

REPORT FOR RESOLUTION

SUBJECT: WORKING GROUP FOR
TRAFFIC REGULATION ORDERS

REPORT OF: The Lead Officer

PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

To provide information on the proposed expansion of the Bus Lane Adjudication Joint Committee's initiative to commission a working group on traffic regulation orders to include parking traffic regulation orders.

RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that the Joint Committee:

1. Commissions a Working Group for traffic regulation orders as set out in Appendix 1 to this report.
2. Approves expenditure of up to £10,000 to fund this project.

FINANCIAL CONSEQUENCES OF THE REVENUE BUDGET

This funding is not included in the budget for 2010/11. If the resources, are not available in-year, a recommendation will be made to the Joint Committee to draw this funding from reserves.

CONTACT OFFICER

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1. Background

- 1.1 The Bus Lane Adjudication Service Joint Committee at its meeting in January 2010 approved a proposal to develop a specimen traffic regulation order (TRO) for bus lanes.
- 1.2 The purpose of this report is to provide information on the proposed expansion of this initiative to include parking TROs

2. Working Group for Traffic Regulation Orders

- 2.1 The PATROL Adjudication Joint Committee is well placed to undertake initiatives which will be of benefit to both its member councils in England (Outside London) and Wales and the general public. In 2008, the Joint Committee commissioned a piece of work in relation to specimen parking documentation and notices and received positive feedback from the local authorities and commendation from the Department for Transport.
- 2.2 Appendix 1 sets out proposals for a similar piece of work in relation to traffic regulation orders which are the foundation of civil enforcement in both parking and bus lanes.
- 2.3 The Bus Lane Adjudication Joint Committee approved £5,000 within its budget for 2010/11 to cover the costs of a review of bus lane traffic regulation orders.
- 2.4 The PATROL Adjudication Joint Committee is aware of the DfT Review of Signs, in which the parking and bus lane signs form a major section of the Review. The DfT Review has recognised the fundamental relationship between signs and the clarity of the TROs which the signs must convey. Therefore, it is now recommended that the bus lane TRO initiative be extended to include parking TROs to link the specimen TRO project to the DfT Review.
- 2.5 The aim of the TRO Review is to provide specimen clauses for TROs that individual authorities can select to compile each of their TROs. By achieving consistency in the terms in which the basic requirements of a TRO are drafted will achieve the following benefits:
 - i) Significant reduction in the resource expenditure of the drafting teams in each authority.
 - ii) Greater understanding for those of the public who wish to see the regulations that apply in their area, or to their PCN.

- iii) Greater efficiency for the Adjudicators for whom deciphering entirely different TRO provisions in each case inevitably takes time.
- 2.6 In reflection of the broader scope of traffic regulation orders within civil parking enforcement, it is recommended that the PATROL Joint Committee contribution to the project would be proportionate.

3. RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that the Joint Committee:

- [i] Commissions a Working Group for Traffic Regulation Orders as set out in Appendix 1 to this report.
- [ii] Approves expenditure of up to £10,000 to fund this project.