

Highways Committee

12 December 2016



COXHOE PARKING & WAITING RESTRICTIONS ORDER

Report of Ian Thompson, Corporate Director, Regeneration and Local Services

Cllr Neil Foster, Portfolio Holder, Regeneration and Economic Development

1. Purpose

- 1.1. Members are asked to make a decision in principle only which will then guide the Corporate Director in the exercise of delegated decision making. The final decision is therefore one for the Corporate Director, under delegated powers.
- 1.2. To advise Members of objections received to the consultation concerning changes to the proposed traffic regulation order in Coxhoe.
- 1.3. To request that members consider the objections made during the consultation period.

2. Background

- 2.1 Following the successful implementation of Civil Parking Enforcement in County Durham which concluded in June 2013, enforcement of all waiting restrictions are now undertaken by the County Council.
- 2.2 The County Council are committed to regularly reviewing traffic regulation orders to ensure that the restrictions held within them are relevant and appropriate.
- 2.3 Initial discussions regarding the existing waiting restrictions within the town were held between the County Council and Coxhoe Town Council in 2014. This led to an initial consultation exercise being undertaken with statutory consultees and directly affected frontages in December 2014. Several objections were received at this time and it was therefore decided to revise these initial proposals.

- 2.4 After revising the proposals, a second consultation exercise was undertaken with statutory consultees and affected frontages between 17th Sept - 8th Oct 2015.
- 2.5 The proposed amendments that were consulted on at this point were:
- (i) Introduction of 'no waiting at any time' restrictions at the Featherstones / Station Road junction and Rosslyn Mews junction
 - (ii) Introduction of a disabled badge holders bay and 'no waiting at any time' restrictions outside of Coxhoe Medical Centre
 - (iii) Introduction of 'no waiting at any time' restrictions on parts of Cooperative Terrace and Church Street.
 - (iv) Removal of limited waiting on parts of Co-Operative Terrace.
 - (v) Replacement of limited waiting with 'no waiting at any time' on Sanderson Street.
 - (vi) Introduction of a 2 hour time limit on the B6291 Church Street as well as some short lengths of 'no waiting at any time'.
- 2.6 The overall aim of the proposals is to improve accessibility to local shops and facilities in the town. In conjunction with this we are also improving the access and egress from a number of the junctions in the area whilst rationalising some existing restrictions.
- 2.7 The proposals were advertised formally on site and in the local press between the 3rd and 25th March 2016.
- 2.8 10 objections have been received to the proposed scheme. These objections were received during both the informal and formal consultation periods and have been summarised below.
- 2.9 Due to the volume of objections received to the proposed limited waiting bays on B6291 Church Street, this element of the proposals was removed. All other proposals are still being progressed, however, there are 3 unresolved objections outlined below.

3 Objection 1 & 2

- 3.1 The objector is opposed to the changes proposed for Cooperative Terrace and feels that they will result in congestion and residents not being able to park outside of their homes. A comment was made that they would prefer lines to remain on both sides of the road.

4 Response

- 4.1 At present, the highway to the front of numbers 6-17 Cooperative Terrace is covered by a 'no waiting 8am-6pm' restriction. This restriction also covers numbers 4-10 Sanderson Street which is directly opposite. This restriction is often abused by motorists and it is not uncommon to find vehicles parked in this area for prolonged periods during the

restricted hours. When vehicles are parked on both sides of the road it can cause disruption to the traffic flow queuing at the traffic signals. It is proposed that the restriction on the southern side of Cornforth Lane be removed and a 'no waiting at any time' restriction be run all the way through on the northern side. It is hoped that these changes will offer more parking availability for the residents of 6-17 Cooperative Terrace whilst maintaining traffic flow around the traffic lights at the junction with Church Street.

5 Objection 3

- 5.1 The objector is a resident of Co-operative Terrace and would like a 2 hour waiting limit introduced to reduce traffic problems.

6 Response

- 6.1 At present this section of highway is covered by a limited waiting restriction 8am-6pm. The restriction covers the frontages of 12 residential properties and is often abused during the restricted hours. It is our intention to amend the time limited restriction on the northern side of the street (Sanderson Street) so that it is covered by a 'no waiting at any time' restriction whilst removing the restriction on the southern side (Co-Operative Terrace). It is hoped that these amendments will afford greater flexibility to the residents of the area whilst regulating the traffic in this busy part of the town.

15 Local member consultation

The Local Members have been consulted and offer no objection to the proposals.

16 Recommendation

It is recommended that the Members resolve that they are minded to agree to endorse the proposals having considered the objections and proceed with the implementation of the Coxhoe Parking & Waiting Restrictions Order, with the final decision to be made by the Corporate Director under delegated powers.

17 Background Papers

Correspondence and documentation on Traffic Office File and in member's library.

Appendix 1: Implications

Finance - LTP Capital

Staffing - Carried out by Strategic Traffic

Risk - Not Applicable

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

Accommodation - No impact on staffing

Crime and Disorder - This TRO will allow effective management of traffic to reduce congestion and improve road safety

Human Rights - No impact on human rights

Consultation - Is in accordance with SI:2489

Procurement - Operations, DCC.

Disability Issues - None

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