

Delegated Decision

OCTOBER 2021

SEAHAM, DAWDON AND DENESIDE

PARKING AND WAITING RESTRICTIONS

TRAFFIC REGULATION ORDER 2021

Ordinary Decision/Key Decision No.



Report of Corporate Management Team

Amy Harhoff Corporate Director of Regeneration, Economy & Growth

Electoral division(s) affected:

Seaham, Dawdon and Deneside

1. Purpose of the Report

Set aside objections and the making of the Traffic Regulation Order (TRO) following the Highways Committee conducted on 7th October 2021 to introduce parking and waiting restrictions in Seaham, Dawdon and Deneside.

2. Executive summary

Following requests from Durham Constabulary, Durham County Council Departments, local members and residents, an amendment to the Seaham, Dawdon and Deneside Parking and Waiting Restrictions TRO was formally advertised between 14/08/21-04/09/21.

The proposals are:

2.1. Church Street

To introduce 'no waiting at any time' restrictions throughout the pedestrianised area of Church Street to improve safety and access for pedestrians.

The response from Statutory Consultees was favourable with five objections raised from local businesses at the informal consultation stage.

2.2. Gregson Terrace

To introduce 'no waiting at any time' restrictions on the junction of Gregson Terrace and Seaton Lane to address issues with obstructive parking, visibility, and road safety.

The response from Statutory Consultees was favourable with two objections raised from a local business and resident at the informal consultation stage.

2.3. Hazel Dene Way/Hill Crescent

To introduce 'no waiting at any time' restrictions on the western side of the carriageway on Hill Crescent from the roundabout for Spectrum Business Park, covering the junction of Hazel Dene Way and Hill Crescent.

The response from Statutory Consultees was favourable with one objection raised from a resident at the informal and formal consultation stage.

2.4. Admiralty Way

To introduce 'no waiting at any time' restrictions on the southern side of the carriageway on Admiralty Way, covering the junction head and the access to Unit 4.

The response from Statutory Consultees was favourable with one objection raised from a local business in the informal consultation stage.

All of these proposals are supported by local members and Durham Constabulary.

All of these objections were considered by Highways Committee on 7th October 2021. Committee voted unanimously to set aside these objections and endorse the proposed TRO. With the final decision to be made by the Corporate Director under delegated powers.

3. Recommendation

Set aside objection and make TRO.

4. Background

Several requests have been received from local residents, local businesses, Durham County Council Departments and Durham Constabulary to address ongoing obstructive parking, visibility, access and safety issues in Seaham, Dawdon and Deneside

The areas of concern consist of various locations including residential, commercial, industrial and locations near school premises.

The initial consultation exercise was undertaken with statutory consultees (09/03/21 - 30/03/21) and directly affected frontages (17/05/21 - 09/06/21) with further requests received for additional parking and waiting restrictions, along with a number of objections.

Objectors were contacted to discuss their objection and explain the reasons to try and manage their concerns. No further correspondence was received from the objectors indicating that they were willing to withdraw their objection. Their objections therefore remained on file.

The proposals were advertised formally on site, online and in the local press (14/08/21-04/09/21). 1 objection was received at this stage from a previous objector in the informal consultation stage.

4.1. Church Street

This area was investigated at the request of the Community and Economic Development Team within Durham County Council due to vehicles parking in the pedestrianised area.

Throughout the day, vehicles drive into the pedestrianised area causing a safety issue for pedestrians who may be unaware of the vehicle's presence. Additionally, these vehicles can be seen to park for long periods of time, reducing the amount of space there is for pedestrians.

'No waiting at any time' restrictions have been proposed to address this issue, which aim to improve pedestrian safety, and accessibility for emergency services.

The initial consultation exercise was undertaken with statutory consultees and directly affected frontages between March 2021 and June 2021. Five objections were received during this period from local businesses.

Amendments were not deemed feasible, and objections were upheld when contacted. It was therefore agreed to progress with the original proposal to the formal consultation stage.

The proposals were advertised formally on site, online and in the local press (14/08/21-04/09/21). No further objections were received at this point.

4.2. Objections – Church Street

4.2.1. *Objection 1*

Objector 1 is a local business owner who states that “I am a business owner, and this is disgusting, we need to load and unload our stock”

4.2.2. *Objection 2*

Objector 2 is a local business owner who states that “The existing restrictions already have a negative impact on existing traders being able to access their properties”

4.2.3. *Objection 3*

Objector 3 is a local business owner who states that “This will affect business as good parking is what people come to Seaham for – no charge and good availability”

4.2.4. *Objection 4*

Objector 4 is a local business owner who states that “We are a florist and need access to deliver flowers from 7:30am till 5:00pm – it’s a constant flow”

4.2.5. *Objection 5*

Objector 5 is a local business owner who states “No loading facilities. Proposed 30-minute parking. We get deliveries Mon-Sat. Loading and unloading can take more than 30 mins”

4.2.6. *Response*

The proposed restrictions have been requested by the Community and Economic Development Team and are supported by local members. Due to Church Street being a pedestrianised area, vehicles driving into the area and parking raises significant safety concerns for pedestrians

who may be unaware of their presence. It is considered that there is sufficient parking on Back South Railway Street and the back of Church Street, which can also be used as loading/un-loading facilities by business owners. Loading and unloading is a legitimate activity that can be undertaken within a time restricted parking bay and provided it is continuous can be carried out for as long as is necessary.

4.3. Gregson Terrace

Local residents contacted Durham County Council regarding the obstructive parking issues on Gregson Terrace near to its junction with Seaton lane.

A previous attempt to resolve this issue had been made through the use of advisory keep clear markings. The issue with obstructive and dangerous parking still persisted.

‘No waiting at any time’ restrictions have been proposed to address this issue, which aim to improve road safety, visibility, and access.

The initial consultation exercise was undertaken with statutory consultees and directly affected frontages between March 2021 and June 2021. Two objections were received during this period. One from a local business and the other from a local resident.

Amendments were not deemed feasible, and objections were upheld when contacted. It was therefore agreed to progress with the original proposal to the formal consultation stage.

The proposals were advertised formally on site, online and in the local press (14/08/21-04/09/21). No further objections were received at this point.

4.4. Objections – Gregson Terrace

4.4.1. *Objection 1*

Objector 1 is a local business owner; they did not wish to make any comments regarding the proposed restrictions.

4.4.2. *Objection 2*

Objector 2 is a local resident who states, “I would like to park outside my own property”.

4.4.3. Response

The proposed restrictions have been requested by local residents. Gregson Terrace has a history regarding parking issues with a previous attempt being made using advisory keep clear markings to deter vehicles from parking close to the junction. This attempt has not been successful and visibility issues still persist.

4.5. Hazel Dene Way/Hill Crescent

Durham Constabulary raised issues with obstructive parking on Hill Crescent and the junction of Hill Crescent and Hazel Dene Way. The obstructive parking in this area causes issues with visibility and road safety.

‘No waiting at any time’ restrictions have been proposed to address this issue, which aim to improve road safety and visibility.

The initial consultation exercise was undertaken with statutory consultees and directly affected frontages between March 2021 and June 2021. One objection was received during this period from a local resident.

Amendments were not deemed feasible, and the objection could not be resolved when contacted. It was therefore agreed to progress with the original proposal to the formal consultation stage.

The proposals were advertised formally on site, online and in the local press (14/08/21-04/09/21). One objection was received during this stage from the previous objector from the informal consultation stage.

4.6. Objections – Hazel Dene Way/Hill Crescent

4.6.1. Objector 1

Objector 1 is a local resident who states, ‘They live in a 4-bedroom house with 3 cars and only have a driveway to accommodate for 2.’

4.6.2. Response

The proposed restrictions have been requested by Durham Constabulary. Vehicles parking on the verge along Hill Crescent as well as its junction with Hazel Dene Way reduces visibility and created a road safety issue.

4.7. Admiralty Way

Durham County Council were contacted by a local business regarding issues with obstructive parking on Admiralty Way. This is an industrial area with a high amount of HGV traffic making ease of access essential.

‘No waiting at any time’ restrictions have been proposed to address this issue, which aim to improve road safety, visibility and access.

The initial consultation exercise was undertaken with statutory consultees and directly affected frontages between March 2021 and June 2021. One objection was received during this period from a local business.

Amendments were not deemed feasible, and the objection could not be resolved when contacted. It was therefore agreed to progress with the original proposal to the formal consultation stage.

The proposals were advertised formally on site, online and in the local press (14/08/21-04/09/21). No further objections were received at this point.

4.8. Objections – Admiralty Way

4.8.1. *Objector 1*

Objector 1 is a local business owner who states, “This is not the area of concern.”

4.8.2. *Response*

The proposed restrictions have been requested by a local business. Due to the nature of the area, cars parking around the accesses to the units can create a road safety issue and obstruction for other road users.

5. Main implications

Consent to the progression of the following parking and waiting restrictions:

- 5.1. To introduce ‘no waiting at any time’ restrictions (double yellow lines) on Church Street to address issues with obstructive parking and improve pedestrian safety and access.

- 5.2. To introduce 'no waiting at any time' restrictions (double yellow lines) on Gregson Terrace to address issues with obstructive parking and improve road safety, visibility, and access.
- 5.3. To introduce 'no waiting at any time' restrictions (double yellow lines) on Hazel Dene Way/Hill Crescent to address issues with obstructive parking and improve road safety, visibility, and access.
- 5.4. To introduce 'no waiting at any time' restrictions (double yellow lines) on Admiralty Way to address issues with obstructive parking and improve road safety, visibility, and access.

6. Conclusion

Having considered the view of members with regards to objections received, said objections to be set aside, proceed to seal and bring into force the proposed TRO.

Contact: Daniel Morgan

Tel: 03000 262879

Appendix 1: Implications

Legal Implications

Enforceable TRO

Finance

Strategic Traffic.

Consultation

Statutory Instrument 2489

Equality and Diversity / Public Sector Equality Duty

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

Climate Change

It is considered that there are no Climate Change issues to be addressed.

Human Rights

No impact on Human Rights.

Crime and Disorder

No impact on Crime and Disorder

Staffing

No impact on staffing.

Accommodation

No impact.

Risk

No change to the risk impact.

Procurement

Durham County Council Legal Services.