

# Simons Walk and Roberts Way: Decision report

A document explaining our final decisions on proposed parking schemes following public advertisement and feedback.

## Introduction

This document sets out our final decisions about the Simons Walk and Roberts Way parking scheme and whether it should go ahead, with or without changes.

Our parking proposals were 'advertised' by way of a press notice published in the Surrey Advertiser on Friday 30 June, and there then followed a four week 'objection period' which ended on 28 July 2023, to allow for the public to make representations regarding the proposals. To raise awareness of the proposals, in addition to the press notice we also put up 10 site notices near where the new restrictions were proposed, and notified all residents of the two streets directly by post. Copies of the proposal documents were made available on our website, where there was also an online form for people to use to let us have their views.

We received a total of 69 responses to the proposals via our online form.

This report lists the proposal and presents a summary of the type and number of comments received, our responses where appropriate, and the final decision and reasons for it. The report does not contain a transcript of each objection made, but, as required by the regulations, each comment and objection was read and considered before any final decisions were made.

Only themes considered relevant to the proposals have been mentioned in this summary report. People often raise highway issues that are not part of these proposals, such as:

- Speed limits and enforcement, traffic calming, road safety, road layouts and geometry.
- Creation of additional parking spaces in place of grassed areas or verges.
- Resurfacing, potholes, and highway maintenance.
- Further new or modified parking controls.
- Off street car parks.
- Planning issues.

These are beyond the scope of the parking review and therefore such queries have not been addressed in this analysis. For further information and guidance, please see Annex 3 – General enquiries towards the bottom of this document.

Having advertised our intention to introduce the parking proposals, the regulations allow us to make minor modifications to them before their introduction without the need for further advertisement. Of course, we can also cancel a proposal entirely.

At locations where no objections or comments were received there is no analysis and the proposals will - unless otherwise stated - be introduced 'as advertised' i.e. without any changes from the advertised proposal. Where changes have been made, there will usually be a revised drawing in addition to the written description.

These decisions are now final and there is no appeal stage, although customers can ask us to reconsider any parking controls, whether old or new, at any time as part of the next parking review in the area.

If you are unsure of the meaning or effect of a parking restriction or control that we've proposed, please refer to [Annex 1 – Explanation of restriction types](#), found towards the bottom of this document.

[Annex 2 – Further information](#) provides some background information about the legal and policy aspects of our work in this area.

As mentioned above, [Annex 3 – General enquiries](#) provides information about things beyond the remit of a parking review.

If you would like to know the existing parking restrictions in a given area, please refer to our online [parking restrictions maps](#).

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# Englefield Green division proposals

The county councillor for this division is [Marisa Heath](#). We have made the [advertised drawings available on our website](#) to accompany the written description below

## Englefield Green

### Simons Walk and Roberts Way

#### Overview:

Drawing numbers: 3282\_08 and 3282\_98.

Objections: 8

Other comments: 1

Support: 60

Final decision: Proceed as advertised.

**It is recommended to proceed as advertised.**

The introduction of these additional parking restrictions will improve the flow of traffic along the length of Simons Walk, reducing the instances of inconsiderate, obstructive parking.

There is a single yellow line on the opposite side of Simons Walk from where the objectors live. This single yellow line is enforceable Monday to Friday 9am to 5pm, so it allows for overnight parking on-street during the week and at all times on Saturdays and Sundays.

A [parking dispensation or waiver](#) for works vehicles can be applied for if it is necessary for a vehicle to parking on the restrictions.

Simons Walk and Roberts Way do not comply with the County Council's criteria for a Residents Permit Scheme to be considered, as all properties have access to off street parking for at least one vehicle.

Due to the frequency of dropped curbs and the width of the road along the length of Simons Walk it is not possible to formalise on-street parking with marked out bays.

## **Annex 1 – Explanation of restriction types**

### **No waiting at any time**

This means that parking is not allowed at any time. This restriction is nearly always indicated by double yellow lines marked on the ground; no upright signing is required (or indeed permitted) in this case. The only exception to this would be a restriction that applied within a 'restricted parking zone', or 'pedestrian / pedestrian or cycle zone', wherein no road markings are needed but upright signage is required.

There are standard exemptions for loading and unloading, picking up and dropping off of passengers, and parking by blue badge holders for up to three hours (provided it's safe).

### **No waiting (at a time non-continuous throughout the year)**

An example may be 'No waiting Monday – Friday 8am – 6pm'. These restrictions are the same as those above, with the same exemptions, the only difference is the times at which they operate. This restriction is usually indicated by a single yellow line marked on the road, which must be accompanied by upright signing. The only exemption to this would be within a controlled parking zone (see below).

### **No loading**

A loading restriction is indicated through small yellow marks on the kerb at right angles to the road and repeated approximately every 3 metres. A single kerb blip means that loading is prohibited at specific times/days, a double kerb blip means loading is prohibited at any time.

Loading restrictions would always be in addition to waiting restrictions. Stopping to allow passengers to board and alight is allowed even where loading restrictions apply. There are no exemptions for blue badge holders.

'Loading / unloading' generally refers to items too large or bulky to be practicably moved very far, such as a refrigerator.

### **Controlled Parking Zone**

This is simply an alternative way of signing waiting restrictions. In a controlled parking zone, the times at which the single yellow lines are in operation (i.e. when parking is prohibited), are displayed on zone entry signs (unless signed otherwise locally). The main benefit of a controlled parking zone is to reduce sign clutter within the zone. Any type of parking bays – signed and marked in the normal way - may or may not be provided within the zone.

Further information about [controlled parking zones is available on our website](#).

### **Restricted Parking Zone**

This is where waiting restrictions (and loading restrictions if applicable) are indicated on zone entry signs, and on frequent upright repeater signs within the zone. There are no road markings to indicate the restriction. Any type of parking bays may be provided within the zone, which would need to be individually marked and signed.

### **Permit parking schemes**

Permit parking may be provided as 'normal' marked parking bays with accompanying upright signing. These may or may not comprise part of a controlled parking zone or a restricted parking zone.

Permit parking areas are schemes where there are no road markings to indicate the parking controls, only signs which read, "Permit holders only past this point", at the entry points to the area. Repeater signs are provided within the area. Waiting restrictions (single or double yellow lines) can be included within a permit parking area.

Further information about [permit parking schemes](#) is available on our website.

## **Traffic signs and road markings**

Further background information on common road markings and traffic signs may be found on the Department for Transport webpage [Know your traffic signs](#).

## Annex 2 – Legal and policy information

### Policy and Strategy

Our decisions around parking schemes are based on a number of policies and strategies.

#### Surrey Transport Plan

The [Surrey Transport Plan](#) is a statutory document that sets out our strategy to help people to meet their transport and travel needs effectively, reliably, safely and sustainably within Surrey, in order to promote economic vibrancy, protect and enhance the environment, improve the quality of life, and reduce carbon emissions.

Based on this vision there are four objectives for the Surrey Transport Plan:

- **Effective transport** - to facilitate end-to-end journeys for residents, business and visitors by maintaining the road network, delivering public transport services and, where appropriate, providing enhancements.
- **Reliable transport** - to improve the journey time reliability of travel in Surrey.
- **Safe transport** - to improve road safety and the security of the travelling public in Surrey.
- **Sustainable transport** - to provide an integrated transport system that protects the environment, keeps people healthy and provides for lower carbon transport choices.

There are 13 strategies that form the Surrey Transport Plan, one of which is the Parking Strategy.

#### Parking Strategy

The [Parking Strategy](#) is designed to help shape, manage and deliver the county council's vision for parking, "Provide parking where appropriate, control parking where necessary".

The objectives of the Parking Strategy are:

- Reduce congestion caused by parked vehicles
- Help enable greener and more sustainable travel choices
- Make best use of the parking space available
- Enforce parking regulations fairly and efficiently
- Provide appropriate parking where needed

To achieve these objectives and realise the vision for parking, work will be channelled through three main areas:

- Manage on street parking space to ensure optimum use through our parking review process.
- Operation of civil parking enforcement – fair and cost effective with greater use of technology to achieve compliance.
- Promotion of parking controls that can help improve sustainable and greener transport and communities. At the same time, the policies are intended to help achieve other objectives of the council, such as improving journey times, sustaining and enhancing the vitality of town centres and contributing to a reduction in carbon emissions.

## Parking Reviews

We receive hundreds of requests for new parking restrictions within our boroughs and districts every year. We use the parking review process to efficiently prioritise requests and manage the implementation of those requests following prioritisation and approval. Engineers consider a number of factors when assessing those requests, including:

- road safety
- accessibility
- congestion
- the possibility of just displacing a problem, and
- how many people support the request.

## Legislation

The list below provides the most relevant pieces of legislation to our work around parking restrictions and controls. It is not an exhaustive list.

- [Highways Act 1980](#) - this is the primary legislation that governs local authorities' powers and duties relating to the public highway.
- [Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984](#) – this is the legislation that provides the power for local authorities to regulate or restrict traffic on the public highway.
- [The Local Authorities' Traffic Orders \(Procedure\) \(England and Wales\) Regulations 1996](#) – this dictates the procedures which authorities must follow in order to lawfully make a traffic regulation order.
- [Traffic Management Act 2004](#) – this legislation provides powers and duties in relation to managing traffic on the public highway network, and provides the power for enforcement of a number of parking related contraventions.
- [The Traffic Signs Regulations and General Directions 2016](#) – this is a Statutory Instrument that provides instruction to authorities as to the road markings and traffic signs that may / must be installed on the public highway.

As defined by the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, the reasons for which authorities may introduce a traffic order for waiting, loading and stopping restrictions are:

1. Avoiding danger to persons or other traffic using the road or any other road or for preventing the likelihood of any such danger arising.
2. Preventing damage to the road or to any building on or near the road.
3. Facilitating the passage on the road or any other road of any class of traffic (including pedestrians).
4. Preventing the use of the road by vehicular traffic of a kind which, or its use by vehicular traffic in a manner which, is unsuitable having regard to the existing character of the road or adjoining property.
5. Preserving the character of the road in a case where it is especially suitable for use by persons on horseback or on foot.
6. Preserving or improving the amenities of the area through which the road runs.
7. Any of the purposes specified in paragraphs (a) to (c) of subsection (1) of section 87 of the Environment Act 1995, relating to air quality.

No such explicit list exists for the creation of parking controls, e.g. parking bays, permit schemes etc.



## **Annex 3 – General enquiries**

This annex contains information about topics that are quite often raised by people when making comments in response to parking proposals, but are generally things that are not considered within a parking review, or not possible to consider at that time.

### **Speed limits, traffic calming, and speed enforcement**

Speed limits are introduced by the county council provided Surrey Police agree with the limit proposed. Further information about speed limits can be found on our website at:

[Speed limits](#)

Speed limits and traffic calming measures are considered by our local area highway team, and you can raise queries regarding these subjects using the contact details below on the next page. The police are the only authority with powers to enforce speed limits.

### **Road safety and sustainable travel for schools**

Surrey County Council provides a range of services to help schools on this matter, more information can be found at:

[Road safety and sustainable travel for schools](#)

### **Creation of additional parking space on verges or grassed areas**

This is not something that is considered by the parking team or within a parking review. The council has essentially no funding to carry out this type of work at the current time, but any requests for these types of schemes would need to be considered by the local area highway team, who can be reached via the contact details on the next page. Note, it is not aligned to our policies around climate change to remove green space to provide additional parking for vehicles, and therefore officers would rarely recommend such action.

### **Requests for permit parking schemes**

We can consider introducing permit parking schemes under appropriate circumstances. However, such significant changes can't be considered based on only one or two comments. Anyone wanting to find out more about permit parking should first look at our webpage which explains where, why, and how a scheme could be introduced, and how they work, at:

[Permit parking schemes](#)

Having read that information, any customers interested in pursuing the idea of permit parking further, should consider raising a parking scheme request form (petition), as explained online at:

[The parking review process](#)

### **Requests for additional parking controls**

Due to the legal processes involved, we cannot generally consider further parking restrictions over and above those already 'advertised'. The best way to put forward any ideas for new parking controls is to raise them to be considered as part of the next parking review in the area. Information about parking reviews, including how and why we do them, and how to raise any further requests, is available on our website at:

[The parking review process](#)

## Enforcement

Parking controls on street in Elmbridge are administered and enforced by Elmbridge Borough Council on our behalf. They also enforce their own public off street car parks. If you have any queries about this, you may reach them on:

- **Telephone:** 01372 474474 (Monday to Friday 8.45am - 4.30pm)
- [Online](#)

## General enquiries

Any other enquiries regarding highways can be raised via the electronic forms on our website:

[Contact our roads and transport service](#)

Or using the contact details below:

- **Telephone:** 0300 200 1003 (9am to 5pm, Monday to Friday, excluding bank holidays. Emergencies only at all other times)
- **Email:** [contactcentre@surreycc.gov.uk](mailto:contactcentre@surreycc.gov.uk)
- Textphone (via Text Relay): 18001 0300 200 1003
- **SMS:** 07860 053 465
- **Fax:** 020 8541 9575
- **Address:** Contact Centre, 1st Floor, Fairmount House, Bull Hill, Leatherhead, Surrey, KT22 7AH