is detailed in appendix A.

## **Recommendation and Conclusion**

Based on the consultation response, the overwhelming view was that the proposed restrictions in the turning head should not go ahead. There was support to restrict parking outside the electricity substation. Officers consider that the latter issue can be resolved by means of a white advisory Access Protection Marking (APM), without the need for a TRO. Further contact with the local Fire Brigade has indicated they would support this approach and that in practice they would always contact the substation managers before choosing to gain entry. It is therefore recommended to abandon the proposed order, but proceed with an APM marking.

## FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS OF THE RECOMMENDATION

*The Council faces severe financial challenges over the coming years as a result of the austerity measures implemented by the Government and subsequent reductions to public sector funding. It is estimated that Wokingham Borough Council will be required to make budget reductions in excess of £20m over the next three years and all Executive decisions should be made in this context.*

	How much will it Cost/ (Save)	Is there sufficient funding – if not quantify the Shortfall	Revenue or Capital?
Current Financial Year (Year 1)	£50	Yes	Revenue
Next Financial Year (Year 2)			
Following Financial Year (Year 3)			

### Other financial information relevant to the Recommendation/Decision

N/A

### Cross-Council Implications

It does not impact on other services

### SUMMARY OF CONSULTATION RESPONSES

<b>Director – Finance and Resources</b>	No response
<b>Monitoring Officer</b>	No response
<b>Leader of the Council</b>	I totally agree with the recommendation to abandon the substantive proposal here. Clearly there is an underlying parking issue here but it is clear that there isn't a significant solution to this issue.
<b>Town and Parish Councils</b>	
Woodley Town Council	Woodley Town Council's Planning Committee considered the proposal and had no objections.
<b>Local Ward Members</b>	
Cllr Laura Blumenthal	I understand the main concern is access to the power station for safety reasons. However, as the Fire Service and the electricity company which owns the site have not expressed any concerns about the safety of the area I don't know how necessary the original proposals are. Cars seem to respect the access space outside the opening of the power station and I understand there is also access to the site from the A3290. A number of cars park in the area to commute from Earley train

	station and we need to be mindful of displacing cars to elsewhere in the area such as Hazel Drive. On balance I don't think the proposed changes are necessary or will make a positive difference to the area. Therefore, I support the recommendation to abandon the original proposal.
Cllr Beth Rowlands	No further response received.

<b>List of Background Papers</b>
Notice of Intent, Statement of Reasons, Drawing Number 5049-2156, consultation letter and responses. <a href="#">Consultation</a>

<b>Contact</b> Mike Horton	<b>Service</b> Environment
<b>Telephone No</b> 0118 974 6000 (x 6202)	<b>Email</b> <a href="mailto:traffic.management@wokingham.gov.uk">traffic.management@wokingham.gov.uk</a>
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