



Northumberland County Council

**RECORD OF DECISION TAKEN BY  
DIRECTOR OF LOCAL SERVICES AND HOUSING**

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**PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO PARKING RESTRICTIONS  
HILL STREET/MARKET PLACE, CORBRIDGE**

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**Purpose of Report**

To consider the results of the public consultation exercise, regarding amendments to parking restrictions proposed on Hill Street and Market Place in Corbridge

**Recommendations**

**It is recommended that:**

1. Three "Disabled Blue Badge Holders Parking Places" are introduced on Market Place and one "Time Limited Disabled Blue Badge Holders Parking Places" is introduced on Hill Street.

**Key Issues**

1. Scheme being funded by LTP.
2. Requirements for additional disabled parking places identified in the Corbridge Parking Plan.
3. The scheme will support vulnerable members of the community.
4. The scheme is supported by Corbridge Parish Council.

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Report Author

**Dan Fraser - Programmes Officer (Highway Safety)**  
(01670) 624125  
Daniel.Fraser@northumberland.gov.uk

## **BACKGROUND**

1. Concerns have been raised by Corbridge Parish Council and local residents regarding the lack of restricted disabled parking places in Corbridge. It was identified by the Parish Council in the Corbridge Parking Plan that there were only two unenforceable disabled bays within Corbridge which are regularly abused by non-blue badge holders. It has been requested that officers consult residents/businesses on the possible introduction of four Disabled Blue Badge Holders Parking Places within Corbridge Town Centre.

## **CONSULTATION**

2. These proposals were the subject of a consultation exercise that involved the delivery of a consultation letter to 92 residents and approximately 30 statutory consultees, including 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 A).
3. The consultation exercise ended on 1st May 2014 and responses were received from 12 consultees with 7 in favour and 4 against the proposals. One response did not have a preference. A summary of the responses is attached an Appendix B.
4. The North East Ambulance Service was the only statutory consultee to respond and they did not express a preference.

## **IN FAVOUR**

5. One consultee suggested that some thought was given to a disabled bay on the north side of Hill Street. This would allow for easier access to local amenities and a suitable location has since been identified and will be introduced.
6. Another consultee suggested enforcement by the Civil Enforcement Officers as the current disabled bays do not get enforced. This is because the current disabled bays are Advisory only. A Traffic Regulation Order will allow the Civil Enforcement Officers to issue a Penalty Charge Notice to anyone abusing the disabled bays.

## **AGAINST**

7. Three of the consultees who objected commented that the proposal would remove valuable parking places in an already in demand position on Hill Street.

## **RECOMENDATIONS**

8. From the outset, the County Council has endeavoured to respond positively to local concerns raised in this area and it is inevitable that some sections of the community will be dissatisfied with whichever decision is reached. The result of the consultation exercise shows that the majority of residents who responded support the proposal, however it was highlighted that the disabled bay on Hill Street was not situated in the most suitable location. A further site meeting with Corbridge Parish Council and a local disability representative was arranged to review the location of the disabled bays on Hill Street. It was

felt that a time limited disabled bay was needed at the east end of Hill Street to ensure there was a parking place close to local amenities, where Blue Badge Holders were able to park for short periods while shopping. Following on from the site meeting, and taking account of the views of the Parish Council and other consultees it is recommended that the proposed parking restrictions be introduced as shown in Appendix C.

9. 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.

## **APPENDIX INDEX**

Appendix A – Consultation Letter and Plan  
 Appendix B – Summary of Consultation Responses  
 Appendix C – Amended Proposal

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

Policy	Consistent with existing policies
Finance and value for money	Funded by LTP
Human Resources	None
Property	None
Equalities	Blue Badge Holders will benefit from the introduction of enforceable parking spaces.
Risk Assessment	Disabled blue badge holder bays ensure that there is adequate space to safely alight the disabled person's vehicle.
Crime & Disorder	The introduction of a Traffic Regulation Order will ensure that only disabled blue badge holders will be able to park in the new disabled bays, promoting a safer environment.
Customer Considerations	None
Sustainability	None
Consultation	Corbridge Parish Council, the emergency services, all affected residents and interested road user organisations were consulted together with the County Councillor for the area.
Wards	Corbridge

## DECISION TAKEN

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

Director of Local Services and Housing

**Subject:**

Proposed amendments to parking restrictions on Hill Street/Market Place in Corbridge

**Consultation**

12 Responses

7 For

4 Against

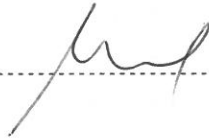
1 Neither

**Decision Taken:**

Three "Disable Blue Badge Holders Parking Places" to be introduced on Market Place and one "Time Limited Disable Blue Badge Holders Parking Places" to be introduced Hill Street.

**Signature of Director**

**Date**



18/12/15



Northumberland County Council

County Hall • Morpeth • Northumberland • NE61 2EF

• Web: [www.northumberland.gov.uk](http://www.northumberland.gov.uk)

The Occupier

Our Ref: M/E/2/107/2/CONS  
Your Ref:  
Contact: Mr Paul McKenna  
Direct Line: 01670 624129  
Fax: 01670 626136  
E-mail: [Paul.McKenna@northumberland.gov.uk](mailto:Paul.McKenna@northumberland.gov.uk)  
Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> April 2014

Dear Sir/Madam

**Proposed Amendments to Parking Restrictions – Hill Street/Market Place - Corbridge**

Representatives of the County Council have been working with Corbridge Parish Council to consider the existing Disabled Parking provision in the area. As such, Hill Street and the Market Place are two locations that would be considered suitable for their provision. The Market Place already has two Disabled Parking Places marked out on the ground but so the intention there is to simply make them legally enforceable. The area cited on Hill Street would replace two existing 'Monday – Saturday 9am – 6pm, max stay 3 hours, Resident Permit Holders excepted' bays as shown on the attached plan.

I am therefore writing formally in accordance with Regulation 5 of the Local Authorities Traffic Orders (Procedure)(England and Wales) Regulations 1996 (as amended) to ask for your comments on the proposals as above and shown on the enclosed plan. The proposal is being considered for facilitating the passage of vehicular traffic on the road, and for avoiding danger to persons or other traffic using the road.

A free post response form is attached to facilitate the consultation process. I would welcome a reply by Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> May 2014. If no comments are received by that date it will be assumed that you do not wish to make any representations regarding the above proposal. Regrettably, it is not possible to reply to all individual comments but staff will be on hand to clarify any queries you may have. You may also wish to note that any comments received may be included in a Decision Report and may be available for public inspection.

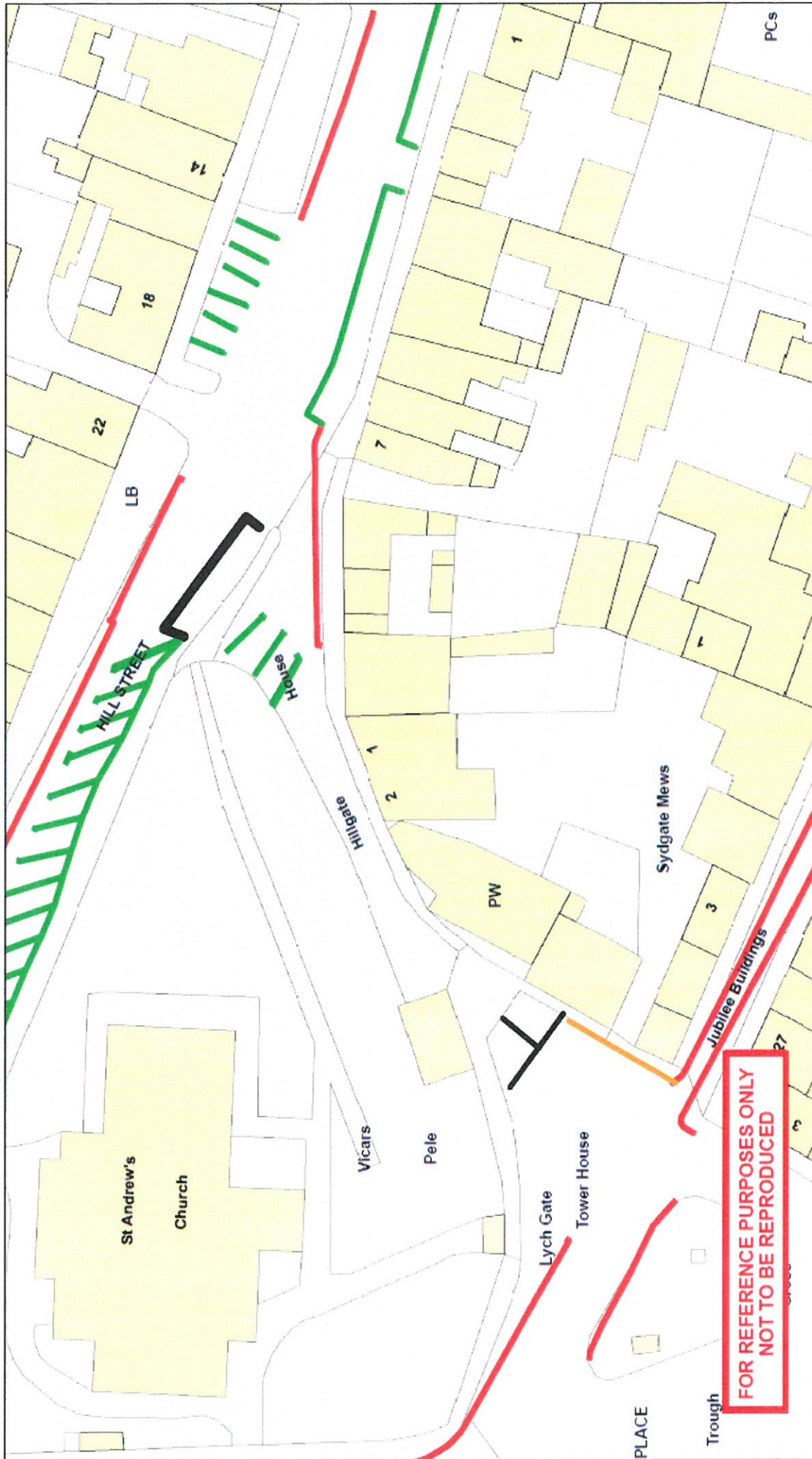
Please visit the following web address <http://trafficconsult.northumberland.gov.uk/> if you wish to respond to this consultation online.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "P. McKenna".

Paul McKenna  
Traffic Safety





**Northumberland**  
Northumberland County Council

Northumberland County Council  
County Hall  
Morpeth  
Northumberland NE61 2EF Tel: 01670 533000

## Network Management Information System

This map is reproduced from Ordnance Survey material with the permission of Ordnance Survey on behalf of the Controller of Her Majesty's Stationary Office. Crown Copyright. Unauthorised reproduction infringes Crown Copyright and may lead to prosecution or civil proceedings. License no. 100045048 (2009).

Title: Hill Street - Corbridge Proposed Disabled Bay Provision - Consult		
Dm: PM	Date: MAR14	Scale: NTS

- Proposed Disabled Parking Bays
- Existing Mon-Sat 9am-6pm, 3 hours stay
- Resident Permit Holders Excepted
- Existing No Waiting at Any Time Restrictions
- Proposed No Waiting At Any Time Restriction

## Appendix B - Summary of Consultation Responses

FOR	AGAINST	NEITHER	Other Relevant Comments
1			
1			
1			
	1		
1			<i>As a disabled resident myself, I appreciate the 2 spaces already provided in Corbridge, however, I feel more checks are needed to ensure the cars parked in these spaces have the required disabled badge displayed. A lot of the time this is not the case and I have witnessed, on several occasions, local takeaway shop works parking in those spaces without displaying a badge.</i>
1			<i>But have you considered providing the disabled bays on the other side of the pavement? The north side, as shown on your drawing, is congested when buses stop opposite, at a frequency of five per hour.</i>
1			<i>I think the balance of disabled and abled parking is good.</i>
	1		<i>As a resident it can already take 30 minutes of driving round and round to get a parking spot. If there does have to be disabled bays on Hill Street the library end of the street would be better as there are no houses there.</i>
		1	<i>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 would thank you for your consultation on this matter and offer our support for the on-going road safety programme.</i>
1			
	1		<i>We live in property marked A on map. Changes to parking impact us most severely. You will see 3 remaining bays marked X are the only nearby parking bays that are near our property. As these are mix of permit holder and pay at machine, we can seldom park near our property. We are surrounded by commercial properties. Those marked with D on map and E, have recently been sold with planning permission to convert to event space and coffee shop, increasing traffic even further. Properties marked on your map H have access parking to teh rear of the property marked F on map. All properties marked on map as A B C are closed properties with no rear access or parking facility other than those you purpose to remove. Properties marked I J K L M N O on map have vehicle access to parking in Sydgate Mews and Market Square. We are not in support of the changes to parking marked Y on map to be converted to disabled parking unless provision is made to change those three bays marked X on the map to resident parking only. You will note due to the congested area on the map marked X giving access to Hillgate, denoted in bold red, directly outside properties A and B, C cars regularly park, leaving engines running as they load and unload, there can regularly be up to nine vehicles parked in this area, at any one time. Removing parking access marked Y on map will leave us no near parking facility and will undoubtedly reduce the property value. We can only be supportive of disabled visitor parking if consideration is given to existing residents and bays marked X are changed to residents permit parking only. If this is not granted, then we must firmly object and oppose the proposal.</i>
	1		<i>I am writing to object to the current plans to change the parking layout in the map attached. I am a resident of the property marked C in the attached map. The main reason for the objection is that plans go ahead with and create new disabled spaces on Hill street this will only leave 3 accessible bays for the houses marked A, B, and C. Living in Corbridge I know how busy the main street can get and with only 3 spaces available to us the likelihood of being able to use them is virtually nil. This will make access to our house after parking the car very difficult. If the three spaces outside of house A and B were to be made resident only I would be happy to withdraw my complaint. However unless this happens I will have to object to the plans as laid out</i>
7	4	1	



# Appendix C - Amended Proposal

