
Willesborough Safety scheme

To: **Ashford Joint Transportation Board**

By: **Health, Parking and Community Safety Manager**

Date: **12th September 2017**

Classification: **For information**

Ward: **Willesborough**

Summary:

A meeting was held on 25th July 2017 at the William Harvey Hospital

Present were;

- Gary Lupton – deputy director of Estate Department, Hospital Trust
- Martyn Robinson – Business analyst for hospital's Estates Department
- Ian Stevenson – Willesborough Community Forum
- John Bailey – Willesborough Parking Action Group Chair
- George Koowaree – KCC Ashford East
- Paul Bartlett – KCC Ashford Central & ABC member
- James Hann – ABC – Health, Parking and Community Safety Manager
- Chris Miller – ABC Parking, Highways and Transportation Team Leader
- Christine Goulding (resident – Blackwall Road South)
- Trevor Collier (resident – Yeomans Gardens)

Update from hospital included:

- Work on transport links over last three years with Stagecoach buses
- Parking permits and restriction zones identified
- Travel arrangements were cited as reasons for staff retention issues

Following £3 million spent on parking provision and improved access roads on hospital grounds WHH are able to offer an extra 200+ employee permits and overall on-site hospital parking has increased by 750 spaces (1964 bays in all). The permits are graduated from £9.00 per month for lowest earners to £56.00 for highest.

Also promoted and introduced by hospital are;

- Car share scheme incentives
- Using One Health parking area on-site
- Hot bays for those that are on and off site
- Corporate responsibility to neighbours is understood
- Examples of bad parking shared with all staff to shame vehicle owners
- Lift share online scheme for staff

- Cycle to work initiatives but no shower facilities at WHH just K&C
- There is no current waiting list for permits
- Despite concerns due to relocation from Canterbury of Junior Doctors, this has resulted in only an increase WHH staff by 16.
- H-Line bus (question for CM at Quality Bus Partnership – direct town to WHH)

Residents believe that in the past their voices have not been heard but acknowledge that ABC are more effective listeners now and look forward to working with together, though accept there may be no positive outcome. The residents presented data on vehicles parked but did state issues have reduced in Wilson Close. Good photographic examples but will require more in depth review.

ABC commitment for review of parking;

CM provided information on the link between the highway authority (KCC) and ABC
The following have been introduced in the area over a period of over 10 years:

- Lees Road, Member funded DYL scheme (displacement issues explained)
- Corner protection
- Junction protection
- Zone F controlled parking

CM and JH provided information on the following matters:

- Dropped kerb enforcement
- Limits of CEO's
- Police responsibility and powers
- Reporting of untaxed/MOT cars to police
- How the liaison with KCC works to avoid displacement (Hythe Road example).

Following discussion it was agreed that ABC will commit to undertake three months of investigations in the local area. CM to liaise with CEO team early August and identify locations based on resident input and conduct through the team an audit of parking in and around the hospital. This will be from 4th September once schools return and the A2070 works are complete as it will paint a true reflection of the situation.

Based on this the findings and any options will be reported back to residents for comment and discussion and taken forward to March 2018 JTB for consideration.

This was agreed by the residents and increased dialogue was welcomed.

Actions

- H-Line bus (question for CM at Quality Bus Partnership – to determine direct bus links to town from WHH and relay concerns of residents)
- ABC will commit to undertake 3 months of investigations in the local area from 4th September

- ABC to report findings back to residents via the Willesborough Parking Action Group and to the March JTB