

Agenda Item No:

Report To: Joint Transportation Board

Date: 10th June 2014

Report Title: **Bus Gate Camera Enforcement**

Report Author: Sheila Davison Health, Parking & Community Safety Manager



Summary:	Report setting out the latest position with regard to the introduction of camera enforcement in Ashford. The project seeks to introduce camera enforcement to replace the existing rising bollard in Beaver Road and improve compliance at the Godinton Road Bus Gate.
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Key Decision: No

Affected Wards: Beaver, Godinton, Park Farm South, Park Farm North, Weald East

Recommendations: **The Board is asked to note the current position regarding Bus Gate Camera Enforcement**

Policy Overview: Corporate Plan: Focus 2013-15

Financial Implications: Funding for the Beaver Road and Godinton Road schemes has been identified and will come from a developer contribution. The capital budget available is £110,000 to design and install a scheme. An additional £35,000 is available from Rail Link Engineering Funds under the conditions negotiated as part of the additional highway works associated with the Channel Tunnel Rail Link. These budgets are held by KCC.

Risk Assessment The financial and legal risks associated with the Beaver Road and Godinton Road projects were highlighted within previous reports to JTB (minute number 351/03/2014 refers).

Community Impact Assessment To be undertaken as part of the schemes development.

Other Material Implications: None

Exemption Clauses: Not applicable

Background Papers: None

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Report Title: Bus Gate Camera Enforcement

Purpose of the Report

1. The purpose of this report is to set out the latest position with regard to the introduction of camera enforcement in Ashford.

Issue to be Decided

2. Members are asked to note the current position.

Current position

3. The Board were advised in April 2014 (minute number 351/03/2014 refers) of the legal, financial and technical concerns issues regarding bus gate camera enforcement.
4. As a result of the concerns outlined within the report, the Leader of Ashford Borough Council wrote to the Leader of KCC advising that the agreement could not be signed. The purpose of this agreement being to transfer responsibility for enforcement to the Borough Council and agree on going financial arrangements.
5. Since that meeting a response has been received indicating that KCC do not intend to make a decision regarding bus gate camera enforcement until the results of a pilot currently taking place within Tunbridge Wells Borough Council. This is due to be completed in November 2015.

Park Farm South and East, Kingsnorth

6. In addition to the Beaver Road and Godinton Road bus gates, a further bus gate is planned in order to impose use restrictions associated with the extended bus services to Park Farm South and East.
7. Clearly any delay in progressing camera enforcement and the transfer of enforcement responsibility to the Borough Council has implications for this scheme. Alternative control mechanism could however be employed.

Next Steps

8. Officers are continuing to work with KCC colleagues in the hope of overcoming the present difficulties. It is hoped that progress can be made especially in light of the Park Farm South and East extended bus services.

Risk Assessment

9. See previous report to the Joint Transportation Board 2014 (minute number 351/03/2014 refers) for full financial and other risks.

Community Impact Assessment

10. To be undertaken as part of the schemes development.

Other Options Considered

11. Alternative control mechanisms are possible however camera enforcement is considered at this point in time the preferred technical option.

Consultation

12. See previous report to the Joint Transportation Board 2014 (minute number 351/03/2014 refers).

Implications Assessment

13. See previous report to the Joint Transportation Board 2014 (minute number 351/03/2014 refers).

Handling

14. Progress will be reported at future Joint Transportation Board meetings and officers will continue working with KCC.

Conclusion

15. Support for bus gate camera enforcement continues while not underestimating the challenge involved.

Portfolio Holder's Views

16. I remain supportive of bus gate camera enforcement and hope that progress can be made. **Cllr Bernard Heyes - Portfolio Holder for Transport, Highways and Engineering**

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