

Delegated Decision

SEPTEMBER 2023

CONSETT

PARKING AND WAITING RESTRICTIONS

TRAFFIC REGULATION ORDER 2023

Ordinary Decision/Key Decision No.



Report of Major Projects - Strategic Traffic Management, Regeneration, Economy, and Growth.

Electoral division(s) affected:

Consett

Purpose of the Report

To request approval to progress a Traffic Regulation Order (TRO) to introduce parking and waiting restrictions in Consett.

Executive summary

We have received reports regarding road safety, obstructive parking, and visibility in multiple locations within the Consett TRO area. These reports have been submitted by Durham Constabulary, local County Councillors, and concerned residents. Furthermore, questions have arisen regarding the legality of the blue badge bays and loading bays in Gibson Street car park. To address these issues, it is recommended to make an amendment to the Consett TRO.

The proposals are to introduce 'no waiting at any time' restrictions on:

The junctions of Beechdale Road & Oakdale Road; Stanley Street & Fern Street; Livingstone Street & Fern Street; Livingstone Street & Medomsley Road (Back); Victoria Street and Spencer Street, Steel Street & Briton Terrace; Sherburn Terrace and Crookhall Road.

To extend the existing 'no waiting at any time' restrictions on the junction of Villa Real Road & Bramwell Terrace.

To amend the existing 'no waiting at any time' restrictions to 'no waiting and no loading at any time' restrictions on Church Street/Middle

Street/Raglan Street as well as introducing a 'loading only, Monday – Saturday, 8am – 6pm' restriction to the service area at the rear of the Derwent Centre.

To formalise the existing blue badge holders and loading only bays in Gibson Street car park.

The response from Statutory Consultees and directly affected frontages was favourable towards the proposals with one objection raised in relation to Middle Street, one objection to Gibson Street, one objection Stanley & Livingstone Street, one objection to Sherburn Terrace, and one in relation to Victoria Street. Only the objections relating to Gibson Street and Victoria Street remain unresolved.

There was support from all local members with Durham Constabulary fully supporting the proposals.

Recommendation

To approve the progression of the TRO as requested.

Background

Beechdale Road

Beechdale Road is located in the north-east of the Consett settlement and is primarily a residential area. Beechdale Road is home to the only access to Consett Junior School and Beechdale Nursery School and unfortunately therefore residents are subject to the typical issues surrounding school-gate parking. These issues include obstructive parking, particularly at the junction of Oakdale Road and Beechdale Road.

The issues with obstructive parking at this junction were reported to the County Council by a local member. Whilst the eastern side of this junction and opposite is already subject to a 'school keep clear' restriction, issues with school-gate parking persist. It is therefore proposed that 'no waiting at any time' restrictions are introduced on the western side of this junction to prevent obstructive parking and in turn improve road safety.

These proposals are fully supported by all the local members, Durham Constabulary and have received support from local residents during the initial consultation stages.

Bramwell Terrace

Bramwell Terrace sits on the northern outskirts of Consett, sharing a junction with the A691 Villa Real Road. This area is primarily residential however is still subject to high traffic volume, approximately 5300 ADT (2021), due to it being a main link between Leadgate and Shotley Bridge.

An attempt to address Issues with obstructive parking has previously been made, with 'no waiting at any time' restrictions introduced from the junction of Villa Real Road into Bramwell Terrace. However, obstructive parking on Villa Real Road close to the junction has remained an issue and this reduces visibility at this location, thus creating a road safety concern. It is therefore proposed to extend the existing 'no waiting at any time' restrictions to improve this issue.

These proposals are fully supported by all the local members, Durham Constabulary and whilst no support has been received by local residents, no objections have been received.

Gibson Street Car Park

Gibson Street is located within Consett town centre and is subject to large numbers of vehicles which park here to access the local amenities.

Within the car park, there are four disabled spaces and one loading bay. These bays are not currently contained within an active TRO. As a result, non-designated vehicles often park here at the expense of the intended user groups. To combat this issue, it is proposed to formalise these restrictions.

These proposals are fully supported by all the local members and Durham Constabulary.

Gibson Street

Gibson Street itself is a narrow, residential road located within Consett town centre. A large number of vehicles wishing to access the town centre will park here. Due to this, a local resident has dealt with a recurring issue of vehicles parking opposite their driveway, making it impossible for their larger vehicles to gain access and egress.

It is therefore proposed to introduce no waiting at any time restrictions in this location to create a clear space for vehicles to enter the properties driveway, and to keep the junction mouth clear.

These proposals are fully supported by all the local members and Durham Constabulary with one objection made by a local resident.

Livingstone & Stanley Street

Livingstone Street and Stanley Street are located to the north of Consett Town Centre and contain a mix of residential and commercial properties. There are a number of local shops nearby and a large primary school which attract short term parking in the local streets causing road safety issues at junctions.

To address this issue, it is proposed that 'no waiting at any time' restrictions are introduced on the junctions of Stanley Street and Fern Street, Livingstone Street and Fern Street, and Livingstone Street and Maple Street.

These proposals are fully supported by all the local members, Durham Constabulary and are considered favourable with the local residents initially consulted with one objection.

Middle Street

Middle Street is located within Consett town centre and is the home of many commercial properties. This has resulted in high numbers of vehicles loading in this location creating traffic flow and road safety issues.

To address these issues, it is proposed that sections of the existing 'no waiting at any time' restrictions be amended to 'no waiting and no loading at any time' in locations where stopped vehicles could cause traffic flow and road safety issues. To address the potential issue of vehicles having less space to load / unload, a short section of highway has been left as 'no waiting at any time' and the current service area to the rear of the Derwent Centre has been proposed to become a loading only area.

These proposals are fully supported by all the local members, Durham Constabulary but have received one objection from a local business owner.

Sherburn Terrace

Sherburn Terrace is located on the outskirts of Consett and mainly consists of residential properties. The recent development of a Synagogue has sparked concerns that the increase in traffic at the junction may cause issues with visibility when exiting the car park.

To address this, no waiting at any time restrictions are proposed to the right of the exit to improve visibility and in turn, road safety.

These proposals are fully supported by all the local members, Durham Constabulary and have received one objection from a local resident.

Victoria Street

Victoria Street is located to the west of Consett town centre and is a mixed-use area consisting of residential properties with some commercial buildings in the surrounding area. Recently, a garage has opened up in the local area which has generated a high number of vehicles being parked on the residential streets surrounding it. Due to the increase of vehicles, there have been reports of vehicles parking on junctions causing road safety and visibility issues.

To address this, no waiting at any time restrictions are proposed around a number of the junctions adjoining Victoria Street.

These proposals are fully supported by all the local members, Durham Constabulary and have received one objection from a local resident.

Main implications

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

To introduce:

'No waiting at any time' restriction on the junctions of Beechdale Road & Oakdale Road; Stanley Street & Fern Street; Livingstone Street & Fern Street; Livingstone Street & Medomsley Road (Back); Victoria Street and Spencer Street, Steel Street & Briton Terrace; and Sherburn Terrace to improve road safety, access, visibility, and traffic flow whilst reducing obstructive parking and congestion issues.

'Loading only, Monday – Saturday, 8am – 6pm' restriction to the service area at the rear of the Derwent Centre to improve loading facilities in the area whilst reducing obstructive parking issues.

Four blue badge holders and one loading only bays in Gibson Street car park to improve blue badge and loading facilities in the area.

To amend:

The current 'no waiting at any time' restrictions 'no waiting and no loading at any time' restriction on Middle Street/Raglan Street to improve road safety, access and traffic flow whilst reducing obstructive parking and congestion issues.

Conclusion

It is recommended to progress to formal advertising of the TRO subject to satisfactory consultation, proceed to seal and the creation of an enforceable TRO.

From time-to-time consolidation of orders may be required following amendment of an Order. If this is considered necessary, then this Authority may be used for the advertising and sealing of both Orders.

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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.