

Open Report on behalf of Andy Gutherson, Executive Director - Place

Report to:	Planning and Regulation Committee
Date:	4 September 2023
Subject:	Sleaford, Grantham Road, King Edward Street and Queen Street - formalisation of existing and proposed new waiting restrictions

Summary:

This report considers objections to proposed formalisation and extension of waiting restrictions on Grantham Road either side of its junction with King Edward Street and at the junction of King Edward Street with Queen Street.

Recommendation(s):

That the Committee overrules the objections and approves the proposals as advertised so that they may be introduced.

Background

The local Member for the area raised concerns regarding the obstruction of visibility for vehicles exiting King Edward Street onto Grantham Road. This is compounded by the occasional double parking of vehicles adjacent to cars already parked along the unrestricted length of Grantham Road to the west of the junction.

Consideration was given to the introduction of double yellow lines along this stretch to deter this. However, the restrictive effect of these lines applies across the full width of the highway and they would therefore prevent existing legitimate parking behind the kerb line. This being the case an extension of the existing restrictions at the junction with King Edward Street was investigated. It became apparent that an existing traffic regulation order is on force for double yellow lines for the length indicated in yellow at Appendix B. Since these have been missing for some time, we have included this section within our consultation to allow residents to comment on its reinstatement. To the east of the junction it has been observed that on street parking can obstruct the flow of eastbound traffic when the queue for right turning traffic into King Edward Street extends beyond the allocated right turn lane at busy times. It is therefore proposed to extend the existing restrictions here by approximately 11m to assist with traffic flow, as shown in red at Appendix B.

Finally, it was noted that at the junction of Queen Street with King Edward Street, double yellow lines are in place. However, these are not supported by a traffic regulation order and cannot be enforced. These are therefore included within the proposals so that if this scheme is introduced, enforcement may take place if required.

There have been 2 reported collisions in the last 5 years at the junction of King Edward Street and Grantham Road.

Objections

Four objections have been received to these proposals. Nearby residents are concerned that reinstating the missing restrictions will prevent them from parking adjacent to their properties, thereby causing inconvenience. Another states that to maintain parking outside their property they would have to remove a long-standing boundary wall to install off road parking, which they would be loathed to do.

It is believed that the restrictions are not warranted at this location as they are not in place at other junctions along Grantham Road. In the absence of the road markings on site along the length shown in yellow at Appendix B, some residents were not aware of their existence when they purchased a property in this area.

Comments

The comments regarding the need for waiting restrictions at this junction where others have none, are noted. King Edward Street however provides a link to the northern areas of the town which generates higher traffic flows than at other junctions in the area.

Whilst it is regretful that on street parking will be lost outside some properties if these proposals are implemented, officers believe that they are necessary to maintain traffic flow both exiting and entering King Edward Road and to improve safety. The missing length of restrictions may be revoked if the Committee wishes to take this course of action, although a further consultation exercise would be required to achieve this. It should be borne in mind that parking may take place on the restrictions for the purpose of loading or unloading or to pick up or set down passengers. Alternative on street provision is available in the surrounding area. There have been two reported injury accidents at this junction over the last three years.

Conclusion

The restrictions proposed aim to manage parking on the junction of Grantham Road, King Edward Street and Queen Street. It is anticipated that visibility at these junctions will be improved along with traffic flow on Grantham Road.

Consultation

The following were consulted on these proposals: Local Member, North Kesteven District Council; Sleaford Town Council; Lincolnshire Police; EMAS; Lincolnshire Fire & Rescue; Road Haulage Association; Freight Transport Association; NFU; Bus companies- Stagecoach and PC Coaches.

The local Member is in support of the proposals.

Following statutory consultation, the proposal was publicly advertised in the Boston and Sleaford Standard from 21 December 2022 to 25 January 2023. Details of these proposals were delivered to frontagers on 19th December 2022.

a) Risks and Impact Analysis

None carried out

Appendices

These are listed below and attached at the back of the report	
Appendix A	Site location
Appendix B	Detail of proposed waiting restrictions

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.
Consultation documents; Correspondence	Available on request

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