

Report to: Lead Member for Transport and Environment

Date of meeting: 20 September 2021

By: Director of Communities, Economy and Transport

Title: Proposed installation of advisory disabled parking bay – The Mount, Uckfield

Purpose: To consider the objections received to the proposed installation of an advisory disabled bay

RECOMMENDATIONS: The Lead Member is recommended to:-

- (1) note the concerns raised by the objectors; and**
 - (2) approve the installation of an advisory disabled parking bay**
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1 Background Information

1.1. In areas not covered by formal parking restrictions, disabled parking bays are provided in line with adopted County Council Policy No PS05-11. This policy was approved by the Lead Member for Communities and Safety at their meeting on 16 March 2018 and is attached as Appendix 1.

1.2. The provisional cost of the advisory disabled bay is approximately £250 and will be met from existing revenue budgets.

2 Supporting Information

2.1. An application for an on-street disabled parking bay was received from a resident of The Mount, Uckfield on 17 September 2020. A desktop Parking Bay Assessment was undertaken by Adult Social Care due to Covid working restrictions. The application was assessed against the relevant policy criteria and the application was successful.

2.2. Due to the nature of the location and ease of access via a path, the closest and most suitable place to site a disabled parking bay is in the parking area at the end of the Cul-de-Sac in front of No.16 The Mount, beside the footway.

2.3. The Mount is a residential area with no properties having off-street parking facilities. There are no parking restrictions and cars park on all three sides of the turning head. Two sides have road surfacing delineating the parking areas. Appendix 2 shows the proposed location of the disabled parking bay and site photographs of the area.

2.4. In line with Policy PS05-11, consultation with the affected residents was carried out. This involved consulting with the four properties closest to the proposed location of the bay. This resulted in two objections being received from residents of two properties. A summary of the objections can be found at Appendix 3. Full copies of the objections are available in the Members' Room.

2.5. The need for a disabled parking bay on traffic management grounds was established by the local Traffic and Safety Officer. This was supported by the information given in the initial application and confirmed by Adult Social Care (ASC) undertaking a Parking Bay Assessment.

2.6. Section 149 of the Equality Act 2010 also provides that a public authority must, in the exercise of its functions “have due regard to the need to” among other things, “advance equality of opportunity between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it”. This involves having due regard to the need to “take steps to meet the needs of persons who share a relevant protected characteristic that are different from the needs of persons who do not share it”. Section 149(4) states how this applies specifically to the treatment of disabled persons and provision for steps to take account of disabled persons' disabilities.

2.6 The local Traffic and Safety Officer has tried to resolve the objections from the first objector, but it has not been possible. It was deemed unnecessary to address those from the second objector who stated that they had no knowledge of anyone requiring a disabled bay. Details of these objections and the officer’s comments are included as Appendix 3

3 Conclusion and Reasons for Recommendations

3.1. The need for a disabled bay has been identified through site assessments and is supported by information provided by the applicant and the Parking Bay Assessment. These meet all our criteria requirements as set out in our policy.

3.2. The requirements of Policy PS05-11 have been met in this case and it is recommended that the disabled parking bay is provided in line with this policy.

RUPERT CLUBB
Director of Communities, Economy and Transport

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LOCAL MEMBERS

Councillor Claire Dowling

BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

None