

Policy and Scrutiny

Open Report on behalf of Richard Wills, Executive Director for Environment and Economy

Report to:	Highways and Transport Scrutiny Committee
Date:	13 July 2015
Subject:	Waiver Permits – Parking Enforcement

Summary:

This report outlines details of a request for waiver permits to be granted to Volunteer Emergency Service Personnel to allow for parking of vehicles in restricted parking areas.

Actions Required:

The Highways and Transport Scrutiny Committee is invited to consider and comment on the report.

1. Background

- 1.1 A motion was submitted to the County Council on 15 May 2015 by Councillor Mrs A Reynolds, proposing that Waiver Permits be granted to Volunteer Lifeboat Crew members. It was resolved that the matter be referred to this Committee and the Portfolio Holder for consideration.
- 1.2 In December 2012, the Highways, Transport and Technology Committee considered the proposed introduction of a County Wide parking waiver scheme for tradesmen/contractors who required their vehicles in the vicinity of the works/site. This would allow for parking in prohibited/restricted areas such as Limited Waiting or Residents Permit Bays and on yellow lines without contravening the underlying traffic restrictions.
- 1.3 The Committee recommended that requests for waivers should be assessed in part on the following;
 - (a) What road safety/traffic implications would the parking have in the requested location?
 - (b) Do they need the required period of time requested?
 - (c) Does the applicant need constant access to their vehicle during the period?
 - (d) Can an alternative location or resolution be found i.e. a car park rather than on street?

- 1.4 In March 2014 a request was received for a waiver for Lifeboat Personnel to park in some restricted areas in Mablethorpe. This was assessed and refused. No further requests were received until the recent County Council motion.
- 1.5 The current motion has arisen from one person who has requested a waiver to park outside their home. The road is subject to a seasonal limited waiting restriction. The person has indicated that their existing parking is 'behind locked gates' in the vicinity their home and this delays their response time. The Lifeboat Station is approximately 640 metres away.
- 1.5 Further information has been requested from the RNLI relating to the number of personnel; the roads affected and existing parking arrangements to try and provide an assessment of the possible effects of granting waivers. To date no information has been received.
- 1.6 Vehicles used when responding to Emergency Callouts are parked in a designated area in the vicinity of the Lifeboat Station and are not subject to enforcement. General training exercises are not covered and may be subject to enforcement if parked in restricted areas.
- 1.7 The request for a waiver is centred on the need for the vehicle to be close by to allow for a quick/easy response. Whilst it has been suggested to cover the road adjacent to their residence, it may need to be expanded to a general exemption to cover any road. The issuing of a permit would not guarantee a parking space nearby and spaces could not be reserved.
- 1.8 Since the implementation of Civil Parking Enforcement requests for waivers have been received from Retained Fire Personnel, Nursing and Carer organisations. It is likely that further requests will be received which could be hard to refuse should waivers be issued to Lifeboat Personnel and may increase the need for additional resources.
- 1.9 The Applicant has now withdrawn his request following new proposals to revoke some of the seasonal restrictions on the road.

2. Consultation

a) Policy Proofing Actions Required

N/A

3. Background Papers

The following background papers as defined in the Local Government Act 1972 were relied upon in the writing of this report.

Document title	Where the document can be viewed
Motion to County Council 15 May 2015	www.lincolnshire.gov.uk

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