Highways Committee

6 September 2021

Annfield Plain





Report of Corporate Management Team

Amy Harhoff Corporate Director of Regeneration, Economy & Growth

Councillor Elizabeth Scott, Cabinet Portfolio Holder for Regeneration, Economy and Growth.

Electoral division(s) affected:

Annfield Plain

1 Purpose of the Report

- 1.1 To advise Members of objections received to the consultation concerning changes to the Traffic Regulation Order (TRO) in Annfield Plain.
- 1.2 To request that members consider the objections made during the informal and formal consultation period.
- 1.3 In accordance with the Council's Constitution, Members are asked to decide in principle only which will then guide the Corporate Director of Regeneration, Economy and Growth in the exercise of delegated decision making. The final decision is therefore one for the Corporate Director, under delegated powers.

2 Executive Summary

- 2.1 Within Civil parking Enforcement operational guidance, the County Council are committed to regularly reviewing Traffic Regulation Orders to ensure that the restrictions held within them are relevant and appropriate.
- 2.2 The County Council are proposing to introduce restrictions on:

2.3 West Road

To introduce 'no waiting at any time' restrictions on both sides of the carriageway for the nearby businesses and residents.

To change a small section of existing 'no waiting at any time' to 'School Keep Clear' markings outside of the entrance to Greencroft Community School. To formalise the current lining in this location.

The proposals are to address obstructive parking, to improve accessibility and visibility for both road users and pedestrians.

One objection was received from a local business owner during the informal consultation.

3 Recommendation(s)

3.1 Committee is recommended to:

Endorse the proposal in principle to proceed with the implementation of the Annfield Plain Parking and Waiting Restrictions Order 2021. With the final decision to be made by the Corporate Director under delegated powers.

4 Background

- 4.1 Several requests have been received from local residents to address ongoing obstructive parking, visibility and safety issues on West Road, Annfield Plain.
- 4.2 The area of concern is a busy section of carriageway providing access to several businesses, a school and residential addresses. There have been reports of vehicles parking along the footway and in some cases fully off the carriageway (on the footway) outside of the businesses on West Road. This has led to concerns with access, visibility and safety issues for pedestrians, forcing wheelchair and push chair users onto the carriageway.
- 4.3 The existing restrictions do not fully cover this section of carriageway and footway. The proposals will resolve this issue and improve pedestrian safety, visibility and access. Its therefore proposed to introduce 'no waiting at any time' restrictions in this location.
- 4.4 It is also proposed to convert a small section currently 'no waiting at any time' to 'School Keep Clear' markings outside of the entrance to Greencroft Community School. This is included to formalise the markings as they currently exist on the ground.

- 4.5 The initial consultation exercise was undertaken with statutory consultees and directly affected frontages between December 2020 and January 2021 with comments requesting amendments along with an objection from a local business owner.
- 4.6 Amendments were drafted, and proposals were reconsulted with statutory consultees and directly affected frontages (14/05/21-31/05/21) with all responses received in favour of the proposals.
- 4.7 No further correspondence was received from the initial objector or no response indicating that they were willing to withdraw their objection either.
- 4.8 It was agreed to progress with the Traffic Regulation Order (TRO) and move to the formal consultation stage.
- 4.9 The proposals were advertised formally on site, online and in the local press (15/07/21-05/08/21). No further objections were received at this point. Majority of responses were favourable with 1 objection from a local business owner in relation to the proposed double yellow lines near their business.

5 Objections

5.1 Objection 1

Objector 1 is a local business owner who states that the double yellow lines will affect their business and strain them in these hard times.

5.2 Response

The proposed restrictions have been requested by local residents and are supported by local members. Site visits and photographic evidence have proven that the area is currently subjected to obstructive parking which reduces visibility and impedes access for road users whilst obstructing the footway for pedestrians.

6 Conclusion

6.1 Having considered the evidence of obstructive and inconsiderate parking and the objection to the proposals, Officers remain of the view that it is necessary to introduce the proposals in order to address the identified highway safety issues. Accordingly, it is recommended that Members agree in principle to endorse the proposal to proceed with the implementation of the Annfield Plain: Waiting and Parking Restrictions Order 2021, with the final decision to be made by the Corporate Director under delegated powers.

7 Background papers

7.1 Correspondence and documentation in Traffic Office File:

L:\TRAFPROJ\06 REGULATION DESIGN & IMPLEMENTATION\Settlement\Annfield Plain, Dipton, Harelaw & Kyo\Traffic Regulation Orders (Parking Restrictions)\Amendment 2021

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Appendix 1: Implications

Legal Implications

All orders have been advertised by the County Council as highway authority and will be made in accordance with legislative requirements.

Finance

LTP Budget.

Consultation

Is in accordance with SI:2489.

Equality and Diversity / Public Sector Equality Duty

It is considered that there are no Equality and Diversity issues to be addressed.

Climate Change

This TRO will allow for effective management of traffic to reduce congestion, reducing the overall amount of CO2 emissions.

Human Rights

Any interference with human rights is considered to be necessary in accordance with the law and proportionate in order to address highway safety issues.

Crime and Disorder

This TRO will allow effective management of traffic to reduce congestion and improve road safety.

Staffing

Carried out by Strategic Traffic.

Accommodation

No impact.

Risk

Not Applicable.

Procurement

Operations, DCC.

Appendix 2: Location of Proposals

