

Agenda Item No: 6
Report To: Joint Transportation Board
Date: Tuesday 19th February 2013



Report Title: Willesborough Infant & Junior Schools Highway Safety Scheme
Report Author: Ray Wilkinson

Summary: Following concerns from the Ward and County Members regarding indiscriminate and dangerous parking practices at the beginning and end of the school day, a safety scheme was put forward to discourage parking in those locations where it would cause a danger or obstruction to other road users.

This report outlines the results of the formal statutory consultation on the proposed scheme for the consideration of the Board.

Key Decision: YES

Affected Wards: Willesborough

Recommendations: **The Board be asked to:-**

Consider the representations received and approve the scheme for implementation.

Financial Implications: Funded from KCC Highway Member Fund

Background Papers: 'Prioritised List of Requested Parking Controls for Investigation and Possible Implementation' report to JTB 13th March 2012, JTB minutes 13th March 2012

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Report Title: Willesborough Infant & Junior Schools Highway Safety Scheme

Purpose of the Report

1. Following concerns from the Ward and County Members regarding indiscriminate and dangerous parking practices at the beginning and end of the school day, a safety scheme was put forward to discourage parking in those locations where it would cause a danger or obstruction to other road users.
2. This report outlines the results of the formal statutory consultation on the proposed scheme for the consideration of the Board.

Issue to be Decided

3. The Board is asked to consider the representations received and decide on whether to approve the scheme for implementation, approve the scheme in part, request the consultation be recommenced on an amended scheme or decline the scheme.

Background

4. Concerns over the safety implications of indiscriminate parking taking place in the vicinity of the Willesborough Infant and Junior Schools at the beginning and end of the day were raised by both the Ward and County Members.
5. Although parking and waiting restrictions are in place on Church Road (where one of the school entrances are located), there are currently no similar restrictions around the other school entrance located on Highfield Road or in the nearby residential roads where parents tend to park.
6. The County Member therefore took the decision to submit an application for the formulation of a safety scheme in these roads funded from his Highway Member Fund.
7. This scheme request was therefore included in the report to the Board on 13th March 2012 titled 'Prioritised List of Requested Parking Controls for Investigation and Possible Implementation' where it was ranked at priority No. 7.

The Scheme

8. This safety scheme consists of 'no waiting at any time' restrictions around junctions, bends, and where passing places are necessary in those roads within easy walking distance of the Willesborough Infant & Junior Schools.

The Consultation

9. The formal statutory consultation took place between Thursday 3rd & Friday 25th January 2013. A notice of intention was published in the local newspapers and copies of the notice were displayed throughout the scheme area. Full details of the scheme were placed on deposit at Ashford Gateway Plus and Sessions House, Maidstone and were made available in electronic format on ABC's website.
10. In addition all residents in the vicinity of the scheme, a total of 386 properties, received a letter explaining the proposals and where to obtain further information along with a copy of the plan.

The Results

11. A total of 31 representations were received in response to the consultation. Of these, 9 indicated their support for the scheme, 4 stated they supported the scheme in part and 4 wished to object to the scheme. In addition a further 4 representees agreed that a scheme was necessary to tackle the current parking issues.
12. Of those concerns voiced in the representations, the most common (8 representations) was that the proposals would have a detrimental impact on residents. These representations were generally concerned either that restrictions were proposed in a location where the resident or their visitors currently park (6 representations stated that they did not want restrictions outside their home) or that restrictions were proposed where their neighbours currently parked and that the displacement would disrupt current parking practices.
13. Although it is recognised that in some locations the proposed 'no waiting at any time' restrictions will affect current resident parking practices, these restrictions are only proposed in those locations where parking should not take place. With the exception of the passing place proposed in Highfield Road fronting nos. 12-16 & 13-15 (in the vicinity of which no concerns over the impact on residents were raised) all locations where restrictions are proposed are specifically referred to in Rule 243 of the Highway Code as locations where parking should not take place. As such parking should not be taking place in these locations regardless of the current absence of restrictions.
14. Four of the representations received expressed concerns that the proposals would be liable to increase parking pressure in those locations left unrestricted and as a result increase the incidence of residents' driveways in unrestricted locations being obstructed at the beginning and end of the school day.
15. The proposed scheme consists of safety restrictions only and is therefore intended to address parking in locations where it would cause either a danger or obstruction on the highway network. The legislation governing where and how parking and waiting restrictions does not allow for the use of waiting restrictions to protect private accesses onto the public highway. Furthermore the introduction of such a restriction would be liable to impact on residents

themselves, many of whom park across their own driveways either to accommodate their own vehicles or those of their visitors.

16. Should a resident be unable to exit their driveway onto the highway as the result of an inconsiderately parked vehicle however, the Police are empowered to take enforcement action against the vehicle concerned. In addition residents may apply to Kent County Council for an advisory white access marking (dog bone) across their access. Such a marking is not enforceable and therefore allows the resident to park across their driveway but it does act as a visual reminder to motorists that they should not park.
17. Four of the representations expressed concern over whether the restrictions would be enforced, stating that without active enforcement they were liable to be ignored by motorists.
18. ABC's Civil Enforcement Officers carry out their patrols on an intelligence led basis. The frequency and timing of patrols is varied in response to officer observations and complaints from the public to tackle issues in a given location when they emerge. It is custom and practice at the introduction of a new scheme to provide a high frequency of patrols. This ensures that the new restrictions are obeyed and motorists alter their parking habits accordingly. The frequency of contraventions generally drops fairly rapidly following introduction as motorists become habituated to the new parking habits. This enables the frequency of patrols to be subsequently reduced. Should the regularity of contraventions increase however at a later date, patrol frequency will again be raised to tackle the issue.
19. In respect to specific changes to the proposed restrictions (with the exception of general statements simply expressing a wish not to have restrictions directly outside their home discussed above), a total of 8 requests for the addition of further restrictions were received along with 6 requests for the reduction of restrictions. A further 3 requests were received for alterations to the proposed restrictions (movement of restrictions from one location to another). There were however no strong patterns within the requests (i.e. no requests were commonly expressed in more than 2 representations).
20. All specific requests were however considered individually. In respect to the requests for additional restrictions, the proposed scheme is intended simply to prevent parking in those locations where parking would cause a danger or obstruction while ensuring as much parking remains available as possible. If the scheme is approved a post-implementation review will be conducted to assess the success of the scheme and identify any emerging issues.
21. In respect of those requests to reduce the lengths of proposed restriction, as discussed earlier these restrictions are only proposed in those locations where the Highway Code states that parking should not take place.

Conclusion

22. A total of 31 representations were received from the 386 properties consulted. Of these however the majority responses indicate support for the proposals with a total of 9 in full support, a further 4 in support of the scheme in part and

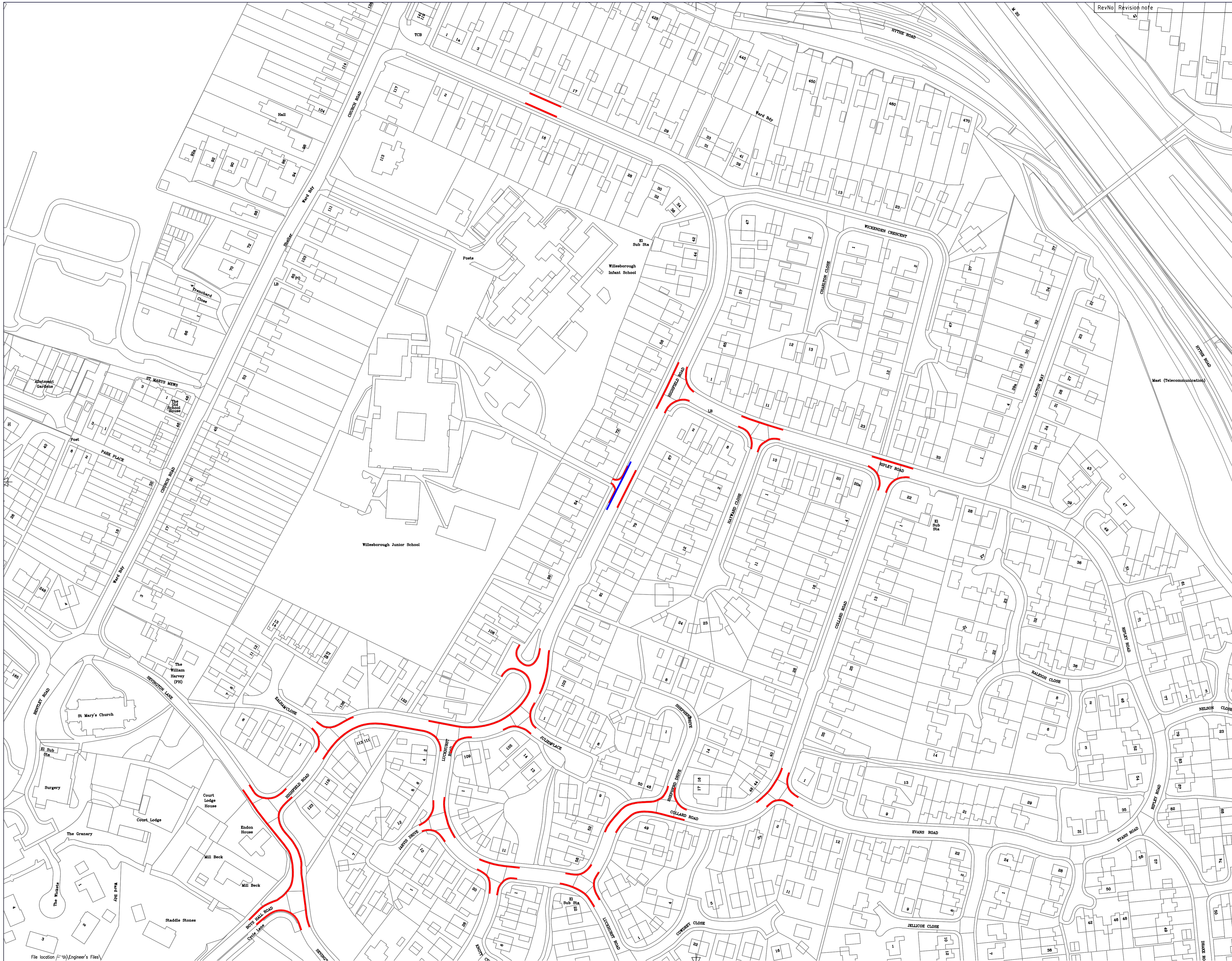
only 4 registering their objection to the scheme. As such it is recommended that the scheme be approved for implementation.

Portfolio Holder's Views

23. Not available at the time of publication.

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RevNo	Revision note
1	Issue for comment

Date	Signature	Checked

NOTES
 POSITION OF RESTRICTIONS ARE SHOWN INDICATIVELY. THE EXACT EXTENT OF THE PROPOSED RESTRICTIONS IS DESCRIBED IN THE ACCOMPANYING TRAFFIC ORDER.

KEY

PROPOSED NO WAITING AT ANY TIME	
PROPOSED SCHOOL KEEP CLEAR	

ASHFORD BOROUGH COUNCIL
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PROJECT
 WILLESBOROUGH SCHOOLS
 HIGHWAY SAFETY SCHEME

DRG.TITLE
 EXTENT OF PROPOSED RESTRICTIONS

SCALE(S) 1/1000	PAPER SIZE A1
DATE DEC 2012	REV.
DRG. No. WILLES SCH 00	

Appendix 2

Ref.	Representation
Am25/Willes/01	<p>Will increase parking in spots with no yellow lines - more chance of driveways being blocked limiting access!!! Yellow lines needed; dangerous spot between Wickenden Crescent and Ripley Road (blind spot). Increased parking in this area. Why not 20mph signs as in Albermarle Road, Romney Road, Hunter Road (and in Canterbury)?</p>
Am25/Willes/02	<p>Having received your notification of yellow lines in Highfield Road, Willesborough, which I have no objection to, in fact I welcome this. I do wonder though why you have done nothing about the road which the school entrance is no or the beginning of Highfield Road by the shops. The road by the school entrance is the most congested by parking of cars both sides and it is a job to get a normal size car through let alone a fire engine or ambulance. Why aren't yellow lines being put on one side of this or better still restricted parking between 8:30-9:30 in the morning and 2:30-3:30 in the afternoon. Do these parents not realise they are putting their children's lives at risk if they needed a fire engine or ambulance. Also I think it would be a good idea to have a 20mph limit in Highfield Road or maybe a sign that flashes if you are over the speed limit which a lot of schools have near them. This does make people think about the speed they are going. I have had two cats run over at school time by people speeding and should be thankful it wasn't a child although it was distressing at the time. You are putting yellow lines well into the estate on other roads where nobody parks anyway. How about a traffic warden patrolling this area by the school. I have lived in Highfield Road for 34 years and never seen one.</p>
Am25/Willes/03	<p>I live in Collard Road opposite the junction with Evans Road. I object to double yellow lines outside our house. It has been thirty odd years with highfield and school and in my belief there have not been any parking issues. My son goes to Willesborough Infants School, and in walking I can see first hand the problems with bad parking in Highfield Road; therefore I can not object to more traffic calming measures there. I have observed as a School Walker that no one parks in Collard Road as it appears to be simply too far for parents to walk, especially in the wind and rain. So I cannot see the benefit of yellow lines in Collard Road, only wasted Council budget.</p>
Am25/Willes/04	<p>I have read the notice on a lamp post in Highfield Road. If this scheme successfully completes the planning process, when will the double yellow lines be added to the applicable roads? As a resident in Highfield Road, I look forward to the yellow lines. Hopefully, they will reduce the volume of inconsiderate parking that has been problem for some time. On occasions, parking, particularly at junctions, has been potentially dangerous. It is to be hoped that drivers of vehicles will comply with the yellow line requirements.</p>
Am25/Willes/05	<p>I am the household owner at * Highfield Road Willesborough. I have looked at the proposals and support these proposals but I do have a concern that during school drop offs and pick up times that people will be parking across our driveways due to the lack of parking spaces that will now be available following the implementation of this scheme. This would block our car on our drive which could cause considerable</p>

	<p>aggravation and in an emergency, become potentially a serious issue. Is this something that could be addressed within the proposals; perhaps paint white lines across our driveways thus, preventing people from blocking our vehicles on our drive.</p> <p>I should be grateful for your response on my suggestion.</p>
Am25/Willes/06	<p>Thank you for your letter regarding the additional parking restrictions in the Highfield area. I am writing this message in full support of the proposed parking restrictions. Inconsiderate parking has long been a safety hazard in this area, particularly around the Highfield Road/Ripley Road junction (which will be resolved by the new restrictions). Access for larger vehicles such as public transport, delivery and emergency services is also a serious problem. This will be improved to some extent by the new restrictions. I do feel that the parking restrictions could be extended further on Highfield Road to improve access for these services. Residents of Highfield Road (which includes myself) have sufficient off road parking.</p>
Am25/Willes/07	<p>I read with interest your proposals relating to the above heading and agree that it is about time that something is tried to alleviate the traffic congestion in and around this area.</p> <p>I have lived in Knott Crescent for 30 years and have witnessed some horrendous, inconsiderate parking not only by those on "the school run" but many residents of the area.</p> <p>My one concern with your proposals are that they might improve the situation centred upon Highfield Road but it will force more cars to be parked in and off of Luckhurst Road, which includes Knott Crescent.</p> <p>At present we have school traffic parking in Knott Crescent and the proposed restriction will create even more congestion as the residents will no longer be able to park by their properties.</p> <p>I would therefore be in favour of more restriction, if only during the school morning and evening hours.</p> <p>Finally, will there be any policing of the parking that will take place on the yellow lines?</p> <p>The existing yellow lines at the beginning of Highfield Road nearly always has someone parking on them when they visit the local cafe and take away food shops in Church Road.</p>
Am25/Willes/08	<p>In response to your letter of 2nd January (ref Am25/Willes), here are my comments.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Are the proposed double yellow lines the same as the lines already in place at the junction and lower part of Highfield Road that are regularly and frequently ignored by motorists? 2. What is the reasoning behind the proposal to implement NO WAITING AT ANY TIME restriction to the detriment of residents and visitors? Surely you must know the problems only occur on Monday to Friday precisely between 0815 and 0915 and again between 1445 and 1530 ie the times when the road is gridlocked with school traffic. There is no need for a general restriction 7 days a week.
Am25/Willes/09	<p>Thank-you for your recent letter reference Am25/Willes dated 2nd January 2013.</p> <p>I am in favour of this proposal for a number of reasons, namely:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The traffic situation between 08:35 - 09:00; and 14:40 and 15:25hrs has become intolerable, drivers delivering or collecting children from the schools appear to have no regard for other road users, pedestrians nor residents of the Highfield area whom live there.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> I have witnessed or more than one occasion people parking all around the hammer-head feeding properties 106-118 Highfield Road; (this includes double parking, blocking the driveways of the properties between 106-118 so we cannot get into or out of our properties, straddle parking on the footpath and forcing children & parents to leave the footpath and walk on the road, and even parking on the grassed area in front of 120-112 Highfield Road which has not only completely ruined the grass but causes a risk to the statutory services within the footpath). <p>Having lived on Highfield for nearly 20 years; (in three locations, because we love the area so much). I took steps myself on this issue in 2005; and wrote to Ashford Borough Council about the no waiting / double yellow line scenario, and was told it wasn't possible.</p> <p>Without a positive intervention along the lines of that proposed on the reverse of your letter; there is a real risk of some young persons being killed or seriously injured, damage to vehicles or private property, and a general worsening in quality of life for those living in the area.</p> <p>I hope that the proposal becomes a reality in the not too distant future; the policing / enforcement of this however I don't see as being easy, without uniformed support from ABC parking services or PCSO's.</p>
Am25/Willes/10	<p>Re- am25/willed</p> <p>Just dropping an email to show my full support for the proposed double yellow lines in the Highfield road area. It is fantastic news, living right on the junction we daily struggle accessing our property and have seen many near miss crashes. Currently there is a massive blind spot that means not only you can't see, but when pulling out of Ripley road you have to drive blind and on the wrong side of the road! It is very dangerous and the lines cannot happen soon enough in my opinion. This is dangerous all day and night, not just at school periods.</p>
Am25/Willes/11	<p>Regarding the Proposed Introduction of Safety Scheme in the Vicinity of Willesborough Infant and Junior Schools, as the co-owner/occupier of * Highfield Road, I read with interest your above referenced letter.</p> <p>There has been for some time an obvious problem with the traffic caused by the dropping off of children in Highfield Road, and more so the collection of children after school. While I am pleased that the problem is being acknowledged, my innate pessimism leads me to believe that this scheme, as presently proposed, will only cause the problem to be concentrated in the areas where parking will not be restricted. I am particularly concerned that drivers will be forced to park across our, and our neighbour's, driveways at peak times.</p> <p>The traffic levels at peak times are already very high, and while I appreciate your main concern must be to try and keep a clear path for traffic, in particular emergency vehicles, you must realise that the drivers conveying children from and the school believe that they have a clear right to park adjacent to the school, and that any attempt to restrict this is taken as a threat to the children.</p> <p>I believe that the scheme, as presently proposed, needs very careful analysis.</p> <p>If the scheme, as currently proposed, goes ahead, I have to warn you that on the first occasion that I cannot get off my drive because it is blocked by someone who has "nowhere else to park" I <u>will</u> phone you to say "I told you so!".</p> <p>I also have to wonder if there is going to be a budget for enforcing all these new "No Waiting at Any Time" restrictions,</p>

	<p>which appear to cover areas currently used by people to keep their cars and vans overnight. They are not going to like this at all.</p>
Am25/Willes/12	<p>Thank you for your letter dated 2nd of January regarding the yellow lines on Highfield Estate. Assuming it is a consultation and comments will be taken into account, can I suggest the following please: Re double yellow lines outside 71 to 77 Highfield Road, as these lines are for the school, could we have an alternative to double yellow lines, for example zig zags or similar and signs like they have in Church Road telling people when NOT to park? We live in this road 24/7 and I don't see why we should be restricted all of the time even when school is closed, i.e. evenings, weekends and school holidays (and even during the day between 9 and 3). Living/parking here is difficult enough at school times, please don't make it difficult outside of school times. I hope you will consider an alternative for the sake of the residents and their visitors.</p>
Am25/Willes/13	<p>Hello, My name is * I live on the estate know as the Highfield estate. In regards to the proposed yellow lines on the above roads, this I feel will create problems for the people who live on said estate. I think speed restriction signs would be a better because the residents they affect will have nowhere to park and will park in places which will affect other residents.</p>
Am25/Willes/14	<p>We have been looking at the drawings of the double yellow lines, we live opposite the Ripley Road turning and I have to say we are in favour of these markings, the only thing I would say is that they are not long enough they should be at least another two metres long as people will still park both side of the road causing congestion and poor visibility</p>
Am25/Willes/15	<p>Your ref AM25/Willes I note with interest the proposed changes for safety reasons which concern the introduction of double yellow lines. If I read the attached schedule to your letter dated 2nd Jan 2013 correctly, there is no alteration to be made to Church Road school entrance. The Church Road entrance has not had a lolly pop lady since the last one was almost injured by a motorist while assisting children to cross the road, shortly after this she left as lollypop lady. There is no help for the children and parents who need to cross the stretch of Road. There is also a bus stop almost opposite the school entrance in Church road which again is dangerous as children get of the bus and cross the road. Cars can be stretched back down to the bottom of church road at both School in and School out times with Vehicles parking right in front of the school gates. There is an accident waiting to happen, If you are doing changes to the road one side of the school you should take the opportunity to make changes immediately outside of the other school entrance. If there were double yellows either side of the Road say for 40 foot either side of the school entrance on both sides of the Road. The homes on either side of that Road already have drive ways and so do not need that bit of parking.</p>
Am25/Willes/16	<p>With reference to our telephone conversation this morning when I visited the Ashford Gateway Plus to view a hard copy format of the plan for the proposed double yellow lines for Lower Highfield Road in particular. I found that the yellow lines went across two driveways and only one house front on either side of the road and as no one parks across the driveways which are staggered (not opposite one another), this would not give the space for traffic to pull in and give</p>

	<p>way to oncoming traffic.</p> <p>It would make more sense for the restrictions to go across the fronts of 15 & 17 Highfield Road and 14 & 16 Highfield Road this would give the extra space for traffic to pull in and give way, in particular for larger vehicles to pass more easily without damaging car wing mirrors.</p> <p>In addition to the school parking times the road has become extremely busy at all times of the day, this can cause problems for people getting in and out of their driveways due to impaired vision. This has caused some near misses due to the inconsiderate parking of large vehicles on both sides of the road, in particular the pathways on the one side of the road without the grass verge.</p>
Am25/Willes/17	<p>Hi I would like to say that this is a very good idea and should have been in a lot earlier I think it should be extended down to Lacton Way /Collard rd to prevent a build up by the bus stop where the people that use the service would have to walk in the road</p>
Am25/Willes/18	<p>Much as we have been hoping for some helpful approach to obstructive parking near the Willesborough schools, we feel the measures proposed in letter Am25/Willes only need to be applied during the times of eight until nine-thirty in the morning and two thirty until four in the afternoon from Monday to Friday. These are the times that parents taking children to or from the schools cause problems. At other times generally there are no significant safety issues caused by parking in the area. Imposing parking restrictions for these limited times would mean that residents or their visitors, who needed to stop on Highfield Road at other times would still be able to do so without causing any hazards for the schoolchildren. We live in Highfield Road and still sometimes need to be able to park out on the road. Most of the time this would not cause any kind of safety difficulties especially as the school does not operate at weekends or in the evenings. Overall we consider the scheme as proposed will disadvantage the residents significantly. We hope you will consider these views and modify your proposals accordingly,</p>
Am25/Willes/19	<p>I am writing to register my objection to the proposed yellow lines outside my home, * Collard road. The notice attached to the lamp post, gives road safety for the children attending Infant & Junior schools in Highfield road as the reason for the lines.</p> <p>I have lived in this house since it was built in 1979 and there has never been a problem with anyone, causing obstruction or parking outside during the times that children go into and come out of school.</p> <p>The inconvenience caused to residents who do not have the luxury of off street parking for more than one vehicle will be considerable, and in my opinion the placing of yellow lines will cause more of a road safety issue caused by vehicles searching the area for parking spaces nearby.</p> <p>For these reasons I strongly urge you to reconsider the placing of these unnecessary yellow lines.</p>
Am25/Willes/20	<p>Whilst we totally agree with a safety scheme for Willesborough Infants & Junior Schools, we do not believe that the both sides restricted (double yellow lines) at 12-16 Highfield Rd will work, it will only create another bottle neck during the school start and finishing times, should you (Ashford Borough Council) be totally for the safety of the school, then we would suggest that double yellow lines be used all around the inside (school) section of the roads around the school, (Church & Highfield Rd) this would only add slightly to the parking restrictions that your proposed scheme would bring.</p>

	We await your reply with interest.
Am25/Willes/21	<p>I have just been informed of the plans for double yellow line markings around Willesborough via the flyers that have been allocated on lamp posts around our estate. I have looked at the plans online and notice that I will be losing the 3 parking spaces adjacent to the side of my house opposite Shepherd Drive.</p> <p>Currently there are 4 adults living at number * (myself, my wife and 2 adult children). I have a garage at the back of the property with driveway parking for 1 car only. The other 2/3 cars will now have to be parked elsewhere on the estate encroaching on neighbour's parking areas.</p> <p>On further scrutinising of the plans I notice that the road outside my property appears to be the most affected yet the road adjacent to Evans Road/Collard Road which is equally on a very bad bend has not be penalised in the way we.</p> <p>I foresee not only neighbour disputes regarding parking in the future but there is one area along our road ie outside 45/47 Collard Road and adjacent to 17 Shepherd Drive where cars will now be parked on both sides of the road making it more difficult to pass safely and possibly resulting in an accident hotspot. At present the parking outside 45/47 Collard Road is only used for deliveries or visitors as is the space adjacent to 17 Shepherd Drive but with the planned changes both sides of the road will be used for residential parking, including our 3 cars if there is space.</p> <p>Whilst I understand the reason for double yellow lines adjacent to my house due to the fact that it is opposite a junction, the junction is mainly used for the residents of Shepherd Drive as it is a cul-de-sac who know the road well and we have been parking opposite the junction for 26 years. Once the yellow lines are painted around the Shepherd Drive entrance there will be no parking on the entrance/exit to Shepherd Drive therefore no cars parking opposite each other.</p> <p>I feel that I am the innocent victim and I am sure many residents feel the same way I do in that we are being penalised for living on an estate with a school and the reason these measures are being taken is due to people who do not live on the estate but use it a couple of times a day to deliver their children to school and collect them at the end of the day.</p> <p>I am sure that there have been a number of meetings to discuss where the double yellow lines are to be placed and all other options to resolve the present school time parking problems. As I stated before, I am an innocent victim in all this and therefore would like to apply for compensation from the project fund in the form of the council granting me planning permission and dropping the curb to the front of my property free of charge. I am personally prepared to pay to have the front of my property block paved with permeable blocks to allow natural drainage which is very costly and only necessary because of the loss of our current parking spaces.</p>
Am25/Willes/22	<p>Many thanks for sparing your time this morning, to discuss with me the proposed introduction of the road safety scheme, in our area.</p> <p>The introduction of this will be most welcome. As discussed the main features being:</p> <p>The excess parking experienced at school times, together with commercial vans and trucks, some of which use the pavement to park.</p> <p>The latter problem appears to have increased greatly since the opening of the Pie and Mash cafe, in the Church Road parade.</p> <p>My wife is a Blue badge holder, and is on occasions unable to access our drive, due to the inconsiderate parking of these</p>

	<p>vehicles. It is also impossible to leave the drive safely, as they block the view of oncoming traffic, when parked this way. Another problem is that when they are partially on the pavement. passing them on foot is not easy. So may I congratulate you on these proposals, and look forward to them being implemented.</p>
Am25/Willes/23	<p>I am responding to your letter regarding the introduction of yellow lines in the Willesborough school area. We have lived at the above address on the corner of Highfield Road and Julien Place since 1978. Our front door opens into Highfield and front of house into Julien. We have space for one car on our driveway in Highfield Rd and although we are aware from your plan that there will be parking space near to our drive we do not at present park on the main road as we have had a car damaged by school traffic. It is preferable that we are able to continue parking in Julien Place at the front of the house especially when we have family and friends visiting. We are asking if you would consider making the lines into Julien Place a little shorter to allow one parking spot at the front of our house. In our view this would still allow any traffic leaving Julien Place a clear view of traffic up and down Highfield Rd without causing any danger or obstruction. Julien Place is a cul de sac and is not busy. We do appreciate from personal experience that the parking of school traffic is now completely out of hand and that something needs to be done but hopefully this can be achieved without too much inconvenience to residents.</p>
Am25/Willes/24	<p>I have been a resident at * Luckhurst road Willesborough for the past ten years and along with my neighbours have never had a problem with cars being parked in this road during either morning or afternoon school run times. Our house is not on the bend of this road and as far as we can see the bend is not to be double yellow lined. There has never been an accident in this stretch of road connected to school drivers that i or my neighbours are aware of. The proposal to double yellow line in front of our house will in our opinion cause more of a traffic problem as there will be the same amount of cars trying to park in a much shorter space ,we are a three car family and wont be able to park out side of our own house, with no space for resident visitors to park either. While we agree that children's safety must come first the school is not in this road and parents who park in this road have been doing so with out incident for a great number of years. please take this e mail as our registered protest to this scheme continuing.</p>
Am25/Willes/25	<p>Thank you for your recent communication re the above. Could it be considered to have double yellow lines on the bend opposite No.10 & 11 Ealham Close because of the narrow neck which leads to the square, restricting ambulances, fire services and dustcarts as part of the Safety Scheme in the area.</p>
Am25/Willes/26	<p>Many thanks for your letter including the details of the new proposed Safety Scheme in the area of our school. We are absolutely delighted that this is happening, we have endeavoured, with support from the local CSU, PCSO, Councillors and residents, to have something like this for a number of years. Having said that we would like to make a few observations. Whilst the improvements are in the vicinity of our school, we are a little disappointed that the majority seem to be in the lower end of the estate. Certainly as far as the school is concerned, longer lines on Highfield would be more beneficial. In fact, a few years ago application was made and approved to have the zigzag lines extended and on both sides of the</p>

	<p>road. This never actually happened but would have inconvenienced residents less. It is however, good news that the zigzags are now to be enforceable.</p> <p>We have always expressed concern that there is limited access for emergency vehicles at the two ends of the school day and would have welcomed more consideration for this in the plans.</p> <p>That said, any improvements are welcomed. Thank you again for the opportunity to comment.</p>
Am25/Willes/27	<p>I would like to submit an objection to the double yellow lines outside my property, i understand the problem with parking during school times, but i cant see why these lines are needed outside my house as we only have a cul-de-sac opposite. Also a parking space has been left near a junction to Julian Place which is a danger spot with vehicle overtaking on that corner and a blind spot for people coming out of that junction. Putting yellow lines on this side of road means family and friends are going to have to park further up the road outside neighbours houses thus penalizing their spaces and could lead to tension between neighbours. I do agree with double yellow lines on junctions and bends but putting them this far down Highfield Road is only going to create more double parking nearer the school and cause a hazard to children crossing to the school. I hope you can have another look at this scheme in more depth so you don't penalize the residents as there will be less parking spaces at school times if we and neighbours have to park nearer the school.</p>
Am25/Willes/28	<p>Thank you for your letter of the 2nd January regarding the proposed introduction of safety scheme in the vicinity of Willesborough Infant and Junior Schools.</p> <p>I live at * Ripley Road and have looked at the plan on the reverse of the letter sent out and would say that at present we do not have a problem with people doing the school drop-off and collections parking where they should not outside our homes or where they would cause an obstruction by parking inappropriately (e.g. half on half off the paths) at the junction with Collard Road opposite our homes. The proposed yellow lines outside 27 and 29 Ripley Road will merely increase the number of cars parking outside our homes and cause difficulties in getting on and off our driveways safely.</p> <p>There have been white paint indicators placed on the road outside our house and on the Collard Road junction and if the yellow lines are painted strictly in accordance with the white paint markers the yellow lines will go partly across my driveway. I assume that this will not be the case in reality.</p>
Am25/Willes/29	<p>I write to object to the proposed Amendment No 25 Order 2013 to introduce a safety scheme in Willesborough to address parking issues in the vicinity of Willesborough Infant & Junior Schools by the creation of yellow line restrictions at various junctions.</p> <p>As a resident in Knott Crescent, I would firstly state that we do not encounter people parking in Knott Crescent or in Luckhurst Road opposite the junction with Knott Crescent in order to drop off or collect their children from the school. I believe we are positioned far enough away from the school for this to be an issue. Therefore, the introduction of yellow lines in Knott Crescent and in Luckhurst Road opposite the junction with Knott Crescent is unnecessary as there is no school traffic parking in this location. It appears there has been a blanket response to parking complaints to simply propose putting yellow line restrictions at all the junctions but no actual monitoring seems to have been carried out as to whether these junctions are actually affected by the school parking.</p> <p>The majority of residents in our road have at least two cars per household, some more, and not all the properties have</p>

	<p>garages, so residents need to park their cars on the road. Creating yellow lines for a problem which does not exist at this junction will only create a problem for residents. For example, those living in Luckhurst Road who now park their cars on the road opposite Knott Crescent would be unable to do so if yellow line restrictions were placed there. They would then begin to park in Knott Crescent, the turning opposite their homes. Those in Knott Crescent would already be losing at least one, if not two spaces, at the entrance to the junction if yellow lines were introduced and with those from Luckhurst Road then parking in Knott Crescent, this would mean that the parking situation for residents in Knott Crescent would be a complete nightmare. It would also make the properties much less attractive to potential buyers who would undoubtedly be put off when coming to view properties only to find they have nowhere to park.</p> <p>If yellow line restrictions are to be introduced I believe that these should be limited only to the areas closest to the school, ie on Highfield Road itself and at the junction of Highfield Road and Ripley Road (these are the areas where most of the school parking takes place) and only in small sections sufficient to provide passing spaces for traffic to move around parked cars. Creating too many yellow line restrictions will just move the problem elsewhere and make matters worse for residents.</p> <p>I am of the firm view that the introduction of yellow line restrictions is not the answer to the school parking issue. Outside any school parking will always be an issue but this is only for half an hour in the morning and half an hour in the evening on weekdays. Anyone who chooses to live in very close proximity to a school knows this. At other times there is no parking issue on the estate. Local residents simply try and avoid Highfield Road at these times as they know it will be busy, and use other routes through the estate instead. As can be seen from the introduction of yellow line restrictions introduced elsewhere, for example, in Longbridge, Willesborough Lees, to try and prevent people parking there, this has only served to move the problem elsewhere, with people now parking in Wilson Close, creating problems for residents living there. If yellow line restrictions are introduced at all the junctions on Highfield Estate as proposed this will only serve to move the school parking further into the Estate, as at the end of the day people will continue to need to park in the area to drop off and collect their children from school, whatever parking restrictions are introduced. This will only cause unnecessary parking problems for residents on Highfield estate whose homes are positioned further away from the school.</p> <p>The majority of local residents I have spoken to share my views and feel the introduction of yellow line restrictions will create a parking problem for residents and their visitors, leaving them with nowhere to park and devaluing their properties. I would urge you to reconsider this proposal as this is not the correct solution.</p>
Am25/Willes/30	<p>Thank you for your letter of 3rd January 2013 regarding the above matter.</p> <p>Whilst appreciating and agreeing that the safety of the children is of the greatest importance, I feel the proposed restrictions will only move the problem elsewhere.</p> <p>I am a Trustee for the local branch of the RSPCA and we have charity shop premises in the parade of shops at the top of Church Road, Willesborough.</p> <p>I often work mornings in the shop and now have to arrive there at 8 a.m. in order to find a parking space and even then it is not always possible.</p>

	<p>I am sure you are aware that the Highfield Road itself is heavily congested with cars parked both sides of the road as is the private road outside the homes between the junction 10 roundabout and the top of Church Road. I understand from local residents that some vehicles belong to employees at the William Harvey Hospital and the Willesborough Cafe also has many customers who park in these areas.</p> <p>The car parking facility adjacent to the parade of shops can only accommodate three/four vehicles, normally taken by residents of the flats above the shops. The parking bay in front of the shops in Church Road often has vehicles belonging to residents of Church Road.</p> <p>There is a "no parking" ban in the access road behind the shops, introduced by the Highfield Management Committee last year, which also applies to those who have businesses in the parade. There is only restricted time for loading/unloading of vehicles.</p> <p>The money raised in our shop supports the RSPCA Cattery Rehoming Centre in Station Road Ashford and as a charity - and a business - we rely on people having good and easy access to our premises.</p> <p>Thank your for giving us the opportunity to comment on the proposed parking restrictions.</p>
Am25/Willes/31	<p>I would like to respond to your proposed saftey scheme in the Willesborough area.</p> <p>I have viewed your plans and agree that they will make the school runs safer around the junctions at the top and bottom of the road,s due to the inappropriate way that the public park, I do however worry about the areas which will not be included in the saftey scheme, namely outside my property. I have, as do other residents on Highfield Road, great difficulty in accessing our properties at the school times. Th public seem to have no respect for the local residents and seem to park wherever and however they please. I beleive that with your proposed scheme that this will make our situations worse. I undersatand that the safety of the public is parramount, but if everybody is being squeezed into a small area will it really make it any safer??</p> <p>As you may remember I did voice my opinions to you in person, but as requested I am following my concerns in writing.</p> <p>Thank you for your time and I look forward in hearing the outcome.</p>