

24. PROPOSED CHANGES TO WAITING RESTRICTIONS IN BATHGATE -
REPORT BY HEAD OF OPERATIONAL SERVICES (HEREWITH)

The Council Executive considered a report (copies of which had been circulated) by the Head of Operational Services seeking approval to initiate the statutory procedures to make amendments to parking and waiting restrictions in Bathgate.

The Head of Operational Services explained that concerns had been raised over a number of years that some of the waiting and parking restrictions in Bathgate Town Centre were no longer appropriate, having been promoted in the 1960's and 1970's, for the traffic flow now found in Bathgate. Therefore it was considered that a number of these restrictions could be revoked and replaced with more appropriate parking restrictions that would increase available on-street parking. Furthermore as a consequence of inconsiderate parking at the entrance to Hunter Grove, it was proposed that waiting restrictions be promoted at this location.

It was further noted that initially a list of suggested changes to the restrictions was provided by Enterprising Bathgate. These proposals were investigated by officers and following a site visit a list of proposals considered appropriate for promotion was generated. These proposals were subsequently presented to the Bathgate Town Centre Management Group and comments were invited. These comments were then considered and revised proposals were presented to the Bathgate Local Area Committee on 19th December 2011.

The report then summarised the list of streets and the proposed changes. The report was also accompanied by a series of colour charts which provided further detail on the proposals.

The proposals taken to the Bathgate Local Area Committee received broad approval from the members however they were keen to include the change of hours of operation and asked officers to identify alternative funding for replacement signs.

In conclusion following consultation with local groups and consideration by the Bathgate Local Area Committee officers had developed changes to various parking/loading restrictions in Bathgate which would help the operation of the town centre and increase the amount of on-street parking. In addition the introduction of waiting restrictions at the entrance to Hunter Grove would improve road safety.

It was recommended that the Council Executive approve the initiation of the statutory procedures to promote a traffic order to :-

1. Amend the parking and waiting restrictions in Bathgate as shown on drawing nos.RSTM/05/W8/001-REV2-1 to 7; and
2. Amend the hours of operation of single yellow line waiting restrictions and parking bays from 9am-6pm to 9am-5pm Monday to Saturday.

DATA LABEL: Public

Decision

To approve the terms of the report.