

CABINET MEMBER FOR ENVIRONMENT – 11 FEBRUARY 2016

PROPOSED WAITING RESTRICTIONS – LITTLEMORE OXFORD

Report by Deputy Director of Environment & Economy (Commercial)

Introduction

1. This report presents objections received in the course of the statutory consultation on a proposal to introduce additional 'no waiting at any time' restrictions on part of Cowley Road in Littlemore, Oxford.

Background

2. As a condition of the granting of planning consent for a small development at the junction of Cowley Road and Pibley Furlong, funding has been provided to implement parking restrictions in the vicinity to improve safety and traffic flow.

Consultation

3. Formal consultation on the proposals shown at Annex 1 was carried out between 1 and 30 October 2015. Letters were sent to occupiers of premises adjacent to the proposed restrictions and notices posted on street. The proposals were advertised in the Oxford Times on 1 October, with an email sent to statutory consultees including Thames Valley Police, Fire & Rescue Service, Ambulance service and the local County Councillor.
4. Two objections were received from residents of Cowley Road; there was also an objection by telephone to the restrictions in Champion Way but this was not followed up in writing as requested. The grounds for objection were that as local residents did not have any off-street parking space was therefore required on the highway for parking their vehicles and, separately, that the removal of the parking would result in increased traffic speeds and therefore potential increased risk. County Councillor Tanner expressed his support for the proposals. Copies of all the consultation responses are available for inspection in the Members' Resource Centre.

Response to objections

5. Most of the housing in this part of Cowley Road was constructed without provision for off-street car parking and it is accepted that some residents in the area have no practical alternative to enable parking near to their properties.
6. The length of Cowley Road where the restrictions are proposed is subject to a 20mph speed limit with narrowings at intervals along the carriageway with the

object of reducing traffic speeds as vehicles from one direction have to give way to those from the opposite direction. Parked vehicles on the carriageway further contribute to the generally low traffic speeds at peak times. Whilst the removal of parked vehicles from the carriageway could result in increased vehicle speeds, the presence of such vehicles can be a hazard to pedestrians crossing the road as their vision of approaching traffic can be obstructed. Nevertheless the existing narrowings provide adequate provision for pedestrians to cross in safety. In the last five years there have been no recorded accidents in the lengths of road subject to the advertised proposals.

7. Having taken into account the objections received and having reviewed the accident history in the area there would appear to be no need to completely restrict parking along Cowley Road at its junctions with Pipleay Furlong, Champion Way and Longwall and between. However, it is considered that parking should be restricted in the immediate vicinity of the junctions in order to provide adequate vision for vehicles turning at the junctions and to provide visibility for pedestrians crossing the side roads. It is therefore recommended that the proposals be modified to reduce the lengths of restriction to leave as much space as possible for on-street parking without significantly compromising road safety. These modified proposals are shown at Annex 2.

How the Project supports LTP4 Goals

8. The proposals described in this report would help to reduce the risk of accidents and improve public health, safety and individual wellbeing.

Financial and Staff Implications (including Revenue)

9. Full funding for the proposal has been secured from the local development. The appraisal of the proposals and consultation has been undertaken by officers as part of their normal duties.

RECOMMENDATION

10. **The Cabinet Member for the Environment is RECOMMENDED to approve the implementation of the revised proposals as described in the report.**

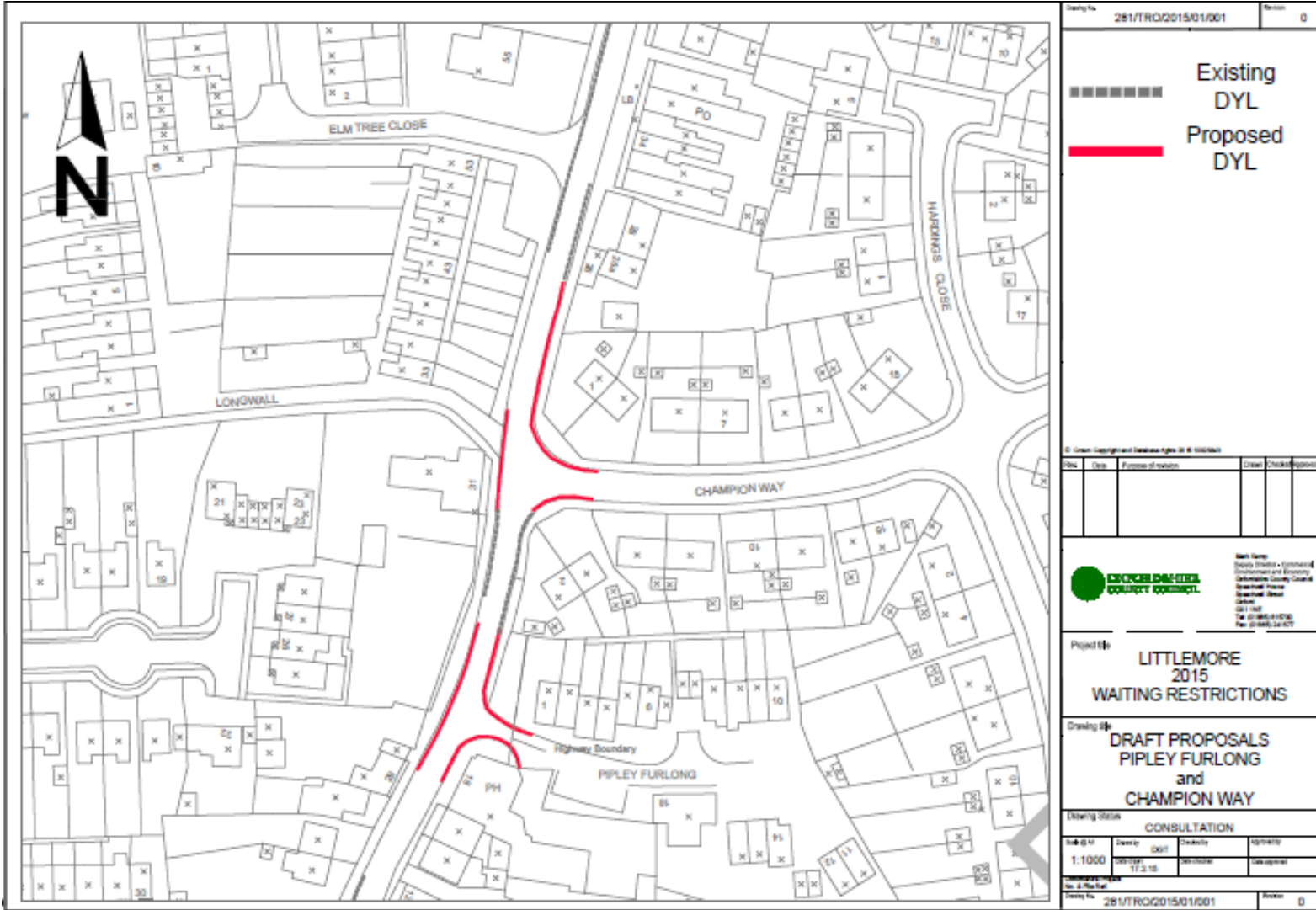
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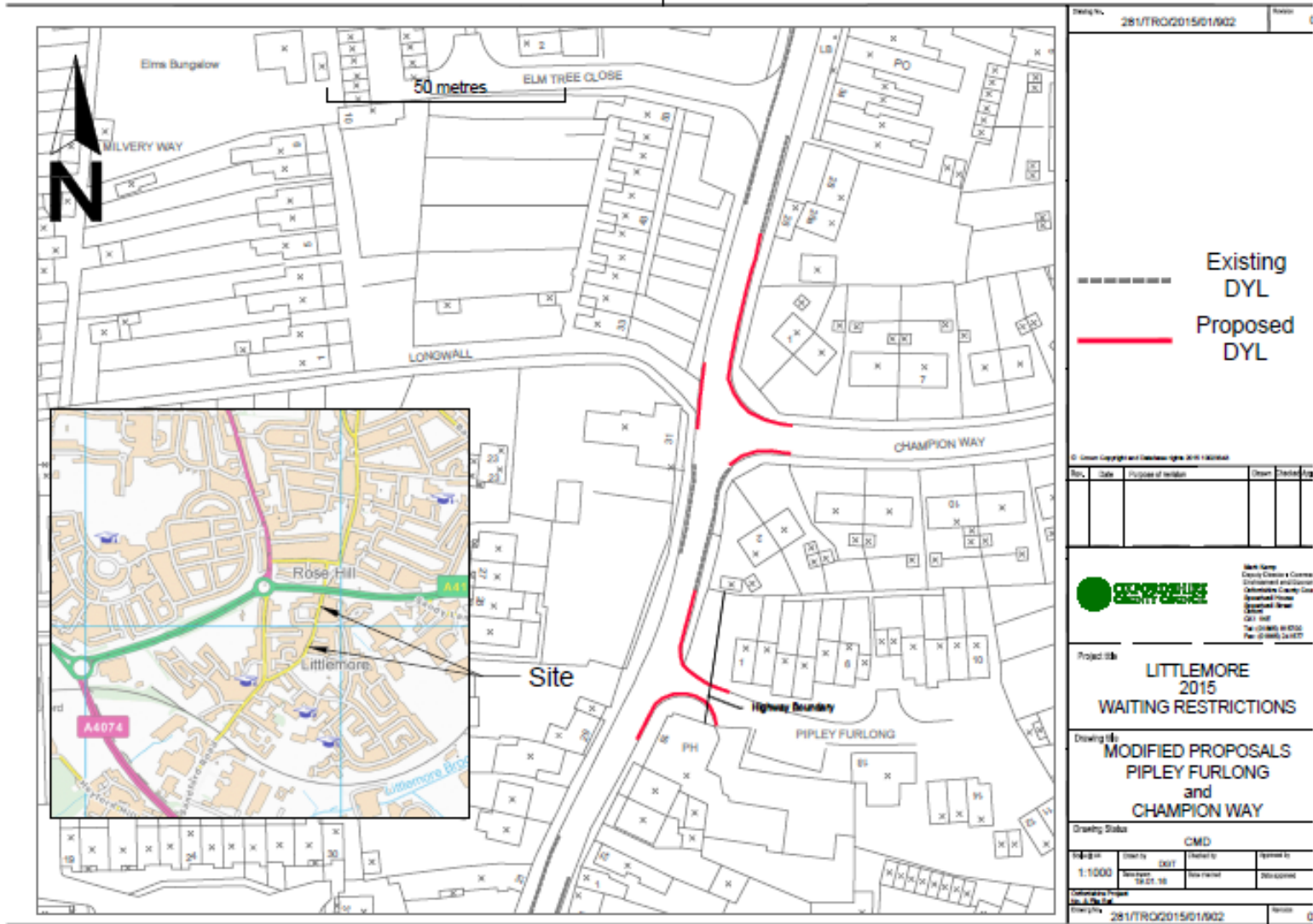
Deputy Director of Environment & Economy (Commercial)

Background papers: Speed surveys
 Planning consent

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Drawing No.	281/TROQ2015/01/002	Sheet	0
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