



Northumberland

County Council

RECORD OF DECISION TAKEN BY SERVICE DIRECTOR OF LOCAL SERVICES

PAUL JONES

INTRODUCTION OF TAXI RANK AND LOADING BAY RESTRICTION ON STATION ROAD AND NORTH SEATON ROAD IN ASHINGTON

Cabinet Member: Glen Sanderson

Purpose of Report

To consider the introduction of a Traffic Regulation Order to existing Taxi Rank and Loading Bay on Station Road and a Taxi Rank on North Seaton Road following the success of temporary restrictions being in place.

Recommendations

It is recommended that the following restrictions are introduced:-

- 1. Introduce a Traffic Regulation Order to the existing Taxi Rank on North Seaton Road following the restriction being introduced on a temporary basis.**
- 2. Introduce a Traffic Regulation Order to the existing Taxi Rank and Loading bay on Station Road following the restriction being introduced on a temporary basis.**

Link to Corporate Plan

How - "We want to be efficient, open and work for everyone"

Living - "We want you to feel safe, healthy and cared for"

Connecting - "We want you to have access to the things you need"

Delegated Decision Report

Key Issues

1. In 2017 the pedestrianised area of Station Road was redeveloped to allow vehicular traffic to pass through in a westerly direction.
2. As part of the works the Taxi Rank located on the east side of Station road was removed.
3. A Temporary Traffic Regulation Order was introduced to Station Road creating a Taxi Rank and a Loading Bay and a Taxi Rank on North Seaton Road.
4. Permanent Traffic Regulation Order to be introduced without any formal consultation following the success if the Temporary Parking Restrictions.

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Delegated Decision Report

INTRODUCTION OF TAXI RANK AND LOADING BAY RESTRICTION ON STATION ROAD AND NORTH SEATON ROAD IN ASHINGTON

Background

1. As part of the regeneration of Station Road shopping area in Ashington, the pedestrianised area was removed and a single lane carriageway was introduced heading in the direction of east to west.
2. Additional short stay echelon parking was introduced along the carriageway to increase the availability of parking near the shopping outlets and to increase footfall through the shopping area, with the aim of improving the local economy.
3. Due to the redevelopment of Station Road, there was a need to relocate the Taxi Rank from the original location on the east side of the pedestrianised area. The following locations were identified as areas where additional parking places be introduced:-
 - Existing Taxi Rank on Station Road located west of the former pedestrianised area.
 - The north end of North Seaton Road .
4. The restrictions were introduced using a Temporary Traffic Regulation Order which has now expired meaning the Taxi Ranks and Loading Bays are now advisory only.
5. After discussing the issues with Local County Councillors Willson, it was agreed that a permanent Traffic Regulation Order should be introduced without any formal consultation as the scheme was successful when introduced temporarily and no complaints were received.

Consultation

The Loading Bay and Taxi Rank on Station Road and the Taxi Rank on North Seaton Road will be introduced without consultation due to the success of the temporary restrictions. The 30 statutory consultees including the emergency services and various disabled and transport organisations/associations will be informed of the decision as well as the Chief Officer of Police. A plan showing the proposals is attached as Appendix A.

Delegated Decision Report

Recommendations

6. From the outset, the County Council has endeavoured to respond positively to local concerns raised in this area and it is inevitable that some individuals in the community will be dissatisfied with whichever decision is reached. The introduction of parking restrictions without consultation can be a contentious matter, but due to evidence that the restrictions facilitate the community and the outlets in the area and restrictions are supported by local County Councillor Willson, it is recommended that a permanent Traffic Regulation Order is introduced on to the Taxi Rank and Loading Bays on Station Road and The Taxi Rank on North Seaton Road.
7. The Council has the power to hold a public inquiry before making any traffic regulation order. Such an inquiry might enable disputed evidence to be tested under cross-examination and the need for an order to be critically examined by an independent inspector. In this particular case, officers believe that such an inquiry is unlikely to bring any fresh information to light and it is therefore recommended that an inquiry is not held.

Delegated Decision Report

Implications Arising out of the Report

| | |
|---|---|
| Policy | Consistent with existing policies |
| Finance and value for money | None |
| Legal | None |
| Procurement | None |
| Human Resources | None |
| Property | None |
| Equalities (Impact Assessment attached) Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> N/A <input type="checkbox"/> | None |
| Risk Assessment | Anti Social behaviour when unauthorised vehicles are parking in the advisory bays |
| Crime & Disorder | Inconsiderate parking on footpath |
| Customer Consideration | The restrictions benefit both traders and shoppers visiting Station Road shopping outlets in Ashington and will increase footfall within the area |
| Carbon reduction | None |
| Wards | Ashington Central |

Background papers:

None

Delegated Decision Report

Report sign off.

Authors must ensure that relevant officers and members have agreed the content of the report:

| | initials |
|--------------------------|----------|
| Finance Officer | N/A |
| Monitoring Officer/Legal | N/A |
| Human Resources | N/A |
| Procurement | N/A |
| I.T. | N/A |
| Director | PJ |
| Portfolio Holder(s) | GS |

Delegated Decision Report

DECISION TAKEN

Title of Officer:

Paul Jones - Service Director -Local Services

Subject:

Introduction of Taxi Rank and Loading Bay
Restrictions on Station Road and North Seaton Road
in Ashington.

Consultation:

No Consultation undertaken. Restriction introduced
following successful implementation of restrictions on
a temporary basis.

Decision Taken:

To introduce the following restrictions:-

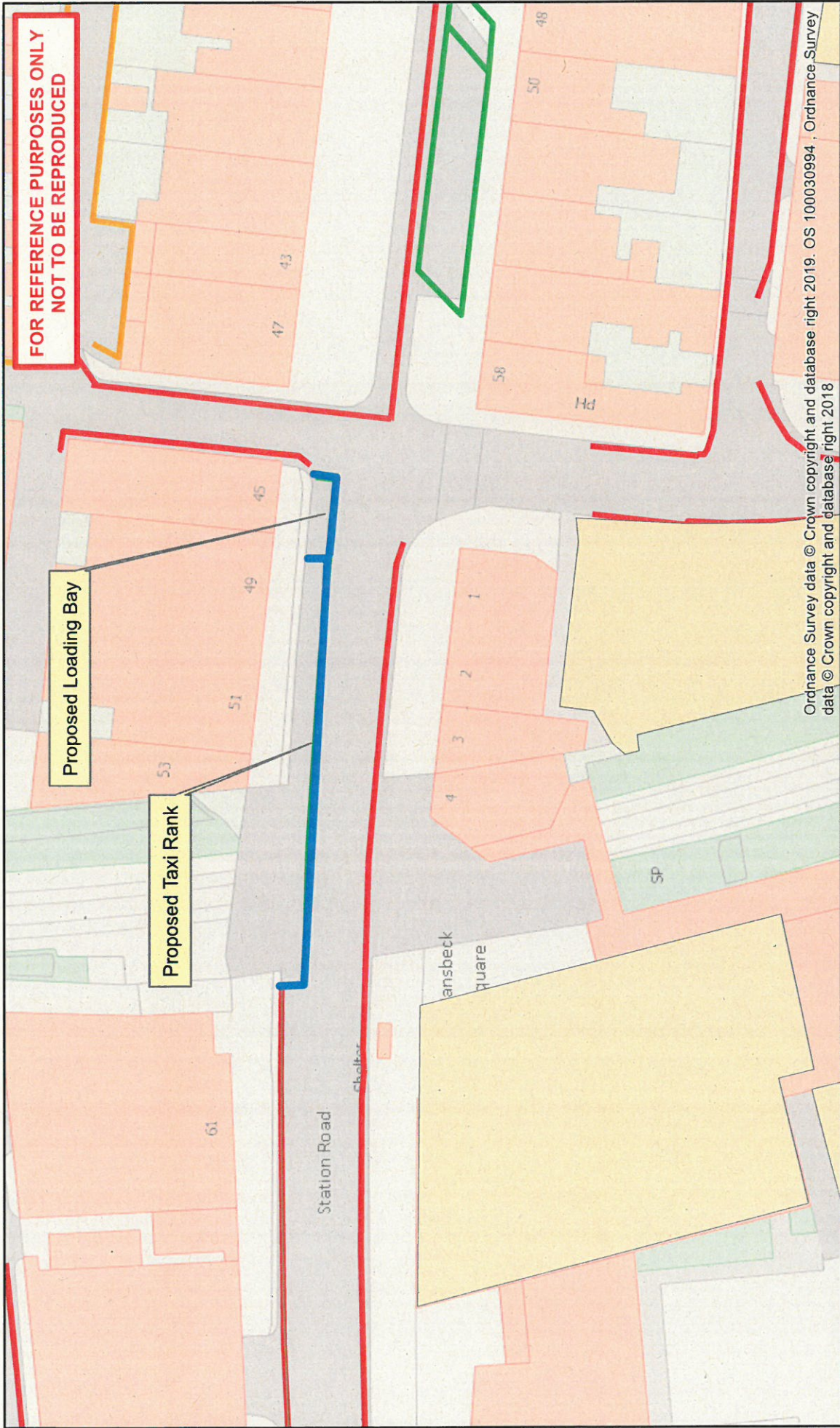
- Introduce a Traffic Regulation Order on the
existing Taxi Rank on North Seaton Road
following the restriction being introduced on a
temporary basis.
- Introduce a Traffic Regulation Order on the
existing Taxi Rank and Loading bay on Station
Road following the restriction being introduced
on a temporary basis.

Signature of Director



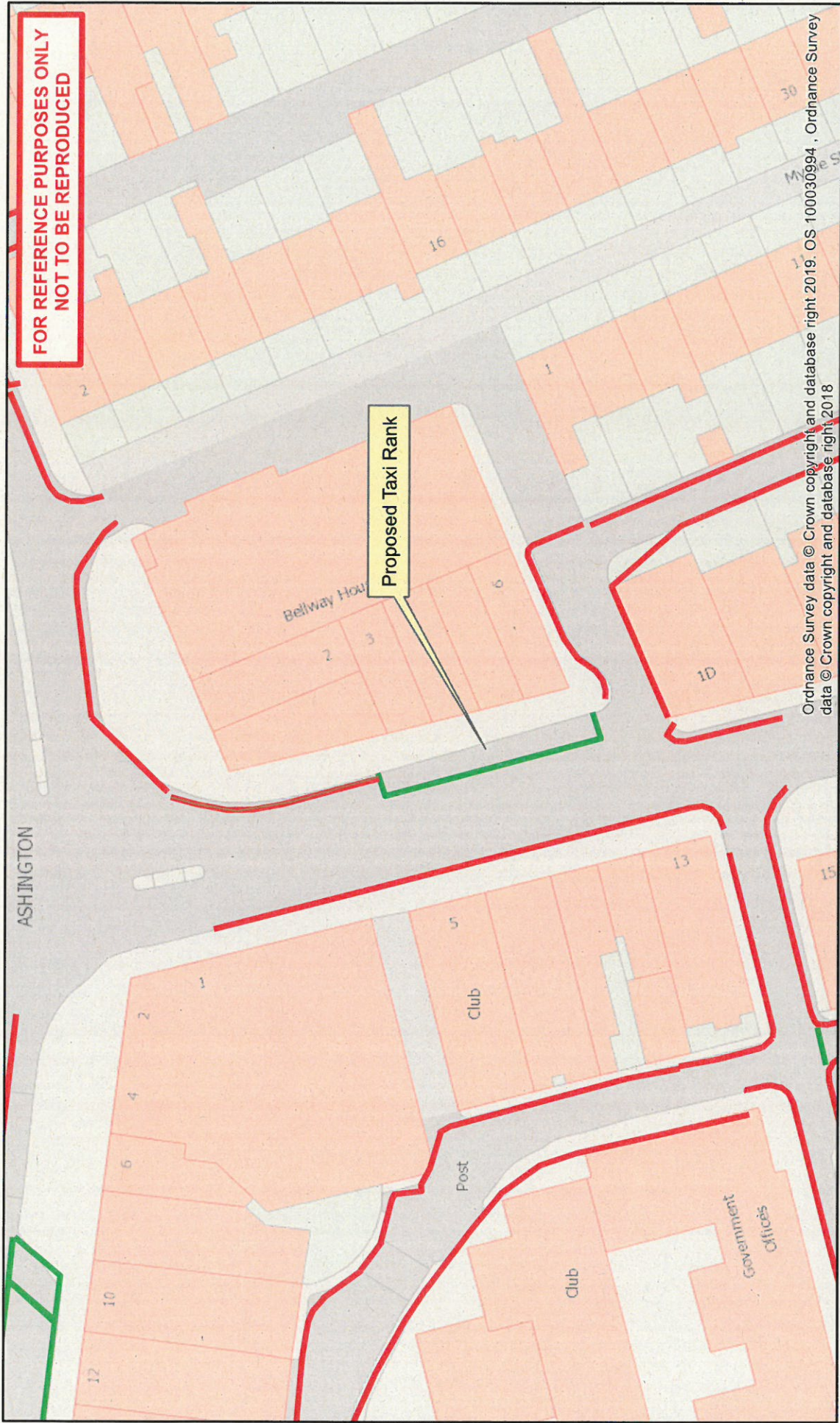
Date

19/8/19



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| Northumberland County Council County Hall Morpeth Northumberland NE61 2EF Tel: 01670 533000 | | Network Management Information System | | Title: Appendix A Station Road, Ashington Proposed Parking Restriction | |
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