

## Delegated Decision

April 2024

Durham City (North West)

Parking & Waiting Restrictions

Traffic Regulation (Amendment) Order 2024

Ordinary Decision/Key Decision No.



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

#### Electoral division(s) affected:

Elvet & Gilesgate; Framwellgate & Newton Hall; Neville's Cross

#### Purpose of the Report

- 1 To amend the exemptions for parking bays with meters.

#### Executive summary

- 2 A review of car parking arrangements across the County has recently overseen the introduction of Sunday tariff points on all on-street pay and display parking bays within Durham City.
- 3 The introduction of a Sunday tariff has also encouraged a revised charging strategy for Bank Holidays; It is therefore proposed the days of parking charge exemptions be reduced to:
  - Christmas Day (25<sup>th</sup> December),
  - Boxing Day (26<sup>th</sup> December),
  - New Year's Day (1<sup>st</sup> January).

#### Recommendation

- 4 To approve amending charge exemptions within the relevant on-street Traffic Regulation Order (TRO).

#### Background

- 5 The on-street parking bays in Durham City are subject to a pay and display tariff and are currently extremely well used.
- 6 Since introducing the above charging regime, Sunday trading has been relaxed to the extent that almost all commercial outlets in the city

are trading on a Sunday. The consequence of this is that free on street bays and residential streets are occupied at the start of the day by long stay parkers to the detriment of visitors and residents alike.

- 7 To address these changes in demand, the charging regime within Durham was amended to operate between the hours of 8am – 6pm on all days of the week.
- 8 The introduction of a Sunday tariff has highlighted the necessity to review exemptions for charging on Bank Holidays. It is therefore proposed that the days of parking charge exemptions be reduced to:
  - Christmas Day (25<sup>th</sup> December),
  - Boxing Day (26<sup>th</sup> December),
  - New Year's Day (1<sup>st</sup> January).

### **Main implications**

- 9 Consent to the progression of the following changes:-

To amend existing charge exemption days for 'Parking Bays with Meters' & 'Permit Holders Only' restrictions from:

- Christmas Day, Good Friday, New Year's Day or a Bank Holiday.

To:

- Christmas Day (25<sup>th</sup> December),
- Boxing Day (26<sup>th</sup> December),
- New Year's Day (1<sup>st</sup> January).

### **Conclusion**

- 10 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.
- 11 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**

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### **Legal Implications**

Imposing charges under the powers of section 35 of the 1984 Road Traffic Regulation Act, section 32 or 33(4) requires a Traffic Regulation Order.

Increases in parking charges introduced by Order can be made either by Amendment Order or, under section 35C or 46A of the 1984 Act (as appropriate), by Notice. Making changes by Notice means that objections to the changes need not be entertained, as would be the case if an amendment order was advertised. Changes can thus be made more quickly.

### **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 proposals will have a positive impact with regard to climate change by encouraging modal shift, reducing congestion and vehicle emissions in line with the Councils declared climate emergency.

### **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**

No impact on staffing.

### **Accommodation**

No impact.

**Risk**

No change to the risk impact.

**Procurement**

Durham County Council Legal Services.