

ORIGINATING DIVISION: HIGHWAYS AND TRANSPORTATION
CAPITA

REPORT TO: BLACKBURN WITH DARWEN BOROUGH COUNCIL
PLANNING AND HIGHWAYS COMMITTEE

DATE: 30th July 2019

TITLE: OBJECTION – Proposed TRO Willowbank Road Darwen

WARD: Darwen West

COUNCILLORS: Stephanie Brookfield
David Smith
Brian Taylor

1.0 PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

The purpose of the report is to advise the Committee of a letter of objection and a letter of support to the proposed TRO as detailed below:-

Willowbank Lane, Darwen.....No Waiting At Any Time

2.0 BACKGROUND

A complaint was received from the cleansing department about the obstruction of access for refuse collection vehicles by parked vehicles outside numbers 12 and 14 Willowbank Lane Darwen. It is proposed to introduce no waiting at any time restriction on Willowbank Lane to prevent parked vehicles from obstructing access.

3.0 DETAIL

Approval to advertise this proposed Traffic Regulation Order was given on 22nd February 2019 and this was advertised on 27th June 2019. Following advertising, a letter of objection was received from a resident of Willowbank Lane.

The objector has lived on the lane for 20 years and alleges that there have not been any problems until another resident made a complaint regarding the inconsiderate parking of a large van on the road.

Their reasons for objecting to the proposal are:-

- The van has now been moved
- All residents understand that they should not park in the turnaround area at any time
- The cleansing team have spoken to residents on many occasions since the complaint without any issue
- The local PCSO has been monitoring the area for over a year and has not seen any reason for concern
- A recent incidence of obstruction of the refuse collection vehicle was the first for weeks and this prohibition of waiting seems unfair to mindful neighbours
- The concern is that at weekends, visitors will have to park further down the road which will cause congestion and more complaints

The objector suggests a compromise. *Would it not be possible to place a single yellow line with no waiting 8-5 on week days?*

A letter of support for the proposed restriction has been received from a resident of Willowbank Lane in which he states that he also represents two of his neighbours.

He states that over the past 3 years there have been issues with regards to residents and visitors parking with no consideration for other residents and their need to use the turn around point safely. On 3 occasions during this time his lawn has been driven over by the Council's refuse collection vehicle because of vehicles being parked in an obstructive way. This damage has been repaired on all 3 occasions at the Councils expense.

The resident also points out that there is a tendency by residents to park larger vehicles partly on the footpath in this turn around area obstructing a fire hydrant. He feels that not being able to access this hydrant could have a detrimental effect on emergency response times should there be a fire.

The letter of support was received after the deadline for objections but the Chair of Planning and Highways was happy for it to be included in this report.

This proposal is intended to prevent obstructive parking in a turnaround area which would prevent the refuse collection operatives from carrying out their work. This would impact the collection service negatively as they would have to make repeat visits. Although there will be a resultant loss of parking in this area, all properties have off street parking and there is on street parking available at other locations on the road. Officers' recommendation therefore is to make the order as advertised.

4.0 IMPLICATIONS

Customer	Amenity
Financial	The costs of implementing the scheme will be met from the Traffic budget
Anti-poverty	None
Crime and Disorder	None

5.0 RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the Committee recommends that the Executive Member support the officer recommendations that:-

- The objection is overruled.
- The Order is made as advertised.
- The objectors are informed of the decision.

6.0 BACKGROUND PAPERS:	Letter of objection Letter of support Plan
7.0 CONTACT OFFICERS:	Gina Lambert
8.0 DATE PREPARED:	30 th July 2019