

7. CHURCH CORNER SHOPPING CENTRE – PROPOSED OFF STREET PARKING RESTRICTION

Officer responsible Network Operations Team Leader	Author Andrew Hensley, DDI 941-8516
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The purpose of this report is to seek Board approval for the installation of a P120 parking restriction on council owned land, serving the Church Corner shopping centre, adjoining Leslie Street.

BACKGROUND

The Church Corner shopping centre is served by a mix of private and council owned parking areas. For a number of years, requests have been received for the installation and enforcement of time limit parking restrictions on the council land.

DISCUSSION

Demand for parking at times is high with shoppers experiencing difficulties finding parking off street. There are concerns that a number of vehicles are parking all day in the council owned car park, and therefore these parking spaces are not 'turning over' during the day when most needed. Reports are that these all day parkers are a mix of shop owners and staff from the Church Corner shops and other nearby shopping centres, and people catching the bus to other destinations. This situation has become worse in recent months due to the popularity of a large restaurant within the shopping centre, which has been placing additional demand on parking resources.



The Council owned parking areas are in two blocks- 11 & 13 Leslie Street and 19 & 21 Leslie Street. It is felt that the best use of these is for shoppers, and the subsequent greater benefit of the shopping centre, rather than all day parking. Parking for shoppers should be given a priority over all day parking. Should shop owners and staff wish to park on site all day then they have the option of negotiating this with the owners of the private parking areas.

It is recommended that a P120 parking restriction be imposed on the council owned land serving the shopping centre to address the parking problem. It is felt that the P120 restriction is the most appropriate to serve the variety of the businesses, while also encouraging a turnover of parking throughout the day.

There is a concern that as a result of this recommendation, some of the all day parking will shift to the surrounding streets. This is occurring at present and is a characteristic of areas surrounding major shopping centres, and is largely unavoidable. The situation can be monitored and a further report to the Board may be required to extend the existing on street parking restrictions in the surrounding streets.

Signage is proposed to be installed clearly indicating the council owned parking areas and the P120 restriction. It is the responsibility of private land owners to impose and enforce parking restrictions on their land. There is a variety of these in place at present. It is hoped that some consistency will follow from the private car park owners as a result of the lead taken by the council proposal.

CONSULTATION

The Parking Unit conducted a survey in June 2003 with businesses in the shopping centre. Businesses were asked to indicate whether they were agreeable to a time limit being imposed on 11 & 13 Leslie Street. (Note that this did not include 19 & 21 Leslie Street).

The following results were obtained:

63 Businesses received survey forms
21 Responses

11 In favour
10 Opposed

It should be noted that this survey was undertaken before the opening of the large restaurant.

Subsequent consultation with some individual businesses have yielded mixed results reflecting the feelings in the earlier survey results.

The Parking Team are supportive of this proposal and are agreeable to enforcing the proposed restrictions.

The Facility Assets Unit are supportive of this proposal.

Staff

Recommendation: That area Parking Restrictions with a time limit of 120 minutes be installed on council land serving the Church Corner Shopping Centre contained within Lot 1 DP58267 & Lot 18 DP201 (11 & 13 Leslie Street), and Lot 1 DP 17829 & Pt Lot 3 DP 12411 (19 & 21 Leslie Street).

Chairman's

Recommendation: That the Officer's recommendation be adopted.