



DERBY CITY COUNCIL

AREA PANEL THREE 10 NOVEMBER 2004

Report of the Assistant Director Highways, Transportation and Waste Management

Congestion in Normanton and Pear Tree

SUPPORTING INFORMATION

- 1.1 At its meeting in July Area Panel asked for a report on congestion on Normanton and Pear Tree Roads. This request was specifically intended to address the congestion which occurs along these busy shopping streets. One resident at the meeting asked why deliveries could not take place outside of busy times and this is addressed within the report.
- 1.2 The congestion along these roads is not caused by the volume of traffic. Traffic flows on Normanton Road are quite low in comparison to other district centres. Flows between 7am and 7pm on Normanton Road are about 11,000 vehicles per day while typical vehicle flows on Osmaston Road are 17,500 a day and on Nottingham Road, Chaddesden the flow is 14,500 a day.
- 1.3 Vehicle flows on Normanton Road have increased very little in the past years. Normanton Road is a vibrant and active shopping area. As a consequence it attracts lots of activity such as deliveries, parking, regular bus services and much more. It is this activity which creates the congestion.
- 1.4 Managing these activities requires a combination of provision of facilities and enforcement of restrictions.
- 1.5 We have been asked on many occasions to try to find ways of making more parking available. Some people have suggested that narrower pavements would allow more areas for cars to park while others have suggested that new car parks need to be provided. These are very difficult issues to address. Narrower pavements would make life more difficult and dangerous for pedestrians but would not create substantially more parking. Land is not readily available and conveniently located to enable a car park to be built. At the moment the fact that the area is congested encourages people to walk where possible and this is to some extent a good thing. More parking could result in more vehicles.
- 1.6 Enforcement of the current restrictions or the introduction of new restrictions is of course a sensitive issue. The Police and Traffic Wardens do what they can to undertake enforcement but it is a never ending and thankless job.
- 1.7 Some years ago we approached all businesses along Normanton and Pear Tree Roads to find out what deliveries they had. Small business told us that they had many deliveries each day but that they could not control when their supplies would arrive or what sort of vehicle they would use. To introduce restrictions on loading and unloading could therefore be a real problem for some people.

- 1.8 The Council is moving forward with the introduction of Decriminalised Parking Enforcement. It is hoped that in early 2006 the Council will become responsible for enforcing parking restrictions and it will be Council employed wardens who help keep our roads free of unnecessary parking. This may help us to target enforcement and reduce the problems that inconsiderate parking creates.
- 1.9 We have also earmarked resources from our Local Transport Plan to address transport issues in district centres.
- 1.10 We have recently started to work to improve Allenton Shopping Centre and will in the future be turning our attention to other district centres including Normanton Road and Pear Tree Road. This will allow us to look at the provision of facilities, including car parking, as part of a wider review. Due to funding commitments and priorities it is unlikely that we would be able to undertake this work within the next two years.

For more information contact:	David Gartside 01332 715080 e-mail david.gartside@derby.gov.uk
Background papers:	None or list
List of appendices:	None or list