NORTHUMBERLAND COUNTY COUNCIL ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 BOWES STREET BLYTH RESTRICTED PARKING ZONE EXPERIMENTAL ORDER 2023 (TRO_021_01)

Northumberland County Council, in exercise of their powers under Sections 1(1), Section 9 and Schedule 9 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, hereby make the following order:

1. Commencement and Citation

This Order shall come into operation on 2nd May 2023 until the 2nd May 2024 and may be cited as "Northumberland County Council Bowes Street Blyth Experimental Order 2023."

2. Interpretation

In this Order, unless the context otherwise requires, the following expressions have the meanings hereby respectively assigned to them:

- "the Act" means the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984;
- "civil enforcement officer" shall have the same meaning as in section 76 of the Traffic Management Act 2004 with the reference to 'the authority' in subsection 2 thereof being a reference to the Council:
- "community worker permit" means a permit issued by the Council upon being satisfied that the applicant fulfils the relevant criteria to facilitate the leaving of a Vehicle in a parking place as defined in the Schedules of this Order;
- "Council" means Northumberland County Council;
- "disabled persons' badge" has the same meaning as in the Disabled Persons (Badges for Motor Vehicles) (England) Regulations 2000;
- "disabled persons' parking place" means a parking place specified in Schedule 4 of this Order;
- "driver" in relation to a vehicle waiting in a parking place means the person driving the vehicle at the time it was left in the parking place;
- "emergency vehicle" means a vehicle as defined by regulation 3 of the Road Vehicles Lighting Regulations 1989 (SI 1989/1796);
- "goods" means goods of any kind whether animate or inanimate and includes postal packages of any description and "delivering" and "collecting" in relation to any goods includes checking the goods for the purpose of their delivery or collection;
- "goods vehicle" means a Vehicle which is constructed or adapted for use for the carriage of Goods or burden of any description and is not drawing a trailer;
- "limited waiting parking place" means a parking place specified in Schedule 5 of this Order;
- "loading bay" means any length of road specified in Schedule 3 of this Order as a Loading Bay;
- "maximum permitted stay" means the maximum time that a Vehicle may be left in a parking place as defined in the Schedules of this Order;

"parking dispensation" means a dispensation issued by the Council upon being satisfied that the applicant fulfils the relevant criteria to facilitate the leaving of a Vehicle in a parking place as defined in the Schedules of this Order;

"permitted hours" means the times of operation specified in the Schedules of this Order;

"proper officer" means any officer of the Council for the time being appointed for the purposes of approving modifications or suspensions of Experimental Orders under Section 10(2) of the Act;

"the Regulations" means the Local Authorities' Traffic Orders (Procedure) (England and Wales) Regulations 1996;

"restricted parking zone" means an area comprising all of the roads or parts of the roads or streets or parts of the streets described in Schedule 1 of this Order;

"special permit" means a permit issued by the Council upon being satisfied that the applicant fulfils the relevant criteria to facilitate the leaving of a Vehicle in a parking place as defined in the Schedules of this Order;

"vehicle" has the same meaning as that assigned to 'motor vehicle' in section 136(1) of the Act of 1984;

Any reference in this order to any enactment shall be construed as a reference to that enactment as amended, applied, consolidated, re-enacted by or as having effect by virtue of any subsequent re-enactment.

3. General

- 3.1 The restrictions imposed by this Order shall be in addition to and not in derogation of any restrictions or requirements imposed by any Regulations made or having effect as if made under the Act or by or under any other enactment.
- 3.2 Where an Act of Parliament referred to in this Order or any Regulation, Direction or Order made under it is repealed and new provisions enacted (with or without modifications) new provisions shall be substituted in this Order where relevant.
- 3.3 Except where otherwise stated, any reference in this Order to a numbered article or schedule is a reference to the article or schedule bearing that number in this Order.
- 3.4 The Interpretation Act 1978 shall apply to this Order as it applies to an Act of Parliament.

4. Introduction of a Restricted Parking Zone

Save as provided in Article 9 of this Order, no person shall, except on the direction of or with the permission of a Civil Enforcement Officer, cause or permit any Vehicle to stop along the lengths of highway specified in Schedule 1 of this Order.

5. Waiting

No person shall, except on the direction of or with the permission of a police officer in uniform or a Civil Enforcement Officer, cause or permit any Vehicle to wait on any lengths of highway specified in Schedule 2 of this Order.

6. Loading Bays

No person shall, except on the direction of or with the permission of a police officer in uniform or a Civil Enforcement Officer, cause or permit any Vehicle to wait on any Loading

Bay during the Permitted Hours except from a Goods Vehicle where Goods are continuously loaded or unloaded, or are being delivered or collected from a premises, on any lengths of highway specified in Schedule 3 of this Order.

7. Disabled Persons' Parking Places

At all times during which a Vehicle is left in a Disabled Persons' Parking Place during the Permitted Hours, as specified in Schedule 4, there shall be displayed on the said Vehicle a valid Disabled Persons' Badge so that all the particulars are readily visible from the front of nearside of that Vehicle.

8. Limited Waiting Parking Places

At all times during which a Vehicle is left in a Limited Waiting Parking Place during the Permitted Hours and for more than the Maximum Permitted Stay, as specified in Schedule 5, there shall be displayed on the said Vehicle:

- (i) a valid Disabled Persons' Badge; or
- (ii) a valid Special Permit; or
- (iii) a valid Community Worker Permit; or
- (iv) a valid Parking Dispensation

displayed so that all the particulars of the Disabled Persons' Badge or Parking Dispensation are readily visible from the front or near side of the Vehicle.

9. Exemptions

Nothing in Article 4 of this Order shall prohibit any person from causing or permitting any Vehicle to stop along the lengths of highway specified in Schedule 1 so long as may be necessary:

- (1) to enable an Emergency Vehicle when used in pursuance of statutory powers or duties:
- to enable mobility scooters also known as an 'invalid carriage' in accordance with section 136(5) of the Act;
- (3) to enable the Vehicle to be used in connection with any of the following operations namely:
 - (i) any building operation or demolition; or
 - (ii) the removal of any obstruction to traffic; or
 - (iii) the maintenance, improvement or reconstruction of that length of highway; or
 - (iv) the laying, erection, alteration or repair in or near that length of highway of any sewer or of any main pipe, or apparatus for the supply of gas, water, electricity or any telecommunications apparatus as defined in paragraph 1(1) of Schedule 2 to the Telecommunications Act 1984; or
 - (v) to enable a Vehicle to be used in the service of a local authority or water authority in pursuance of statutory powers or duties if the Vehicle cannot be used for such purpose without stopping on the length of highway specified in Schedule 1; or

- (vi) to enable the Vehicle to be used by the highways engineer for highways work being undertaken on behalf of the Council; or
- (vii) to enable the Vehicle to be used for the purpose of delivering or collecting postal packages as defined in section 87 of the Post Office Act 1953; or
- (viii) if the Vehicle is waiting owing to the Driver being required by law to stop, or being prevented from proceeding by circumstances beyond his control.

10. Supplementary Provisions

The operation of this Experimental Order or any provision of it may be modified or suspended by the Proper Officer if it appears essential:

- (1) in the interests of the expeditious, convenient and safe movement of traffic; or
- (2) in the interests of providing suitable and adequate on-street parking facilities; or
- (3) for preserving or improving the amenities of the area through which any length of highway affected by the Order runs.

This power shall be exercised only after consulting the appropriate Chief Officer of Police and giving such public notice as the Secretary of State may direct.

11. Revocations

This Order will hereby revoke all previous Orders or sections of Orders detailing waiting, loading and parking place restrictions on the streets as detailed in the Schedules of this Order.

The COMMON SEAL of NORTHUMBERLAND COUNTY COUNCIL was hereunto affixed this 17th day of April 2023 in the presence of:-



Duly Authorised Officer

Seal Number: 25252

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Schedule 1 – Streets Comprising the Restricted Parking Zone

USRN	Street	Town	Side	Description	Proscribed Hours
3205320	BOWES STREET	BLYTH	Both	At a point 19 metres east of its junction with Thoroton Street to its junction with Regent Street	At Any Time
3202963	WANLEY STREET	BLYTH	Both	At its junction with Bowes Street to its junction with High Street	At Any Time
3201654	CHURCH STREET	BLYTH	Both	At its northern junction with U9503 Bowes Street Back Lane to its junction with Waterloo Road	At Any Time

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Schedule 2 – Waiting

USRN	Street	Town	Side	Description	Proscribed Hours
3205320	BOWES STREET	BLYTH	North	At its junction with Thoroton Street to a point 18 metres north east of its junction with Thoroton Street	At Any Time
3205320	BOWES STREET	BLYTH	South	At its junction with Thoroton Street to a point 31 metres north east of its junction with Thoroton Street	At Any Time
3204097	REGENT STREET	BLYTH	West	At a point 13 metres north west of its junction with Bowes Street to a point 27 metres south east of its junction with Bowes Street	At Any Time

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Schedule 3 – Loading Bays

USRN	Street	Town	Side	Description	Permitted Hours
3205320	BOWES STREET	BLYTH	North	At a point 6 metres west of its junction with Church Street to a point 17 metres west of its junction with Church Street	1 Hour Maximum Stay, No Return within 2 Hours

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Schedule 4 – Disabled Blue Badge Holder Parking Places

USRN	Street	Town	Side	Description	Permitted Hours
3205320	BOWES STREET	BLYTH	North	At a point 60 metres north east of its junction with Thoroton Street to a point 67 metres north east of its junction with Thoroton Street	9am-6pm, 3 Hours Maximum Stay, No Return within 4 Hours

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Schedule 5 – Limited Waiting Parking Places

USRN	Street	Town	Side	Description	Permitted Hours
3205320	BOWES STREET	BLYTH	North	At a point 21 metres north east of its junction with Thoroton Street to a point 61 metres north east of its junction with Thoroton Street	9am-6pm, 30 Minutes Maximum Stay, No Return within 1 Hour
3205320	BOWES STREET	BLYTH	North	At a point 84 metres north east of its junction with Thoroton Street to a point 104 metres north east of its junction with Thoroton Street	9am-6pm, 30 Minutes Maximum Stay, No Return within 1 Hour
3205320	BOWES STREET	BLYTH	North	At a point 5 metres east of its junction with Church Street to a point 32 metres north east of its junction with Church Street	9am-6pm, 30 Minutes Maximum Stay, No Return within 1 Hour
3205320	BOWES STREET	BLYTH	North	At a point 35 metres north east of its junction with Church Street to a point 53 metres north east of its junction with Church Street	9am-6pm, 30 Minutes Maximum Stay, No Return within 1 Hour
3205320	BOWES STREET	BLYTH	North	At a point 6 metres west of its junction with Regent Street to a point 31 metres west of its junction with Regent Street	9am-6pm, 30 Minutes Maximum Stay, No Return within 1 Hour
3202963	WANLEY STREET	BLYTH	West	At a point 4 metres south of its junction with Bowes Street to a point 12 metres south east of its junction with Bowes Street	9am-6pm, 30 Minutes Maximum Stay, No Return within 1 Hour
3202963	WANLEY STREET	BLYTH	West	At a point 2 metres north of its junction with High Street to a point 20 metres north west of its junction with High Street	9am-6pm, 30 Minutes Maximum Stay, No Return within 1 Hour

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STATEMENT OF THE COUNCIL'S REASONS FOR MAKING THE ORDER

The effect of this Experimental Order will be to introduce a Restricted Parking Zone in order to effectively enforce obstructive and indiscriminate parking in a predominantly pedestrian area of Blyth on an experimental basis.

The reason for introducing these restrictions by way of an Experimental Order is to assess the impact the new restrictions to the vicinity have as a solution to the parking issues in Blyth town centre, where pedestrians are more prominent. Restrictions are being introduced to alleviate the increased level of obstructive and indiscriminate parking currently being experienced in the town centre. These include a Restricted Parking Zone and a goods vehicles only loading bay, neither of which have ever been introduced in Blyth, along with short-stay parking place facilities in the form of limited waiting bays. Due to the significant changes to the landscape and new initiatives being introduced on Bowes Street and its adjoining streets, it is considered that an Experimental Order is suitable to be introduced in this instance.

Consideration will be given after a trial period as to whether or not the provisions of this Experimental Order should be made permanent or if further amendments to the restrictions are required. Currently, at the end of a 12 month trial period, the Council intends to consider making an order which will continue in force indefinitely either having the same effect as the Experimental Traffic Regulation Order or with amendments made if they should be so required.

The effects of this Order will be reviewed after a 6 month period.

