



MEETING PAPER

Subject: East Suffolk Council Street Trading Consultation Timeline

Meeting: Planning Committee

Date: 26th September 2024

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~/NON-CONFIDENTIAL

Summary

Originally East Suffolk Council (ESC) were consulting on street trading in the development of a new policy and we were provided the list of currently prohibited streets in Lowestoft under the (at this time) current policy. The timeline is detailed below.

2 November 2023

ESC Licencing emailed us informing that on 16 October 2023 the Licencing Committee approved a consultation to end the current street trading arrangements and propose a policy where the whole district has selected prohibited streets where no street trading can take place, and trading could take place in streets not deemed as prohibited streets without the need for a consent or licence.

29 January 2024

ESC Licencing emailed us to receive suggestions of streets that should become prohibited streets where no street trading can take place. The remainder of streets in the district would not be subject to regulation, although the permission of the landowner and/or Highways England would still need to be obtained alongside relevant insurance and registration of a food business.

The following list of streets are currently on the prohibition list per the existing policy:

Lowestoft

Swimming Pool Road (entire length, both sides)

Whapload Road (entire length, both sides)

Leisure Way (from A12 junction to entrance to Pleasurewood Hills (both sides)

London Road South (entire length, both sides)

Marine Parade (from first junction with Royal Green Car Park to junction with Victoria Terrace)

Kensington Road (entire length, both sides)

Kirkley Cliff Road (entire length, both sides)

Claremont Road (entire length, both sides)

Waterloo Road (entire length, both sides)

London Road Pakefield (entire length, both sides)

Victoria Terrace (entire length, both sides)

Wellington Esplanade (entire length, both sides)

At the meeting of the Planning Committee on 14 March 2024, the following was proposed:

To recommend the prohibition be retained on the listed roads as most were residential or near main roads and were unsuitable for street trading.

7 August 2024

ESC Licencing emailed us noting that once a street becomes prohibited it is always prohibited. Their new proposal was to include this statement in their new policy:

Community events on certain consent streets

The following streets [list streets] have been designated by the Council as consent streets. ... In general street trading will not be permitted on these streets. However an exception will be made for street trading in connection with community events, such as fairs, carnivals and parades. For the purposes of this policy, community events will generally be organised or sponsored by the parish/town/district council and will usually be annual, seasonal or one-off events. Each application for a street trading consent on these streets will be considered on its own merits but is likely to be refused unless the application is made in connection with a community event.

They asked council to consider the streets requested to be prohibited and whether there is a need for that. If we wish to keep them prohibited then the street becomes a Consent Street and we will need to apply for a consent for our community events that involve street trading. This information was all made available to the Committee on a meeting paper.

At its meeting on 24 September 2024, the Planning Committee agreed to continue to support the listed prohibited streets but as consent streets.

The Committee needs to consider that consent streets incur a cost of £350 that is paid per street per year for renewal of the consent status.

The options for these streets are:

Undesignated – Anyone could use the street for trading etc. at any time. The advice would always be for these traders to contact their Town Council before trading. If there are any issues that trader can be asked to move on and if they cause and obstruction, then the County Council Highways becomes involved for enforcement.

Prohibited – Nothing can happen on these streets.

Consent – The streets can only be used for community events and no random traders would be permitted. Any community events would need to submit an application to ESC, often this would be the Town Council, and would cost the Town Council £350 per street per year.

It should be noted that changes to the status can be made, for example if a street is undesignated and then there is an influx of traders, an application could be made to ESC Licencing Committee to change the street status to consent or prohibited.