### PROPOSED WAITING RESTRICTIONS - COOTING ROAD, AYLESHAM

To: Dover Joint Transportation Board - 10 December 2015

Main Portfolio Area: Environment, Highways and Waste

By: Tim Read, Head of Transportation, Kent County Council

Classification: For Recommendation

Ward: Aylesham Division: Dover North

Summary: This report presents the results of the statutory consultation for a Traffic Regulation Order that would result in the installation of 'at any time' Waiting Restrictions (double yellow lines) in Cooting Road, Aylesham.

## 1.0 Introduction and Background

### 1. Introduction

- 1.1 Cooting Road is located within the village of Aylesham, and has a 30mph speed limit. The road is bordered on its southwest side by an industrial estate whilst on its north east side there is a mixture of industrial units and hedges/verge. Although the road appears to be only bordered by industrial units, the back gardens of several houses are located the other side of the hedges/shrubs.
- 1.2 Concerns have been raised by local residents about the overnight lorry parking along Cooting Road namely concerns about refrigeration units running, drinking and noisy behaviour, and late night music which causes disturbance, especially on warm nights when they wish to have their windows open. In addition there are environmental health issues such as the use of the area as a lavatory and the presence of bottles and bags of human waste.
- 1.3 The KCC Freight Officer has been involved and has funded multilingual signs stating 'no overnight parking'. These were put up in November 2014 but as these are advisory only the Parish Council comments that they are widely ignored by drivers.
- 1.4 Kent Police have also been involved to address some issues of antisocial behaviour, but as the lorries are not parking illegally, they can do nothing to move drivers on. Kent Police have advised that if waiting restrictions are put in they will assist DDC in periodic enforcement

### 2.0 Traffic Regulation Order

- 2.1 The County Member, Mr Steve Manion, expressed a desire to fund the investigation and processing of a Traffic Regulation Order to introduce waiting restrictions to help address the problem.
- 2.2 The investigation is being joint funded with Aylesham Parish Council, who has contributed £600 towards it.
- 2.3 It was considered to introduce an overnight restriction of 7am -7pm but due to concerns over weekend parking, Residents requested that a 24hour restriction (double yellow lines) be advertised. A copy of the proposal can be seen in Appendix A.

- 2.4 It is worth considering that such a restriction could have the effect of displacing parking to other areas which may also be environmentally sensitive.
- 2.5 The Traffic Regulation Order was advertised on 21 August 2014. Consultation letters were sent to statutory consultees as well as all the businesses in Cooting Road and a representative of the local residents. The closing date for comments was 14 September 2014
- 2.6 As a result of the consultation, seven responses were received. In addition a petition was received with 27 signatures from 23 companies located within the Aylesham Industrial Estate. A copy of the petition can be seen in Appendix B and the other responses are summarised in Appendix C.
- 2.7 It can be seen from the responses received that despite the apparent problems with lorries parking in Cooting Road, there are also concerns about the effect that all day parking restrictions could have on the operation of businesses in the road. The petition suggests that the proposal is extremely unpopular with local businesses.
- 2.8 The problem seems to be most apparent in the evenings and weekends. It is therefore proposed that a compromise might be the most appropriate approach whereby parking is restricted in the evenings Mon-Sun 7am-7pm, and that Dover District Council be approached with a view to placing bins that can be used for the disposal of litter and other waste products.
- 2.9 This proposal has been put to Mr Manion, The Parish Council and a representative of local residents. The representative understands the need to reach a compromise and therefore was in support of this proposal. She has asked that her e-mail response be made known to Members of the JTB, and is attached in Appendix D. Also attached is an e-mail from another local resident sent in October regarding the problem.
- 2.10 The Parish Council have indicated, in view of the response made by the local residents' representative, they would support the proposal put forward in paragraph 2.8.

### 3.0 Financial

3.1 The scheme is being jointly funded through Mr Manion's Combined Member Grant and Aylesham Parish Council.

### 4.0 Legal implications

4.1 None

### 5.0 Conclusions

5.1 Given the competing factors of public amenity for nearby residents and the business needs of local businesses, it is felt an overnight restriction would be the most balanced way forward.

### 6.0 Recommendations

- 6.1 It is recommended that Board Members consider the need to balance the requirements of local resident and local businesses
- 6.2 It is recommended that Board Members approve the progression of waiting restrictions that apply overnight Mon-Sun 7am-7pm.

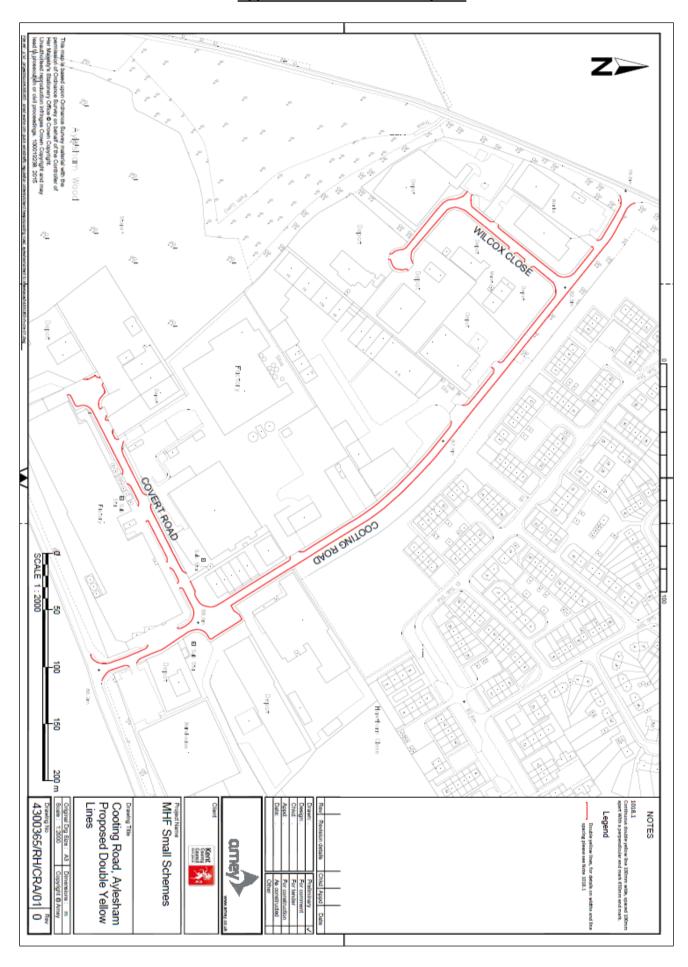
Contact Officer:	Richard Heaps

Reporting to:	Tim Read

# Appendix List

Appendix A	Plan of the Proposal	
Appendix B	Copy of Petition	
Appendix C	Summary of Responses	
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# Appendix A - Plan of the Proposal



# Appendix B - Copy of Petition

Petition against Kent County Council plans to restrict waiting times and street parking on Aylesham Industrial Estate

# KCC Reference: 21/RH/2015

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# **Appendix C – Summary of Responses**

	Support/ Object	Comment
Kent Police	n/a	No specific observations.
Local business	Object	<ul> <li>Drivers need to take mandatory rest breaks.</li> <li>Parking take place at weekends and evenings.</li> <li>Will be difficult to enforce against foreign-registered HGVs.</li> <li>Money will be better spent on providing a proper HGV facility.</li> </ul>
Local business	Object	<ul> <li>Industrial estate is the correct place for HGVs.</li> <li>Some lorries belong to local businesses.</li> <li>Nature of business requires 24/7 collection and delivery.</li> <li>Many are abnormal loads and there are restrictions on movement so sometimes they need to park and wait until they are permitted to move.</li> <li>Proposal would affect operation of business.</li> <li>Unnecessary expenditure on part of KCC.</li> </ul>
Local business	Object	<ul> <li>Areas are needed for parking.</li> <li>Area is an industrial estate and therefore there will be commercial vehicles using it.</li> <li>Will affect operation of business.</li> <li>By removing parking, traffic speed may increase.</li> <li>May force operation to transfer to Faversham site and result in loss of local jobs.</li> <li>Proposes restrictions on one side of road only or restrictions in part of road only.</li> <li>Issue is overnight, not during the day.</li> </ul>
Local business	Object	<ul> <li>Will affect operation of businesses as lorries delivering or picking up often need to wait for space or until they have taken required rest period.</li> <li>No alternative parking locations will displace lorries elsewhere into village.</li> </ul>
Local business	Support	<ul> <li>All their cars and trucks are parked on their site.</li> <li>Many other trucks park along boundary fence and often obstruct entrance.</li> <li>Bags of waste thrown over fence into their site.</li> <li>Any restrictions would need to be enforced.</li> </ul>
Local resident representative	Support	<ul> <li>Disturbance from refrigerated units, lorry drivers drinking and loud music.</li> <li>Public health problem as they use bushes and trees as a toilet.</li> <li>People walk along here and have to pick their way past litter and human waste.</li> <li>Only a narrow strip of vegetation between them and houses.</li> <li>Parking signs have but put up but are ignored.</li> </ul>

### Appendix D – E-mails from Representative of Local Residents

Subject:

RE: Cooting Road, Aylesham

Dear all

Obviously we are disappointed that 24/7 parking restrictions have been objected to by local businesses, but also appreciate and understand that businesses on the industrial estate must be able to operate fully. The proposal of parking restrictions from 7pm to 7am Monday to Sunday is a good compromise. This still means that lorries won't be able to park all weekend as the restrictions will prevent them staying overnight. I think this will need some initial cooperation from the Police/parking enforcement officers, particularly at the weekends, to ensure that the lorries using the area as a lorry park are moved on/issued with parking tickets before they get settled in for the night.

With reference to worries about the lorries being displaced to other inappropriate areas in the village, I fear this is just a way of saying that people don't want them on view in the village near houses. I am still of the opinion that Cooting Road is an inappropriate place for a lorry park because although they are out of sight, they are just yards from our front doors. I must also point out that now trees have been cut down to make way for the relief road across the green at the top of Boulevard Courriers, the noise from the lorry refrigerated units parked overnight is worse as the trees acted as a baffle to the continual throbbing of the engines.

It was mentioned in an earlier email that I would be able to speak at the Joint Transportation Board meeting in December. Unfortunately I will be unable to attend as I will be working out of the area but would be grateful if this email could be made known at that meeting on behalf of all the residents affected by this problem.

I would also like to reiterate that we do understand the lorry parking needs of the local businesses in this area and hope that we can come to a suitable solution to suit everyone concerned.

Kind regards

Sent from my Windows Phone

Attached pictures.

Thought we might get a break now from lorrys parking on the industrial estate road and it be quieter as summers over but no.

The attached is a refrigeration lorry and has had its motor/engine/transformer or whatever running all night right outside my house.

I've managed to sleep but with only a few interruptions my partner however had to resort to going into the spare room.

This is ridiculous and unfair I know lorry drivers have a job to do but they need to be found proper locations to stop.

Regards