

**Halesowen Area Committee – 6th September 2007**

**Report of the Director of The Urban Environment**

**Proposed Waiting & Loading Restriction, Hagley Road & Wassell Grove, Halesowen**

**Purpose of Report**

1. To seek Committee's support for the implementation of the waiting and loading restrictions in Hagley Road, Wassell Grove, Cookley Close and Ashfield Grove as shown on Plan Ref. TMD/CP/453B.

**Background**

2. The B4183 Hagley Road is a major, heavily trafficked radial route from the west, into the centre of Halesowen. At Wassell Road junction, several shops have been developed over the years, with a mini supermarket located just west of the junction, now generating considerable traffic.
3. Following complaints from residents, a meeting was convened in June 2005, between the Cabinet Member for Transport, local Ward Members, the Police and officers from Traffic and Road Safety and Development and Environmental Protection, which included a site visit of the area surrounding the Hagley Road/Wassell Road junction.
4. The meeting highlighted several issues of concern, namely;
  - Severe congestion and parking issues around the Hagley Road/Wassell Road junction and immediate area.
  - Problems associated with HGV deliveries (congestion, noise)
  - Congestion caused by the legal parking outside the Rose & Crown Public House.
5. The following proposals were suggested at the meeting and subsequently circulated to frontagers in Wassell Road, Hagley Road, Cookley Close, Oak Court and The Rose Gardens:-

- Introduction of a “peak hour” loading ban in Wassell Road (south west side) to reduce noise nuisance to residents, improve road safety and reduce damage to footway
  - Converting limited waiting on Hagley Road in front of the mini supermarket into a loading/unloading bay to improve servicing arrangements
  - Converting some of the spaces in Wassell Road to limited waiting to deter some all-day parking, ensuring enough spaces for shoppers
  - Increasing the number of bollards in the footway in Wassell Road to prevent HGV’s parking on the footway, causing nuisance and damage
6. The majority of residents who responded, generally supported the proposals and raised some other concerns, such as the poor visibility at the entrance to Rose Gardens, caused by parked vehicles. As a result of the consultation, extra bollards were provided in Wassell Road, limited waiting bays were removed from outside the Rose & Crown Public House and the proposed waiting and loading restrictions as shown on Plan No. TMD/CP/453A, were advertised from the 6th December to the 29th December 2006. (Loading Ban – 7.30 am to 9.30 am and 4 pm until 6 pm).
7. Following advertisement, one objection was received, from a resident in Ashfield Grove who has no off-street parking. It is therefore proposed to reduce prohibition of waiting in Ashfield Grove as shown in a plan reference TMD/CP/453B. The objection will be available for inspection by the Cabinet Member for Transportation.

### **Finance**

8. The cost associated with the making and introduction of this Traffic Regulation Order is likely to be around £2,000, which cost can be met from the Minor Works Capital Allocation.

### **Law**

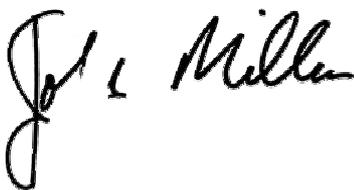
9. Traffic Regulation Orders are made under Section 1 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984.

### **Equality Impact**

10. The proposals contained within this report comply with the Council's Equality & Diversity Policy.
11. The proposals shown on plan reference TMD/CP/453B should reduce congestion and improve road safety, thus improving accessibility for people of all age ranges (including children and young people), abilities and racial groups.

## **Recommendation**

12. It is recommended that the Borough of Dudley (Hagley Road and Wassell Road, Halesowen (Restriction of Waiting and Loading) Order 2006, be amended and introduced as shown on plan reference TMD/CP/453B.
13. That the Cabinet Member for Transportation be recommended to introduce the scheme.



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## **List of Background Papers**

02/08/06 – Letter to Members – no objections received  
02/08/06 – Letter to Police – no objections received  
06/12/06 – Draft Order advertised in ‘Express & Star’  
06/12/06 – 29/12/06- Advertising period – One objection received (See paragraph 7)