

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

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### PROPOSED PARKING RESTRICTIONS BRUCEGATE, BERWICK

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#### **Purpose of Report**

To consider the results of the public consultation exercise, regarding proposed parking restrictions on Brucegate in Berwick

#### **Recommendations**

##### **It is recommended that:**

1. 'Resident Permit Holders Only' parking restrictions are introduced on Brucegate as proposed.

#### **Key Issues**

1. Scheme being funded by LTP
2. Scheme supported by Councillor Gavin Jones
3. Residents experience difficulty parking in dual resident/time limited parking bays.
4. The scheme will improve quality of life for local residents.
5. All other bays on the street are "Resident Permit Holders Only" bays.

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Report Author

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## **BACKGROUND**

1. Concerns have been raised by residents and Cllr Gavin Jones about insufficient resident parking space at the north end of Brucegate. It has been reported that residents at the north end of the Brucegate are experiencing difficulties in parking due to the demand from non-residents on the time limited waiting/residents bays. The problem has increased with the introduction of the resident only parking scheme on Low/High Greens. There are a number of parking places in the area where non-residents can park without causing disruption to residents. It is therefore proposed that the existing time limited/resident parking bays are removed and resident only parking bays be introduced.

## **CONSULTATION**

2. These proposals were the subject of a consultation exercise that involved the delivery of a consultation letter to 19 residents and 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 3<sup>rd</sup> December 2015 and responses were received from 7 consultees, with five in favour and two consultees did not express a preference. A summary of the responses is attached an appendix B.
4. The North East Ambulance Service were the only statutory consultee to respond and they did not express a preference.

## **COMMENTS**

5. One resident in favour of the scheme stated that with all the free parking in Berwick and as they already pay for a Resident Permit, the proposed parking spaces should be solely for residents.
6. One resident who had no preference on the proposals did express concerns about how many permits a household was allowed as sometimes her son and daughter visited at the same time and sometimes needed to unload heavy items. It should be noted that loading and unloading is permitted on the double yellow lines on the street and then there are a number of free parking places available a short distance away.

## **RECOMMENDATIONS**

7. 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 the residents who responded support the proposals. It is therefore recommended that the proposed parking restrictions be introduced.
8. 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 – Copy of Consultation Letter  
Appendix B - Summary of Responses

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

|                             |  |
|-----------------------------|--|
| Policy                      | Improving access and quality of life for residents   |
| Finance and value for money | Funded by the LTP  |
| Human Resources             | None   |
| Property                    | None   |
| Equalities                  | None   |
| Risk Assessment             | None   |
| Crime & Disorder            | None   |
| Customer Considerations     | Increase in parking places for residents   |
| Sustainability              | None   |
| Consultation                | Berwick Town Council, the emergency services, all affected residents and interested road user organisations were consulted together with the County Councillor for the area. |
| Wards                       | Berwick North  |

## DECISION TAKEN

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

Director of Local Services and Housing

**Subject:**

Proposed parking restrictions on Brucegate in Berwick

**Consultation**

7 Responses

5 For

0 Against

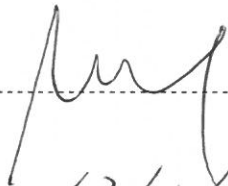
2 Neither

**Decision Taken:**

Resident Permit Holders Only parking restrictions are introduced as proposed

**Signature of Director**

**Date**

  
12/1/2016

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The Occupier

Our Ref: HE152316-08  
Your Ref:  
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Friday 11th September 2015

### **Proposed Parking Restrictions – Brucegate, Bewrwick**

Concerns have been raised by residents and Cllr Gavin Jones about insufficient resident parking space at the north end of Brucegate. It has been reported that residents at the north end of the street are finding it difficult to park due to the demand from nonresidents on the time limited waiting/residents bays. The problem has been made worse with the introduction of the resident only parking scheme on Low/High Greens. As there are a number of parking places in the area that nonresidents could park without causing disruption to residents, it is proposed that the existing time limited/resident parking bays be removed and resident only parking bays be introduced.

I am therefore writing in accordance with Regulation 5 of the Local Authorities Traffic Orders (Procedure) (England and Wales) Regulations 1998 (as amended) to formally ask for your comments on the proposed removal of the time limited/resident parking bays and the introduction of resident only parking bays at Brucegate in Berwick, as shown the attached plan.

The County Council is seeking your views on the proposals and a freepost response form is attached to facilitate the consultation process. It should be stressed that this is a genuine consultation and that comments received will be carefully considered.

Regrettably, it is not possible to reply to individual comments, but you may wish to note that comments may be included in a Decision Report, to the Executive Director of Local Services and may be available for public inspection. The closing date for any comments you may wish to make is Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> December 2015. If you wish to respond to this consultation online, please visit the web address <http://trafficconsult.northumberland.gov.uk/>.

**I would urge you to take the opportunity to comment on this important matter as any decision taken will be based upon the responses received from residents who take time to return the consultation form.**

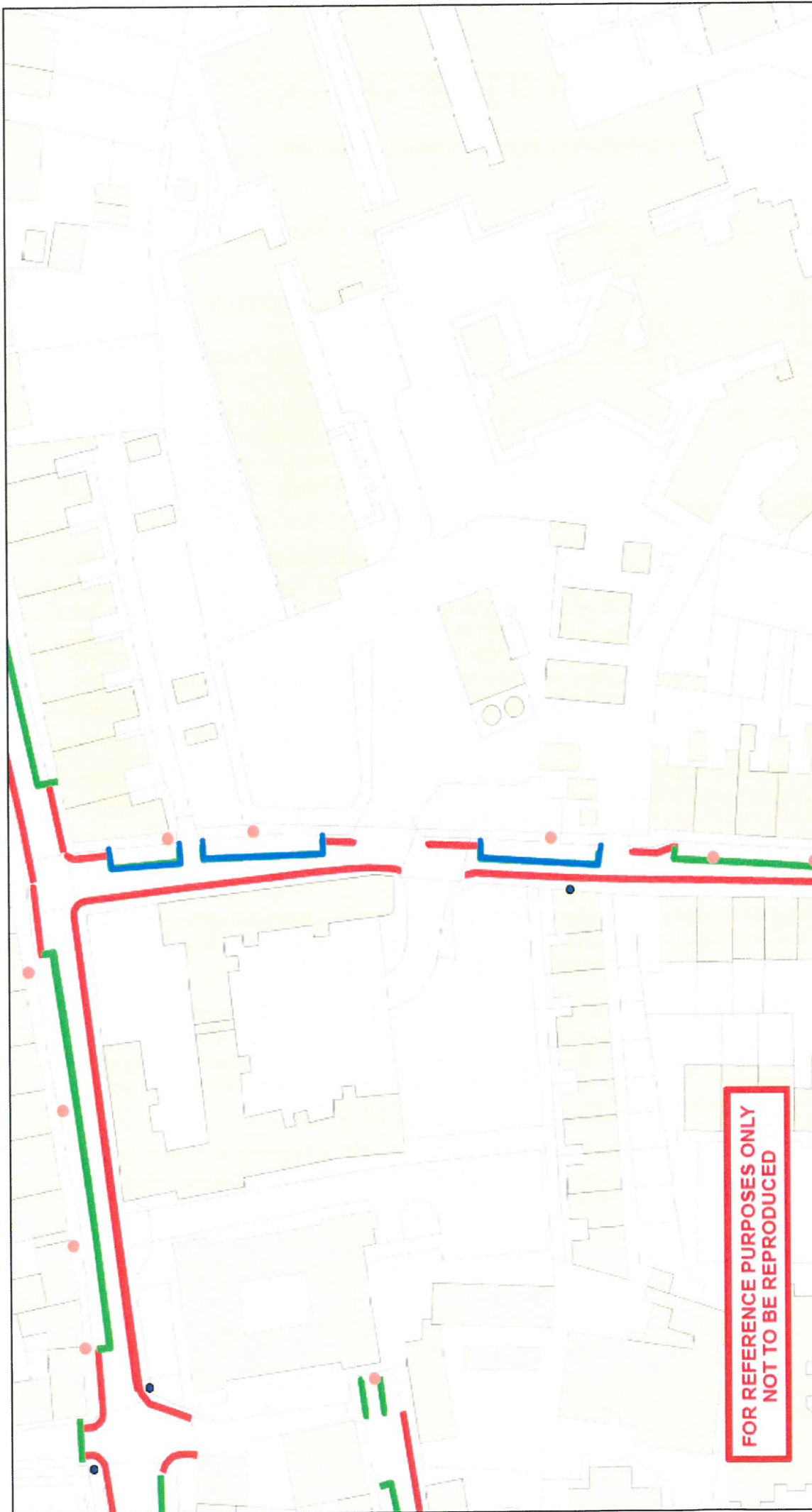
I thank you for your assistance in this matter.

Yours faithfully



Dan Fraser  
Programmes Officer (Highway Safety)





**FOR REFERENCE PURPOSES ONLY  
NOT TO BE REPRODUCED**

|   |  |  |              |  |  |
|---|--|--|--------------|--|--|
| <p><b>Northumberland</b><br/>Northumberland County Council</p> <p>Northumberland County Council<br/>County Hall<br/>Morpeth<br/>Northumberland NE61 2EF Tel: 01670 533000</p> |  | <p><b>Network Management<br/>Information System</b></p> <p><small>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. Licence no. 100049648 (2005).</small></p> |              | <p><b>KEY</b></p> <p>Proposed Resident Permit<br/>Parking Only Bays<br/>B Zone</p> |  |
| <p><b>Title:</b> Brucegate, Berwick<br/>Proposed Parking Restrictions</p>   |  | <b>Drm:</b>  | <b>Date:</b> | <b>Scale:</b>  |  |

## Appendix B - Summary of Responses

| FOR | AGAINST | NEITHER | Other Relevant Comments  |
|-----|---------|---------|--|
|     |         | 1       | Thank you for your letter dated 22rd October 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 would thank you for your consultation on this matter and offer our support for the on-going road safety programme.  |
| 1   |         |         | no comments  |
| 1   |         |         | As a car owning resident of Temperance terrace, I wholeheartedly support the past year, I have been unable to park anywhere near my home, or even worse returning with shopping and finding nowhere to stop to unload. With all the free parking now available in Berwick I feel the proposed parking spaces should be sole for residents who do after all pay for the privilege.  |
| 1   |         |         | This must be the right decision as none permit holders park without any thought to others - about time.  |
| 1   |         |         | no comments  |
|     |         | 1       | I may or may not be in favour of change of parking restrictions. My only problem is my Daughter uses my visitor permit quite a lot as she is my main helper. However about 3 or 4 times a year my Son has reason to call at the same time for approx 1 to 2 hours to deliver things to heavy for me to handle. Would it be possible to have a second visitor permit on a temporary basis. Otherwise restrictions may well be left as they are. To borrow one from a neighbour may be difficult - if they were not available at the time. |
| 1   |         |         | As soon as possible please. It would also be most helpful if residents who live in the "New Flats" and social housing would use the parking that is provided for them (off road)   |
| 5   | 0       | 2       |  |

