

## RECORD OF DECISION TAKEN BY CORPORATE DIRECTOR

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF LOCAL SERVICES: BARRY ROWLAND

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### PROVISION OF 'POLICE ONLY' PARKING BAYS, CORPORATION YARD, MORPETH

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#### Purpose of Report

To consider the results of the public consultation exercise, regarding proposed 'Police Only' parking bays in Corporation Yard, Morpeth. (see attached consultation plan in appendix A).

#### Recommendations

##### It is recommended that:

- 1) 5 'Police Only' parking bays and a hatched 'keep clear' area for turning/deliveries is provided in Corporation Yard.

#### Key Issues

- 1) Morpeth Police Station is planning to move into office accommodation in Sanderson Arcade.
- 2) Dedicated parking is therefore required for marked police cars in Corporation Yard.
- 3) Adjoining businesses have regular deliveries which must also be accommodated.
- 4) A consultation to introduce 7 dedicated spaces received 5 responses, 3 in favour and 2 objections. Having met with the 2 objectors they are in favour of a reduced allocation of 5 spaces.
- 5) The Town Council are in favour of the introduction of these spaces

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Report Author

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## **Link to Corporate Plan**

This report is relevant to the *Places and Environment Aim* in the Corporate Plan:

Our aim is to maintain and further improve the quality of our towns, villages and countryside and make it easier for residents to access services and high quality, affordable homes and to travel using different modes of transport. To achieve this, we will keep Northumberland clean, green and safe from detrimental impacts of climate change, build more houses to benefit those most in need and provide a convenient, integrated public transport network.

## **Background**

1. Northumbria Police are closing the existing Police Station in Morpeth and are moving into office accommodation in the Sanderson Arcade.
2. The Police require dedicated parking bays for marked police vehicles at the Arcade, located in Corporation Yard.
3. Currently no parking is permitted in this area of Corporation Yard, marked by double yellow lines.
4. There are businesses in the vicinity that require space for deliveries.
5. There is also a private access which must be kept clear.

## **Consultation**

6. A scheme was prepared and was the subject of a consultation which concluded on 16<sup>th</sup> February 2015.
7. The consultation exercise involved the delivery of a consultation letter together with a plan showing details of the scheme to statutory consultees; County Councillor Bawn, Morpeth Town Council; road user organisations; and other interested parties. The proposal was also available to view and comment via the Council's website. The consultation plan is attached as Appendix A.
8. The consultation proposal was to provide 7 Police parking bays.
9. 5 responses were returned. 3 were in favour of the proposal, 2 against. A summary of the responses is attached as Appendix B.
10. One statutory consultee responded. The North East Ambulance Service recognised and appreciated the need for the scheme and supported the proposals.
11. Morpeth Town Council supports the proposal but requested clarification that adequate access would still be available for waste collection.

12. The two responses against the proposal stated that 7 parking bays would hinder access to properties and affect deliveries.
13. Photographs of typical delivery vehicles were also submitted. These are shown in Appendix C.
14. A site meeting was held on 6<sup>th</sup> February with the two objectors who stated that a compromise solution of 5 parking bays with an area left clear for deliveries and turning manoeuvres would be acceptable.
15. This solution would also allow delivery vehicles to park without blocking the private access.
16. The operators of the Sanderson Arcade have confirmed that the 5-bay solution is acceptable to the Police. A plan showing this solution is shown in Appendix D.

## **Conclusion**

17. It is recommended that the option to provide 5 'Police Only' parking bays and a hatched 'keep clear' area for deliveries/turning, as shown in Appendix D, is implemented.

## **Background Papers**

File Ref: RT140033

## **Implications Arising Out of the Report**

Policy	None
Finance and value for money	None
Human Resources	None
Property	None
Equalities	None
Risk Assessment	None
Crime & Disorder	None
Customer Considerations	None
Sustainability	None
Consultation	The relevant people and organisations were consulted
Wards	Morpeth North

## DECISION TAKEN

**Title of Executive Member or Officer(s):**

Barry Rowland: Executive Director of Local Services

**Subject:**

**PROPOSED 'POLICE ONLY' PARKING BAYS, CORPORATION YARD, MORPETH**

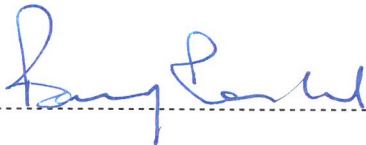
**Consultation**

5 Responses  
3 For  
2 Against  
0 Neither

**Decision Taken:**

- 1) 5 'Police Only' parking bays and a hatched 'keep clear' area for turning/deliveries is provided in Corporation Yard.

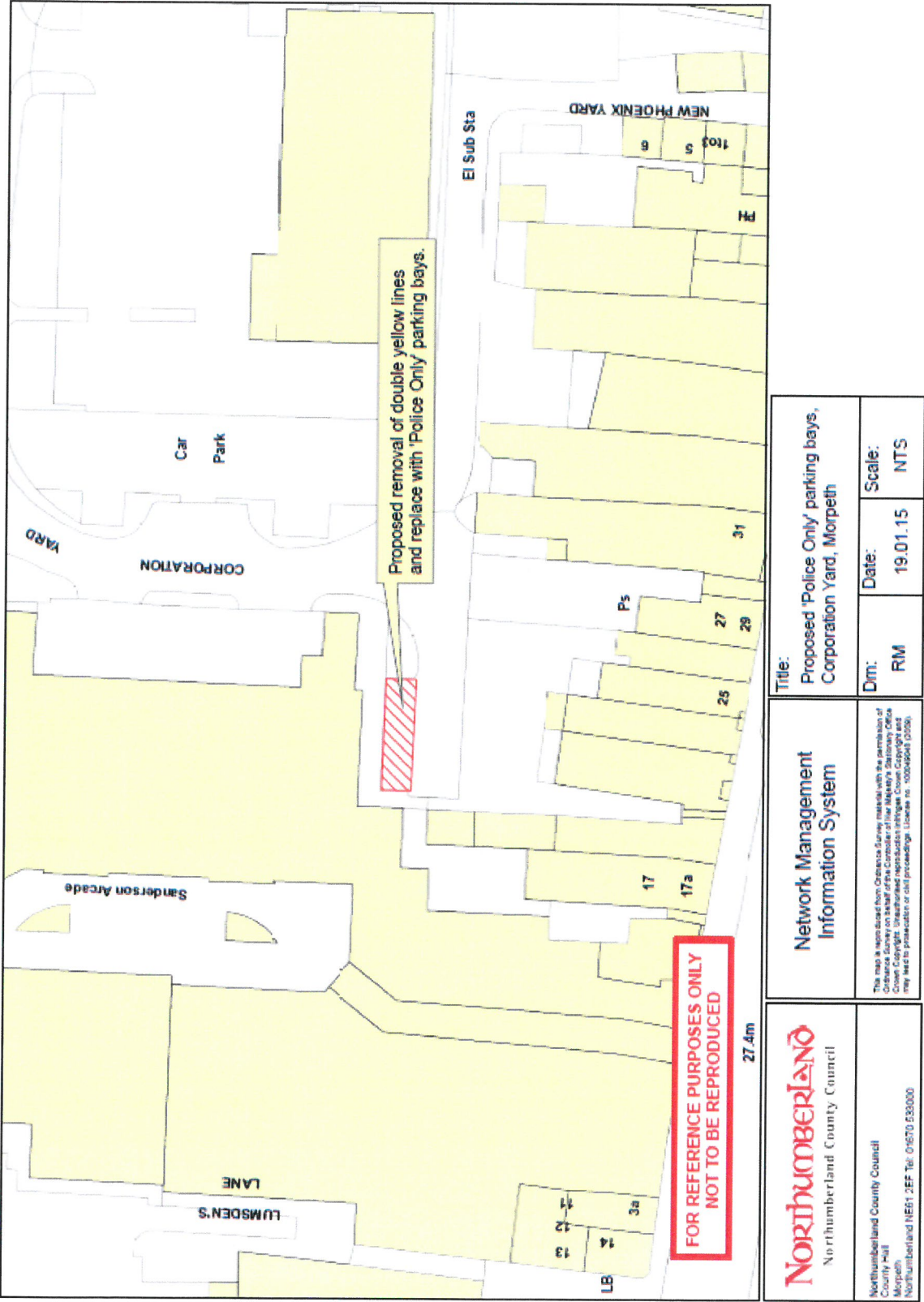
**Signature of Executive Director**



**Date**

23/03/15

Appendix A – Consultation Plan



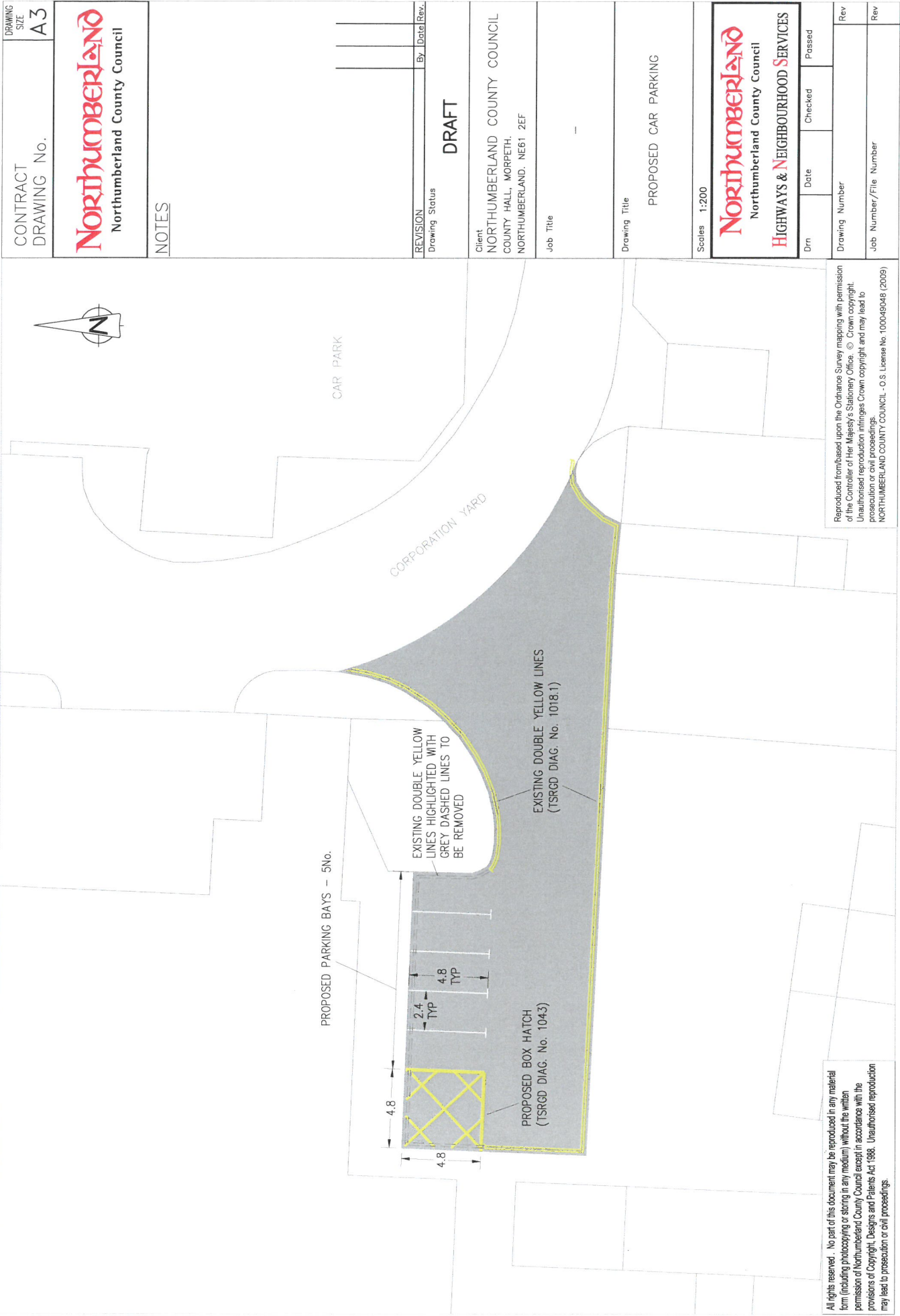
FOR	AGAINST	NEITHER	Other Relevant Comments
1			Thank you for your correspondence dated 19th January 2015 in which you invite us to offer our comments on the above proposal. I would inform you that as an Emergency Service we may be required to use the above road(s) for access and egress in the event of being activated to attend an emergency call, or to convey patients to hospital for out-patient appointments. I do appreciate however the need for restrictions to improve road safety. I would thank you for your consultation on this matter and offer our support for the ongoing road safety programme.
1			
1			Morpeth Town Council supports this consultation, however, can we clarify that adequate access is still available for waste removal in this area?
1			Further to our site meeting with Mr Richard McKenzie on Friday 6th February I would like to confirm my concerns regarding access to my property via corporation's yard. The current situation with double yellow lines already causes problems when delivery vehicles block the access to my workshop. I fear this will only be exacerbated if part of the yard is taken over with parking spaces. If a compromise was proposed that allowed space for delivery vehicles that did not block access to my property and this situation was monitored and enforced I would have no objections. I have occupied the property for 2 and a half years and have never seen a traffic warden issue a ticket or even speak to a driver. I have forwarded photographs taken in the last week which highlights the parking habits of vehicles in Corporation yard.
1			Further to our meeting with you on Friday, 6th February, we wish to express our concern regarding the proposed amendments. The area shown on your plans has an impact upon the access to the rear of our property. Should you agree to seven parking spaces as described in your plan, problems will arise for deliveries to several businesses, both on Bridge Street and in the Sanderson Arcade, and the access to the back yard of our property at No. 19 Bridge Street will also be affected. Our yard provides parking for our business, the flat above and the adjacent stained glass designer. We need clear access 24/7 for the flat and whilst this can be obtained by asking vehicle drivers to move, it is not always easy to find them. By blocking the current service area with parking bays, this problem will be exacerbated. Delivery vehicles are also likely to block the new parking bays. Over the last seven years, there have been a number of letters exchanged between ourselves and Dransfield Properties Limited regarding this area. It had been hoped that the reassurances we received that this area would include a service area (see letter from Lindsay McLaren, copy enclosed) which would also facilitate a turning area for ourselves, would provide a permanent solution. This situation was implemented several years ago and worked well, until the double yellow lines were installed. We have no objection to the removal of the double yellow lines as such, it is the access issue which is our concern. The re-installation of the five parking bays with a service/access area would be a mutually satisfactory arrangement.
3	2	0	



Appendix C

Examples of deliveries in Corporation Yard





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NOTES		
REVISION	Drawing Status	By Date Rev.
	DRAFT	
Client NORTHUMBERLAND COUNTY COUNCIL COUNTY HALL, MORPETH. NORTHUMBERLAND. NE61 2EF		
Job Title		
Drawing Title PROPOSED CAR PARKING		
Scales 1:200		
 Northumberland County Council HIGHWAYS & NEIGHBOURHOOD SERVICES		
Drn	Date	Checked Passed
Drawing Number		Rev
Job Number/File Number		Rev