St Helens Residents Association

St Quintin and Woodlands Neighbourhood Forum

Proposed new locations for parking rented e-bikes

This extra newsletter gives information on a RBKC consultation on installing 164 new bays for parking rented e-bikes, across the Borough. The Council's rationale for this initiative is as below:

The number of trips made by rental e-bikes has increased greatly in Kensington and Chelsea over the last few years.

However, we recognise that parking of rental e-bikes on narrower footways can cause a nuisance to residents, particularly where the footway is obstructed for those using wheelchairs or buggies. The Council is therefore proposing to provide dedicated parking bays in appropriate locations across the borough for use by e-bike hire operators and their customers. This will allow us to bring more control to where bikes are parked and reduce the impact on pedestrians.

A new Traffic Order is required to introduce these new bays. Streetscape changes and removal of resident parking bays have proved to be contentious issues in this neighbourhood. Hence our circulation of information on this RBKC consultation.

Increasing use of e-bikes as an alternative and sustainable use of transport has its supporters, but rental e-bikes also cause problems for pedestrians. Riding on the pavement, and dumping bikes after use, are two such downsides to increasing use of rented bikes.

This RBKC consultation runs until May 17th. Anyone can submit comments to the RBKC Sustainable Transport Team at ebikes@rbkc.gov.uk. The consultation website is at https://consult.rbkc.gov.uk/communities/e-bike-parking/. This RBKC web page includes a link to an online survey form, if you wish to comment on a specific proposed location.

A copy of the draft traffic order is available on this RBKC web page, in a format that is not user-friendly and without a map of proposed locations. Hence we have listed below the locations proposed within the StQW neighbourhood area, on which members may wish to comment.

(f) on the east side of St Helen's Gardens, to convert a single residents' parking bay opposite No. 61 St Helen's Gardens, to a dockless bicycle bay

(i) to convert 5 metres (16ft) of residents' parking to a dockless bicycle bay at the locations below:

xv. on the east side of Bracewell Road, opposite No. 61 Bracewell Road xxxvi. on the south side of Dalgarno Gardens, to the rear of No. 67 Barlby Road, situated in Dalgarno Gardens

lxi.on the east side of Highlever Road, outside No. 104 Highlever Road; lxxi.on the south side of Kelfield Gardens, outside the flank wall of No. 33 Wallingford Avenue, situated in Kelfield Gardens

cv.on the south side of Oxford Gardens, outside No. 187 Oxford Garden cvii.on the west side of Pangbourne Avenue, outside the flank wall of No. 46 St Quintin Avenue, situated in Pangbourne Avenue

cxxxv.on the east side of St Mark's Road, outside the flank wall of No. 92 Oxford Gardens, situated in St Mark's Road (across the road from StQW boundary; cxxxvi.on the west side of St Mark's Road. outside the flank wall of No. 110 Barlby Road, situated in St Mark's Road cxxxix.on the north-west side of Snarsgate Street, outside the flank wall of No. 310 Latimer Road, situated in Snarsgate Street

We have been provided with detailed maps of individual locations. If you would like to see such a map for any of the above locations, please email to sthelensassn@aol.com. A schedule of all proposed locations in St Helens and Dalgarno wards, with small photos, is available on the StQW website

If you would like to copy in sthelensassn@aol.com or let is know of any general views you have on these proposals from RBKC, this will help us to decide whether to send in representations from StQW/St Helens RA. We will also try find out how other residents associations in the Borough are reacting to these plans.

E-scooters

These proposed parking locations are for e-bikes. The current trial of e-scooters for hire is a Transport for London initiative and is managed by TfL

The most recent statement from TfL on the future of the trial is as follows, 'Our current trial of rental e-scooters is expected to run to autumn 2023. We are currently running a competitive procurement process for the new phase of London's rental e-scooter trial, and operators will be selected on their ability to meet strict safety requirements and high operating standards.'

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