

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

TUESDAY 1ST NOVEMBER 2022 – 10.30AM

AGENDA ITEM 12

Subject	THE ESSEX COUNTY COUNCIL (CHELMSFORD CITY) (PROHIBITION OF WAITING, LOADING AND STOPPING) AND (ON-STREET PARKING PLACES) (CIVIL ENFORCEMENT AREA) (AMENDMENT NO.29) ORDER 202* Relating to Trent Road and Thames Road, Chelmsford
Report by	South Essex Parking Partnership Manager

Enquiries Contact Nick Binder - South Essex Parking Partnership Manager 01245 606303 / nick.binder@chelmsford.gov.uk
--

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.29) 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
-------------------	---------------------------------

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.	<u>Background</u> The purpose of this proposed 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:
-----------	---

1.1	On 5 th March 2021, the SEPP received a completed application form from Cllr Davidson for 'No Waiting at Any Time' restrictions (Double Yellow Lines) on the junction of Trent Road and Thames Avenue, Chelmsford. The request is to prevent obstructive parking and maintain access and visibility on the junction. This application was submitted by Councillor Davidson on behalf of all three ward councillors for St Andrews due to regular complaints they receive regarding parking at this location.
1.2	Following receipt of the application the SEPP carried out a number of site visits. During the site visits conducted, vehicles were observed parking on the junction of Trent Road and Thames Avenue particularly during school drop off and pick up times. Rule 243 of the Highway Code states ' DO NOT stop or park... opposite or within 10 metres (32 feet) of a junction'. Vehicles parking on or near to the junction create problematic and unsafe movement of vehicles as well as access and egress problems.
1.3	It has been agreed with the SEPP Joint Committee Member and Lead Officer for Chelmsford to cost a scheme to propose 'No Waiting at Any Time' restrictions on the junction; in line with rule 243 of the Highway Code. The cost of the scheme is estimated at £1500 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 13 th December 2021 for funding. It was agreed at the meeting to proceed with the necessary Traffic Regulation Order.
1.5	The Order was originally published in the Essex Chronicle and on site on 18 th August 2022, 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.
1.6	When the Order was published on 18 th August 2022 a 21-day period of formal public consultation commenced.
2	<u>Comments</u>
2.1	The details of the representations are summarised in Appendix 2 to this report together with the comments of the Technicians.
3	<u>Conclusion</u>
3.1	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.
<u>List of Appendices</u>	
Appendix 1 – List of people making representations	
Appendix 2 – Summary of objections or support and Technicians comments	


APPENDIX 1

Ref	List of people making representations	Type
1.	Email dated 22/08/2022	Objection
2.	Online submission from resident of Thames Avenue dated 31/08/2022	Objection
3.	Online submission from resident of Thames Avenue dated 31/08/2022	Objection
4.	Online submission from resident of Thames Avenue dated 31/08/2022	Support
5.	Online submission from resident of Trent Road dated 01/09/2022	Objection
6.	Online submission from resident of Kings Road dated 01/09/2022	Support
7.	Online submission from resident of Thames Avenue dated 02/09/2022	Support
8.	Online submission from resident of Trent Road dated 09/09/2022	Objection

APPENDIX 2

REPRESENTATIONS & RESPONSES FOLLOWING FORMAL ADVERTISEMENT 18th AUGUST – 9th SEPTEMBER 2022

Representations & Responses relating to Trent Road and Thames Road, Chelmsford		
Ref	Representation	Technician Response
1.	<p>Good Afternoon,</p> <p>I write to object to the proposed traffic regulation order affecting Trent Road and Thames Avenue for the following reasons:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There is only an issue with parking on corners during school drop-off and pick up times • Normal road side parking may act as a road-calming measure as it narrows the road which is believed to foster a greater sense of awareness amongst drivers, resulting in lower speeds and less accidents. • The proposed extent of the traffic restrictions would mean that available parking will be lost and encourage speeding as wider clear areas of road will be available • Not all homes have off road parking and we do not want to lose our valuable green spaces to parking • At least two neighbours in Trent Road have built driveways yet have no access to this other than over the pavement. The position of the properties means permission for kerbs is not likely. A reduction in available street side parking significantly increases the risk they will increase driving on the pavement to access parking. • A lack of parking would increase friction between neighbours. <p>Please consider these issues when considering whether this proposal should go ahead.</p> <p>Kind Regards</p> <div style="background-color: black; width: 100px; height: 15px; margin-top: 5px;"></div>	<p>Objection noted.</p> <p>Concerns have been raised by residents and Councillors regarding obstructive and dangerous parking on the junction of Trent Road and Thames Avenue. Vehicles parking on or near to the junction create problematic and unsafe movement of vehicles as well as access and egress problems. This issue is particularly heightened during school drop off / pick up time where parked vehicles on or near to the junction obstruct sightlines of pedestrians, drivers and cyclists. Therefore 'No Waiting at Any Time' restrictions have been proposed on this junction. This will improve sight lines for all road users at the junction, better facilitate the passage of traffic and enforce Rule 243 of the Highway Code.</p> <p>This scheme has been proposed in line with Rule 243 of the Highway Code which</p>

		<p>states 'DO NOT stop or park... opposite or within 10 metres (32 feet) of a junction'. However, the Committee have the option to abandon the scheme.</p> <p>It is acknowledged that if the proposal goes ahead, it will limit on-street parking. However, it should be noted that there is no right to park on the highway – the only legal right being to pass and re-pass. The SEPP has to balance the needs of all highway users.</p> <p>It is an illegal offence to drive a vehicle across the footway to access a property without an authorised vehicle crossing. Permission must be granted to move a vehicle across a highway verge or footway under the Highway Authority's powers stated in Section 184 of the Highways Act 1980. Permission must be sought from Essex Highways to have a legal vehicular crossing installed.</p>
2.	<p>Regarding Scheme: SEPP_Chelmsford Street name: THAMES AVENUE</p> 	<p>Objection noted.</p> <p>It is acknowledged that if the proposal goes ahead, it will limit on-street parking. However, it should be noted that there is no right to park on the highway –</p>

Comment type: Object

Comment: By adding yellow lines here, there will be less parking space for those living near this junction. It is almost impossible to park directly outside my home in a 1-car household. Some residents have 3 or 4 vehicles for 1 home. If you proceed with yellow lines, you should also enforce parking permits (1 or 2 free per household, anything additional is chargeable). Driveways are extremely costly and not an option for most. The junction in question poses no issue if driving at the speed of the road and slowing down/being observant. Other options should be considered.

the only legal right being to pass and re-pass. The SEPP has to balance the needs of all highway users.

Permit parking is outside the remit of this scheme. Requests suggesting additional restrictions to what has been proposed would require the scheme to be re-advertised. To consider a request for Permit parking our online application form would need to be completed - [Request a parking restriction - Chelmsford City Council](#). However, it should be noted the current cost for a permit in Chelmsford is £26.

Concerns have been raised by residents and Councillors regarding obstructive and dangerous parking on the junction of Trent Road and Thames Avenue. Vehicles parking on or near to the junction create problematic and unsafe movement of vehicles as well as access and egress problems. This issue is particularly heightened during school drop off / pick up time where parked vehicles on or near to the junction obstruct sightlines of pedestrians, drivers

		and cyclists. Therefore 'No Waiting at Any Time' restrictions have been proposed on this junction. This will improve sight lines for all road users at the junction, better facilitate the passage of traffic and enforce Rule 243 of the Highway Code.
3.	<p>Regarding Scheme: SEPP_Chelmsford Street name: TRENT ROAD</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p> <p>Comment type: Agree Comment: The length of the double yellow lines here should extend further along the green space as the parking here obstructs the view of adults and children crossing from the school to the shops and also traffic turning right from Thames Avenue into Trent road towards the school. This is a dangerous blind spot for drivers and pedestrians.</p>	<p>Objection noted.</p> <p>Requests suggesting additional restrictions to what has been proposed would require the scheme to be re-advertised. Respondee was advised that their comment would be logged as an objection as their initial comments were not in full support of the proposal.</p>
4.	<p>Regarding Scheme: SEPP_Chelmsford Street name: TRENT ROAD</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p> <p>Comment type: Agree Comment: I have had many near misses due to poor parking when the church is on and also the large camper van parked witch obscures the traffic. And busses coming down. This is much needed.</p>	<p>Support noted.</p>
5.	<p>Regarding Scheme: SEPP_Chelmsford Street name: THAMES AVENUE</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p>	<p>Objection noted.</p>

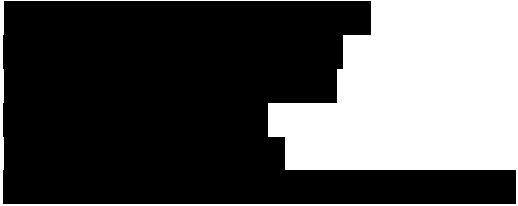



Comment type: General

Comment: I don't completely disagree with the yellow lines but why don't the Council put some parking in this area for the residents? I live on the corner of Trent and Thames and it is so busy there's often no where to park. When the yellow lines are put in Trent Road it's going to be awful, not sure what Chelmsford City Council are expecting us to do with our cars! You have put the extra parking further down Thames Avenue but not up this end where it is going to be needed.

Requests for additional parking areas should be directed to Essex Highways – the highway authority. The SEPP can only consider on-street parking restrictions.

Concerns have been raised by residents and Councillors regarding obstructive and dangerous parking on the junction of Trent Road and Thames Avenue. Vehicles parking on or near to the junction create problematic and unsafe movement of vehicles as well as access and egress problems. This issue is particularly heightened during school drop off / pick up time where parked vehicles on or near to the junction obstruct sightlines of pedestrians, drivers and cyclists. Therefore 'No Waiting at Any Time' restrictions have been proposed on this junction. This will improve sight lines for all road users at the junction, better facilitate the passage of traffic and enforce Rule 243 of the Highway Code.

		<p>It is acknowledged that if the proposal goes ahead, it will limit on-street parking. However, it should be noted that there is no right to park on the highway – the only legal right being to pass and re-pass. The SEPP has to balance the needs of all highway users.</p>
<p>6.</p>	<p>Regarding Scheme: SEPP_Chelmsford Street name: THAMES AVENUE  Comment type: Agree Comment: It is about time this was done, especially with a community church opposite this junction, a parade of shops and a school within a few metres from this corner. Also worth noting that the house on the corner of Trent Road has also put concrete in the public highway to obtain access to no planned driveway.</p>	<p>Support noted.</p> <p>It is an illegal offence to drive a vehicle across the footway to access a property without an authorised vehicle crossing. Permission must be granted to move a vehicle across a highway verge or footway under the Highway Authority's powers stated in Section 184 of the Highways Act 1980. Permission must be sought from Essex Highways to have a legal vehicular crossing installed.</p>
<p>7.</p>	<p>Regarding Scheme: SEPP_Chelmsford Street name: TRENT ROAD  Comment type: Agree Comment: This is a very busy junction near a school and is blind when people park there. Double yellow</p>	<p>Support noted.</p>

	<p>lines will definitely make this safer. It will need to be patrolled as people ignore the zig zags by the cruising outside the shops so I think they will ignore the double yellow lines at times too.</p>	<p>Restrictions will be enforced as part of a rota as other roads in Chelmsford currently are.</p>
<p>8.</p>	<p>Regarding Scheme: SEPP_Chelmsford Street name: THAMES AVENUE</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p> <p>Comment type: Object Comment: [REDACTED] and the reasons for my objection are a follows:- The only times there are any issues with parking are during school drop off / pick up, and occasionally on Sundays when the church holds its services. I do not believe that by imposing these restrictions it will stop the school drop off / pick up traffic. Of course this will be policed in a fashion at the commencement, but it will not deter in the long run. I say this with every confidence, as my daughter attends a school where I have to drive her to and on returning home, there is total disregard for the Highway Code, whether it be zigzags or yellow lines and even residents' premises, as they will use parking bays and, more often than not, literally stop their vehicle in the road, let their child(ren) who may / may not be accompanied by an adult out of the vehicle, and then the driver will most probably stop further down on the zigzags. The school does have a member of staff at the school gate, but nothing is said. My resolution would be for the Council to speak with the school to reinforce 3PR and have ad hoc wardens present. I do not believe that even having a no waiting / parking during the school drop off / pick-up times would even deter many. If this were to go ahead, it will certainly make my school runs difficult as I will no doubt have vehicles parked across my driveway, which already happens, and this in turn makes it nigh on impossible to see vehicles coming up or down the road; I have to pull out blind. In summary, the money allocated for this would be better spent elsewhere, for example, towards removing the island from the previous zebra crossing on Trent Road, as at school times, this is still utilised as a zebra crossing - pedestrians just cross the road to school expecting traffic to stop for them. Another option of an additional zebra crossing between Cherwell Drive and Chignal Road would improve the safety for all. This would stop the school congestion where cars are parked both sides of the road. I think this is much bigger issue than just placing yellow lines.</p>	<p>Objection noted.</p> <p>Concerns have been raised by residents and Councillors regarding obstructive and dangerous parking on the junction of Trent Road and Thames Avenue. Vehicles parking on or near to the junction create problematic and unsafe movement of vehicles as well as access and egress problems. This issue is particularly heightened during school drop off / pick up time where parked vehicles on or near to the junction obstruct sightlines of pedestrians, drivers and cyclists. Therefore 'No Waiting at Any Time' restrictions have been proposed on this junction. This will improve sight lines for all road users at the junction, better facilitate the passage of traffic and enforce Rule 243 of the Highway Code. The scheme will be monitored for its effectiveness.</p> <p>Restrictions will be enforced as part of a rota as other roads in Chelmsford currently are. Comments regarding</p>

		<p>enforcement in the area has been noted and passed to our enforcement team.</p> <p>Lawford Mead Primary and Nursery Scholl is part of a SEPP parking initiative, 3PR. The 3PR School Parking Initiative aims to prevent inconsiderate, illegal and dangerous parking around schools by changing attitudes and behaviours towards parking. The 3PR scheme has been launched at many schools in the six areas that the SEPP covers and has received very positive feedback and has proven to be effective.</p> <p>If a vehicle is parked across an approved dropped kerb and obstructing the driveway a Civil Enforcement Officer (CEO) can issue a Penalty Charge Notice (PCN) for obstruction of a dropped kerb, provided the vehicle is not parked in a designated parking place. Enforcement of this type will only take place if the resident of the property reports the obstruction to the SEPP. Additionally, a white H bar marking can be placed on the highway indicating the access to the driveway. This type of</p>
--	--	--

		<p>marking is advisory only. The SEPP will only offer this option in certain circumstances where a designated bay, such as a resident parking bay, extends across a dropped kerb / driveway and there is an ongoing issue with vehicles obstructing the driveway. In all cases Essex Police is the responsible authority to deal with obstructions of the highway and have the necessary powers to remove vehicles that are considered to cause an obstruction. You should report it to Essex Police online or by calling 101.</p> <p>Queries regarding alterations to the highway or installing traffic calming measures should be directed to Essex Highways – the highway authority.</p>
--	--	---