

## RECORD OF DECISION TAKEN BY EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF LOCAL SERVICES

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### PROPOSED SCHOOL KEEP CLEAR ROAD MARKINGS – PRUDHOE WEST FIRST SCHOOL

Executive Director of Local Services, Barry Rowland  
Executive Member, Ian Swithenbank, Streetcare and Environment

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#### **Purpose of report:**

To consider the results of the public consultation exercise regarding the introduction of parking restrictions in the form of School Keep Clear road markings at the above location, together with the introduction of a Traffic Regulation Order (TRO) to enable enforcement.

#### **Recommendations:**

**It is recommended that in view of the consultation exercise, the School Keep Clear Markings should be introduced as proposed together with the necessary Traffic Regulation Order to enable enforcement.**

#### **Key issues**

The scheme was prepared and consultation has taken place. All seven responses received were in favour of the proposals.

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Report Author

Neil Snowdon – Transport Projects Officer  
(01670) 624128  
Neil.Snowdon@northumberland.gov.uk

## **PROPOSED SCHOOL KEEP CLEAR ROAD MARKINGS – PRUDHOE WEST FIRST SCHOOL**

### **BACKGROUND**

- 1) Concerns have been raised by Prudhoe West First School, local residents and Councillor Eileen Burt about road safety in the vicinity of Prudhoe West First School at Errington Place in Prudhoe. Of particular concern is the traffic congestion at school start and finish times.
- 2) In response to these concerns a site meeting was held with the school and Councillor Burt to discuss a suitable solution. It was agreed that the introduction of parking restrictions in the form of School Keep Clear Road Markings would assist in improving the current situation. These proposals were the subject of a consultation exercise that involved the delivery of a consultation letter to approximately 20 households, and approximately 25 statutory consultees, such as the emergency services and various disabled and transport associations/organisations. A plan showing the proposals is attached together with a copy of the consultation letter (see Appendix 1).

### **CONSULTATION**

- 3) The consultation exercise ended on 20 September 2013, and responses were received from seven consultees, all were in favour. A summary of the responses is attached as Appendix 2. The proposals have also been advertised on site, and no objections have been received.
- 4) North East Ambulance Service was the only statutory consultee who responded to the consultation, indicating that they were in favour.

### **OTHER COMMENTS**

- 5) Whilst indicating their support of the proposals on the response form provided, residents commented that speeding traffic is a concern in the area, and additional parking restrictions may be needed. Given these comments, Slow road markings are being provided as part of the works. We will also monitor the parking situation once the TRO is in place to ascertain whether further measures are required.

### **RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 6) From the outset, the County Council has endeavoured to respond positively to local concern over road safety in this area and it is inevitable that some sections of the community will be dissatisfied with whichever decision is reached. Following the consultation exercise it is clear that all residents who have responded are in favour of the proposals, and from a road safety point of view, the restrictions will significantly improve the safety of children and parents attending Prudhoe West First School. It is

therefore recommended that the parking restrictions are introduced as proposed, together with the necessary TRO to enable enforcement.

- 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 the extensive consultation process and involvement with interested parties, means that such an inquiry is unlikely to bring any fresh information to light and it is therefore recommended that an inquiry is not held.
- 8) Accordingly it is recommended that the Committee agree to advise the Corporate Director of Local Services to note the objections but agree to proceed with the introduction of the following Traffic Regulation Order;
  - West Northumberland Area (Waiting and Loading) Composite Order 2011 Amendment No. 14 Order 2013.

## **APPENDIX INDEX**

Appendix 1 – Consultation Letter and Plan

Appendix 2 – Summary of Consultation Responses

## **BACKGROUND PAPERS**

Road Traffic Act 2004

Local Government Act 2000

File Ref: M/C/1/110

## **IMPLICATIONS ARISING OUT OF THE REPORT**

<b>Policy:</b>	Consistent with existing policies
<b>Finance and value for money</b>	Scheme will cost approximately £3,000 and will be financed from the 2013/14 Minor Improvements Programme (LTP)
<b>Human Resources:</b>	None
<b>Property</b>	None
<b>Equalities</b>	Correct lines and signs will help improved enforcement
<b>Risk Assessment</b>	Residential area, route to school, speeding traffic and associated visibility issues.
<b>Crime &amp; Disorder</b>	The proposals will assist in contributing towards a reduction in disorder and disruption and help promote a safer environment.
<b>Customer Considerations</b>	The proposals will lead to better managed road space and improved road safety.
<b>Sustainability</b>	None
<b>Consultation</b>	Prudhoe Town Council, the emergency services, nearby residents, and interested road user organisations were consulted together with the County Councillor for the area.
<b>Wards</b>	Prudhoe North

## DECISION TAKEN

**Title of Executive Member and Executive Director:**

Executive Director of Local Services, Barry Rowland  
Executive Member, Ian Swithenbank, Streetcare and Environment

**Subject:**

Proposed School Keep Clear Markings – Prudhoe West First School, Prudhoe

**Consultation:**

Prudhoe Town Council, the emergency services, nearby residents, and interested road user organisations were consulted together with the County Councillor for the area.

**Decision Taken:**

It is recommended that in view of the consultation exercise, the School Keep Clear Road Markings should be introduced as proposed together with the necessary Traffic Regulation Order to enable enforcement.

**Signature of Executive Director**



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**Date**

14 / 7 / 14

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## APPENDIX 1 – CONSULTATION LETTER AND PLAN

County Hall • Morpeth • Northumberland • NE61 2EF  
• Web: [www.northumberland.gov.uk](http://www.northumberland.gov.uk)

The Occupier

Our Ref: SKC\_Western / DES No. 2220  
Your Ref:  
Contact: Mr Neil Snowdon  
Direct Line: 01670 624128  
Fax: 01670 626136  
E-mail: [Neil.Snowdon@northumberland.gov.uk](mailto:Neil.Snowdon@northumberland.gov.uk)  
Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> August 2013

Dear Sir/Madam,

### **Composite Traffic Regulation Orders – Proposed School Keep Clear Zig-Zag Markings adjacent to Prudhoe West First School**

As you may be aware the County Council has undertaken a review of all its Traffic Regulation Orders (parking restrictions) for the whole of Northumberland. As part of the review there is a requirement to ensure the lines and signs associated with the Traffic Regulation Order (TRO) are correct and meet with the Road Traffic Act 2002 regulations.

The bringing together of these orders is now complete and the creation of new Composite Traffic Regulation Orders were made in August 2011.

We have subsequently carried out a review of all existing School Keep Clear Zig-Zag Markings. We now propose to include these markings as restrictions within the new Composite Orders, by way of an Amendment to the order.

**The restriction will be: No Stopping on the School Keep Clear Zig-Zag Markings between Monday and Friday, 8am and 5pm.**

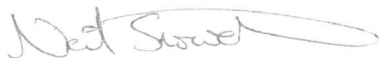
This will aid the movement of traffic adjacent to the school together with offering more visibility in a crucial area and at key times of the day.

I have enclosed a plan of the area, indicating the extent of the proposed restrictions.

Should you wish to comment on these proposals, please complete the enclosed form to go online at <http://trafficconsult.northumberland.gov.uk/>, to view all the relevant documentation.

Should you require any further information please do not hesitate to contact myself or a member of the Traffic Team.

Yours faithfully



Neil Snowdon  
**Assistant Engineer – Traffic Safety**



## APPENDIX 2 - CONSULTATION RESPONSES

Initial	Name	No	Thoroughfare	Post Code	FOR	AGAINST	NEITHER	Other Relevant Comments
			Errington Place	NE42 6LS	1			Very welcome at last. Other than the parking problem the volume and speed of vehicles using the road also needs addressed before someone is killed/seriously injured on a road surely not designed or intended to take as much traffic school starting and finishing times are chaotic to say the least.
								I feel you are going in the right direction it's a good start lets see how it goes. Its all very interesting observing from my upstairs flat, very entertaining at times. Also frustrating when I try to drive out 8.15-9am. I have to go out early or late if I need to see my grandchildren at Wylam. Also must be back by 2.15pm or stay out till 3.30ish so that I am not caught in the chaos. It helps me to practice patience a good quality, I'm just practising. Well done hope it works.
	North East Ambulance Service		Errington Place	NE42 6LS	1			I would inform you that as an emergency service we recognise and appreciate the need for restrictions to improve road safety. I would thank you for your consultation on this matter and offer our support for the on-going road safety programme.
								We need to have a 20mph speed limit. They are always breaking the limit up to 80mph. We need stop signs to stop going on footpaths. We also need signs at the entrance of estate. There is a blind spot on the corner between no. 26 the road please stop them from parking there. There is a big car park which they do not take any notice.
			Errington Place	NE42 6LS	1			Could you please consider putting zig zag markings on the corner of 26/25 Errington Place. Cars park every day on this corner making it a blind corner off our drive between 8.20am-9am and 14.30-15.30pm everyday. I look forward to hearing from you.
			Errington Place	NE42 6LS	1			I support the new regulations, but I am very concerned about parking, as I live at 71 Errington Place and there are only 6 parking places outside the flats, parents continually park here, as I am disabled I find it very difficult to get into where I live as they have no consideration for the old people who live here. We need better parking regulations all along Fair View.
			Errington Place	NE42 6LS	1			I would inform you that as an emergency service we recognise and appreciate the need for restrictions to improve road safety. I would thank you for your consultation on this matter and offer our support for the on-going road safety programme.
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