

SOUTH ESSEX PARKING PARTNERSHIP JOINT COMMITTEE MEETING

THURSDAY 15th DECEMBER 2022 – 3.00PM

AGENDA ITEM 6

Subject	The Essex County Council (Rochford District) (Prohibition of Waiting, Loading and Stopping) And (On-Street Parking Places) (Civil Enforcement Area) (Amendment No.7) Order 202* Relating to Louise Road and Helena Road, Rayleigh
Report by	South Essex Parking Partnership Manager

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Purpose:

To report the receipt of representations made on part of The Essex County Council (Rochford District) (Prohibition of Waiting, Loading and Stopping) And (On-Street Parking Places) (Civil Enforcement Area) (Amendment No.7) 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.
3. to agree that the proposed Order be withdrawn in its entirety.

Recommendation(s)

1. The proposed Order should be made as advertised ('No Waiting at Any Time') restrictions on the junction of Helena Road and Louise Road.
2. The people making representations be advised accordingly.

Consulters

South Essex Parking Partnership

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. Background

- 1.1** The purpose of this Order is to amend The Essex County Council (Rochford District) (Prohibition of Waiting, Loading and Stopping) and (On-Street Parking Places) (Civil Enforcement Area) Consolidation Order 2019 as set out below:
- 1.2** An application form was received in December 2019 requesting 'No Waiting at Any Time' restrictions (double yellow lines) on the junction of Louise Road and Helena Road. The original application requested that these extend for 10 metres on either side of Louise Road and 69 metres north of the junction with Louise Road on the eastern side of Helena Road. The application form was accompanied by a 202-signature petition and with the support from several Councillors. The purpose of the request was to improve sightlines for motorists using the junction, exiting driveways and pedestrians crossing Helena Road (north of Louise Road) – it should be noted that there is already a pedestrian crossing on the south side of the junction with Louise Road.
- 1.3** Upon receipt of the application form, several site visits were conducted by SEPP Technicians at various times before, during (when most residents would be at home) and after the easing of the COVID-19 lockdowns in 2020. On all site visits conducted, no vehicles were observed parking on Helena Road within 20 metres of the junction with Louise Road. It was also observed that there was no obstructive parking of driveways. Additionally, it was noted that Helena Road has a wide carriageway which therefore affords good sight lines for oncoming vehicles.
- 1.4** After considering the findings of the site visits conducted by SEPP Technicians, this request was initially declined by the SEPP Joint Committee Member and Lead Officer for parking matters in Rochford. However, given that the junction of Helena Road with Louise Road is a busy junction on a through route and the SEPP Technicians decided that 10 metres of junction protection to reinforce rule 243 of the Highway Code would be beneficial and ensure that the junction is always kept clear.
- 1.5** The SEPP Joint Committee Member supported this decision and therefore, it was agreed to cost a scheme to implement 'No Waiting at Any Time' restrictions for approximately 10 metres of the junction of Helena Road and Louise Road ('the Proposal'). Furthermore, the request for funding was agreed in December 2021 to proceed with the necessary Traffic Regulation Orders. The cost of the scheme was estimated at £1,500 but would be reduced if incorporated with other roads in Rochford District to publish one Traffic Regulation Order.

2 Relevant sections from SEPP Policy (Version 6 December 2020)

- 2.1** 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.'

2.2 SEPP Policy – 7.1

'The SEPP will receive all parking restriction requests that do not meet the criteria of ECC safety and congestion policies. 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.'

3 Traffic Regulation Order

3.1 The proposed Order was published in the Basildon and Southend Echo on Thursday 4 August 2022 and public notices erected around the junction of Helena Road and Louise Road. Copies of the proposed Order were sent to a number of organisations including Essex Police, Essex County Council (Essex Highways, 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.

3.2 When the proposed Order was published on 4 August 2022, a 21-day period of formal public consultation commenced.

4 Comments

4.1 The details of the representations are summarised in Appendix 2 to this report together with the comments of the Technicians.

5 Conclusion

5.1 The correspondents have made several points which lead them to believe 'the Proposal' is insufficient. However, the SEPP Joint Committee Member and Lead Officer for Rochford, and SEPP Technicians consider that none of the comments made are of sufficient weight to warrant the proposed Order not being made.

List of Appendices

Appendix 1 – List of people making representations

Appendix 2 – Summary of objections or support and Technicians comments

Appendix 3 – Photos

APPENDIX 1

Ref	List of people making representations	Type
1	Online submission from resident Louise Road of dated 03/08/22	Objection
2	Email from resident of Louise Road dated 16/08/22	Objection

APPENDIX 2

REPRESENTATIONS & RESPONSES FOLLOWING FORMAL ADVERTISEMENT – 31 March 2022 – 22 April 2022

Representations & responses relating to Helena Road and Louise Road, Rayleigh		
Ref	Representation -	Technician response -
1	<p>I hope this can be passed onto the correct department, e.g, roads (apologies). I am a resident of Louise Road, Rayleigh, SS68LW (Rochford District) and saw today (Wed 03 Aug 2022) a notice in Louise Road for 'no waiting at any time' restrictions for the first 10 meters southwards on both sides of the road from the junction with Helena Road. This is an excellent policy. However can the restrictions be continued along both sides of the entire length of Louise Road because the first 10 meters at the junction with Helena Road will only push the vehicle problem further into the unrestricted part of Louise Road. Also, Louise Road needs 20 mph restrictions, and indeed a possible one way traffic route, which would mean one way traffic along Helena Road from Louise Road junction through to the bottom of Derwent Avenue to the junction with Bull Lane. All this is due because of increased traffic volumes exacerbated by parents/grandparents dropping off and picking up school pupils from the FitzWimarc School and now increasingly from sixth form students parking their cars. Residents find accessing their property with a vehicle rather difficult when people continually park in Louise Road to walk into Rayleigh centre or the FitzWimarc School.</p>	<p>Objection noted.</p> <p>It is outside the remit of this scheme to extend the proposed 'No Waiting at Any Time' restrictions on Louise Road. The purpose of the proposal is to prevent the obstruction sight lines for road users on the junction and enforce the Highway Code. An extension to the proposal would require an assessment undertaken by SEPP Technicians and if approved, undergo a formal statutory consultation.</p> <p>The South Essex Parking Partnership (SEPP) implement, maintain and enforce on-street parking restrictions. Most other Highway matters are the responsibility of Essex County Council, who are the highway authority. Residents should contact local councillors who may be able to take Highway matters forward to the Rochford District Local Highways Panel. Please see the link below for more information: https://www.essexhighways.org/highway-schemes-and-developments/local-highway-panels/rochford-lhp</p>
2	<p>I live at [REDACTED] Helena Road and myself and my neighbours have been asking for a long time for the extension of the parking restrictions to run to our properties, as we get people parking on Helena Road from the junction to Louise Road up to 35 Helena road, and this greatly restricts are view off our driveways. It's very dangerous and has nearly caused numerous accidents as we can't see what is coming and people are driving too fast, so we would like to yellow lines to</p>	<p>Objection noted.</p> <p>It is outside the remit of this scheme to extend the proposed 'No Waiting at Any Time' restrictions on Louise Road. The purpose of the proposal is to prevent the obstruction sight lines for road users on the junction and enforce the Highway Code. An extension to the proposal would require an assessment undertaken by SEPP Technicians and if approved, undergo a formal statutory consultation.</p>

	<p>run further than what is currently proposed as 10m as this will simply exacerbate our problems- which have already been made worse by restrictions down the other end of the street. I would like to ask if this can be amended further so that the lines can come to our properties please.</p>	
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APPENDIX 3

Photos

Images taken from Google Maps (2019)



Helena Road, facing north-eastwards at junction of Louise Road



Louise Road, facing north-westwards towards junction of Helena Road