

Delegated Decision

November 2022

**Langley Moor, Meadowfield, Brandon &
Browney**

Parking & Waiting Restrictions Amendment Order 2022

Ordinary Decision/Key Decision No.



Report of Corporate Management Team

Amy Harhoff Corporate Director of Regeneration, Economy & Growth

Electoral division(s) affected:

Brandon

Purpose of the Report

Set aside objections and the making of the Traffic Regulation Order (TRO) following the Highways Committee conducted on 10th November 2022 to introduce parking and waiting restrictions in Langley Moor & Brandon.

Executive summary

The County Council are committed to regularly reviewing Traffic Regulation Orders to ensure that the restrictions held within them are relevant and appropriate.

Representations have been received requesting a review of existing, and provision of additional, restrictions in Langley Moor & Brandon.

Having considered these requests, Officers have determined that the changes listed below would be of benefit in terms of improving road safety and reducing congestion. It is therefore proposed to amend the current Langley Moor, Meadowfield, Brandon & Browney Parking & Waiting Restrictions Order to allow the identified changes to be implemented.

All Local Members and Durham Constabulary have been consulted and raised no objection to the proposal.

Consultation Period:

	From	To
Statutory Consultees	04.02.22	25.02.22
Informal Consultation	29.03.22	20.04.22
Formal Consultation	22.09.22	13.10.22

The TRO has received 2 expressions in favour and 4 objections.

The objections were considered by Highway's Committee on 10th November 2022. 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.

Recommendation

Set aside objections and make TRO.

Proposals, Objections & Responses

Location 1 – A690, High Street (to introduce no waiting at any time restrictions)

Proposal Background

The A690, High Street is the main access road connecting Langley Moor, Meadowfield, Brandon and Browney to settlements such as Durham City to the north and Willington to the south. To the far north of the High Street, as the commercial premises begin, white road hatching was installed to channel vehicles away from the existing on street bays

We have received reports via the local elected member, Councillor Jonathan Elmer, that vehicles have begun to park on these hatched markings which has reduced visibility and increased congestion.

It is therefore proposed to introduce 'no waiting at any time' restrictions for the extent of these hatched markings to further prevent vehicles from parking in an obstructive manner.

During statutory consultation, Durham Constabulary highlighted the presence of existing informal double yellow lines on site on the northernmost junction to High Street South Back. It was requested these markings be formalised through this TRO to allow effective enforcement.

Initial proposals also included proposals to extend the existing ‘limited waiting, Monday-Saturday, 9am-5pm’ bays immediately south of the proposed ‘no waiting at any time’ restrictions, however this proposed extension was withdrawn following responses from the informal consultation.

Informal Consultation:

Total Properties balloted	Number in favour	Number opposed
27	2	3

Formal Consultation:

Consultation dates	Expressions in favour	Expressions against
22.09.22 – 13.10.22	0	0

Summarised objections & responses:

Objections:

3 objections from local residents were recorded. As the informal consultation initially included proposals to extend existing parking restrictions (Monday-Saturday, 9am-5pm, 2 hours, no return within 1 hour), of the 3 objections received as part of the informal consultation, whilst none directly objected to proposed ‘no waiting at any time’ restrictions, the reasons have been summarised below:

- “Current restrictions are too harsh, for residents and shop/office workers all along street.”
- “2 hours parking will not work for my clients. Also, my staff and myself have nowhere else to park.”

DCC Response:

- Durham County Council were asked by Councillor Jonathan Elmer to consult on proposals to extend the existing parking

restrictions (Monday-Saturday, 9am-5pm, 2 hours, no return within 1 hour).

- These proposals aimed to improve vehicle turnover along Langley Moor's commercialised High Street which would improve access to businesses in the area, in turn boosting their economic vitality.
- Following an initial consultation exercise, it was clear that businesses in the area felt these restrictions would restrict access to their premises by clients rather than improve it. After raising this feedback with Councillor Elmer these proposals were withdrawn.
- Whilst we understand there is a level of displacement when formal restrictions are introduced, it is proposed that 'no waiting at any time' restrictions be formalised in areas where parking causes legitimate concern for road safety in reducing the visibility of approaching road users.
- Given there are existing informal markings in place at the junction from the A690, High Street into High Street South Back, whilst these aren't currently enforceable, it is anticipated vehicles should not currently be parking in this location.

Location 2 – Sawmills Lane (to introduce no waiting at any time restrictions)

Proposal Background

Sawmills Lane is accessed via the A690, High Street and is one of the major access routes leading through Brandon, to Brandon Village in the north.

We have received reports from local residents that vehicles parked around the access to Stoneacre Garages restrict visibility and traffic flow on Sawmill Lane. A combination of waiting and loading restrictions have previously been introduced on this stretch of road to address similar obstruction issues, including 'no waiting and no loading/unloading at any time' restrictions on the eastern side of this junction.

It is now proposed to introduce 'no waiting at any time' restrictions on the western side of this junction to improve visibility and access/egress for approaching road users.

Informal Consultation:

Total Properties balloted	Number in favour	Number opposed
1	0	1

Formal Consultation:

Consultation dates	Expressions in favour	Expressions against
22.09.22 – 13.10.22	0	0

Summarised objections & responses:

Objections:

1 property has objected to this proposal, the reasons for their objection has been summarised below:

- “Cars drive fast down Sawmills Lane. It slows the cars down.”

DCC Response:

- It has been reported that vehicles are parking immediately around the junction from Sawmills Lane leading into the Stoneacre garages. This obstructive parking is reducing visibility for road users approaching the junction.
- In an effort to address this level of obstructive parking, ‘no waiting and no loading/unloading at any time’ restrictions were introduced on the eastern side of junction which has since displaced these issues to the western side.
- Whilst speeding on Sawmills Lane has been raised as a concern it is believed there is sufficient unobstructive on-street parking which provides natural traffic calming however Councillor Jonathan Elmer has enquired about the feasibility of further traffic calming measures with Durham County Council’s

Traffic Assets team. This will be addressed separately from this report.

Main implications

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

To introduce:

'No waiting at any time' restrictions at:

- A690, High Street
- High Street South (Back)
- Sawmills Lane

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.

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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.