

RECORD OF DECISION TAKEN BY DIRECTOR OF LOCAL SERVICES AND HOUSING

Proposed Traffic Calming Measures – Prohibition of Driving (Except for Access) Cheviot View, Ashington

6th July 2016

Purpose of report:

To consider the results of the consultation exercise, regarding the proposed introduction of a 'Prohibition of Driving' restriction on Cheviot View, Ashington.

Recommendations:

It is recommended that in view of the results received from the consultation exercise, the introduction of a 'Prohibition of Driving' restriction should **not** be implemented as proposed.

Key Issues

1. This area has been subject to parking issues over a period of time.
2. The Scheme was to be funded and supported by Councillor Ken Parry

Report Author

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BACKGROUND

1. Concerns have been identified to Councillor Parry by residents with regard to the parking issues in the area. It was therefore decided to carry out a consultation to canvass opinion of residents.
2. It was envisaged that the proposed restrictions would improve residential parking.

CONSULTATION

3. These proposals were the subject of a consultation exercise. This was conducted on the 18th April 2016 and involved the delivery of a consultation letter to 12 residents and 26 statutory consultees, including the emergency services and various disabled and transport associations/organisations.
4. The consultation exercise ended on 16th May 2016 and responses were received from 9 consultees, with 5 in favour 3 against and 1 were neither for nor against the proposals. A summary of the responses is attached as Appendix B.

COMMENTS

5. The results from the consultation did not show a clear majority to adopt the proposal
6. Comments indicated that a large proportion of the residents were content with the existing unregulated parking arrangements and were not in favour of change.
7. Councillor Parry was notified of the results of the consultation and confirms that based on the evidence presented, he does not wish to proceed with the proposal. However, Councillor Parry and Officers will continue listening to the residents needs in the area and take forward information received via the Directory of Requests where appropriate.

RECOMMENDATIONS

8. In view of the results of the consultation it is recommended not to proceed with the proposal.

File References

S:\Highways\PROJECT\16\HO16 Members
Schemes\HO166000_ASHINGTON_Cheviot View_PARRY

Appendix Index

Appendix A – Consultation -Copy of Consultation Letter
Appendix B - Consultation - Summary of Responses

DECISION TAKEN

Title of Cabinet Member or Officer(s):

Director of Local Services and Housing

Subject:

Proposed introduction of a 'Prohibition of Driving' restriction

Consultation 1

9 Responses

5 For

3 Against

1 Neither

Decision Taken:

Not to introduction of a 'Prohibition of Driving' restriction as proposed.

Signature of Director



Date



Implications Arising Out of the Report

Policy	None
Finance and value for money	Funded through the Members' Local Improvement Programme allocation for Councillor Ken Parry
Human Resources	None
Property	None
Equalities	None
Risk Assessment	None
Crime & Disorder	Potential inconsiderate and anti-social parking in the area
Customer Considerations	Scheme was anticipated to improve the parking for residents in the area.
Sustainability	None
Consultation	Ashington Town Council, the emergency services, all affected residents and interested road user organisations were consulted together with the County Councillor for the area.
Wards	Hirst

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The Occupier

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Your Ref:
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Monday 18th April 2016

Dear Sir/Madam

Proposed Traffic Calming Measures – Prohibition of Driving (Except for Access)
Cheviot View, Ashington

At the request of residents on Cheviot View, and with the support of their Local Council Member, Ken Parry, officers of the County Council are proposing the introduction of a 'Prohibition of Driving' restriction on Cheviot View.

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 proposal to introduce a 'Prohibition of Driving' restriction at Cheviot View in Ashington as shown on 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 all 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 **Monday 16th May 2016**. 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



Terry Luck
Programme Officer (Members Schemes)

Appendix B

FOR	AGAINST	NEITHER	Other Relevant Comments
1			no comments
	1		I do not support these proposals. The access only restriction is enforceable only by the police who are not in a position to give their attention. We have introduced other schemes like this in various locations and they are blatantly ignored by drivers. It will be a total and utter waste of time and resources to introduce this restriction in my opinion.
	1		<p>I am very angry about these proposals. I can see no reason whatsoever to restrict driving in the street. I have lived here for 13 years and have never had a problem driving past parked cars because basically there aren't any except for the occasional visitor or care worker coming to see their clients. very occasionally I have had to wait while a delivery lorry unloads it's goods but I imagine that would happen in any street. There are several points I would like you to consider before passing these proposals:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Restrictions on friends and family visiting. Many of our friends and family are either elderly or disabled and not able to walk down the back lane or street. This would have a serious impact on our social interactions and mental health. I work in the NHS and I know that older people can become very socially isolated and suffer depression and poor health if they cannot see their friends. - There are many elderly and disabled people in this street who require regular visits from care workers, district nurses and GPs or who have to take taxis to hospital or GP appointments. - Deliveries - drivers already have problems finding the street as there is no street sign on the road. If they think they will not be allowed to drive down the street, they are likely to just give up. - I sometimes employ local traders to do decorating and repairs to my property. How are they supposed to unload their materials and do their jobs if they cannot come down the street? - If this is about widening the street, then try cutting back the trees and bushes at the entrance to Cheviot view which do occasionally scratch the car, but otherwise please leave us alone. <p>I am really angry about these proposals which apparently are being supported by a local councillor which I voted for, but he never knocked on my door to ask my opinion. This is not representation, this is completely ignoring the wishes of the majority to pander to the petty views of a small minority. + I am not happy at putting a prohibition on Cheviot View for Motor Vehicles as it would restrict friends and family visiting me.</p> <p>Also, there are times when large items are delivered to my home and restricting access for these would make my living at this address untenable as well as, For medical services for my medical condition of Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease. As a member of the Labour Party. I feel cheated that Mr. Ken Parry also a Labour Counsellor, has gone behind my back and agreed with their commendations by four neighbours in Cheviot View.</p>
	1		Thank you for your letter dated 18th April 2016 in which you invite us to offer our comments on the above proposal. I would inform you that as 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			I fully support this proposal, and anything else which may maintain the access to Cheviot View for residents. I hope the council are still considering the introduction of double yellow lines. The access onto its main Woodhorn Road is often nothing short of suicidal. Inconsiderate and dangerous parking can completely restrict vision. Why can't this junction be in keeping with others along Woodhorn Road?
1			no comments
1			Perhaps you can extend your plans to include double yellow lines at the junction of Woodhorn Road and the entry road to Cheviot View. Parked vehicles on each side of the entry to Cheviot View and along the entry road blocks a driver's view of oncoming traffic along Woodhorn Road.
	1		
5	3	1	