



Northumberland

County Council

RECORD OF DECISION TAKEN BY SERVICE DIRECTOR OF LOCAL SERVICES

PAUL JONES

Revocation of Experimental Restricted Parking Zone (No Waiting) Traffic Regulation Orders in Ashington, namely the South East Northumberland Area (Waiting and Loading) Composite Order - Amendment No 78 and introduce new Experimental Restricted Parking Zone (No Waiting and Loading) Traffic Regulation Orders in Ashington, namely the South East Northumberland Area (Waiting and Loading) Composite Order - Amendment No 83.

24th May 2019

Cabinet Member: Glen Sanderson - Environment & Local Services

Purpose of Report

This report sets out the background to the requirement to revoke the Experimental Traffic Regulation Order which came into operation on 25th February 2019 until 25th February 2020 and to introduce a new Experimental Traffic Regulation Order which will include restriction for both Waiting and Loading within the RPZ.

Recommendations

It is recommended that the Experimental TRO_011-78, RPZ which prohibits waiting only is revoked and a new RPZ is introduced which prohibits waiting and loading and unloading.

Link to Corporate Plan

Living - "We want you to feel safe, healthy and cared for"

Enjoying - "We want you to love where you live"

Learning - "We want you to achieve and realise your potential"

Key Issues

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1. The NEQ/Portland Park forms a key component of the regeneration process for Ashington Town Centre.
2. The proposals in the order seek to promote reduced congestion, road safety and pedestrian and cycle use, as well as encouraging stronger links between the north eastern part of the Town Centre and Station Road.
3. An RPZ (No Waiting or Loading, Except in signed bays) closely aligns with the constructed urban street design concepts where street clutter (inclusive of traffic signs and road markings) is minimised where possible.
4. An Experimental Order was put in place to restrict waiting only within a Restricted Parking Zone (RPZ). This restriction prohibits vehicles from parking, but does allow for blue badge holders to park for 3 hours and loading and unloading to take place.
5. However, in order to create expeditious, convenient and safe movement of traffic there needs to be a restriction on both waiting and loading. In addition, a minor anomaly in the Waiting Traffic Regulation Order was identified resulting in the Waiting Traffic Regulation Order being invalid. To address these issues, a new Experimental Traffic Regulation Order is to be introduced which will include restriction for both Waiting and Loading within the RPZ. This restriction prohibits vehicles from waiting and loading and unloading, and also prohibits blue badge holders from parking within the RPZ.

Background

Portland Park Development

The Portland Park Development aims to expand and improve the Town Centre environment. The area currently provides access to Ashington Leisure Centre and ASDA Supermarket. Once complete, the area is likely to attract additional leisure and retail units including a cinema and various restaurants. The surrounding infrastructure will consist of public realm specific improvements, connected walkways, bus links and parking spaces.

Sections of the North East Quarter road infrastructure are still under development. Therefore TRO's will be introduced on an experimental basis in the first instance which will allow flexibility to make changes to the TRO once various aspects including road names are fixed.

Introduction of a 'Restricted Parking Zone'

An Experimental Traffic Regulation Order was introduced in February 2019 until February 2020. The Experimental Order was put in place to restrict waiting only within the RPZ. This restriction prohibits vehicles from parking,

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but does allow for blue badge holders to park for 3 hours and loading and unloading to take place.

However, to effectively manage traffic within the vicinity of the NEQ an additional 'No Loading' parking restriction is required which will be incorporated into the RPZ. This introduction of the loading restriction will prevent waiting, loading and unloading and also prohibit blue badge holders from parking within the RPZ.

There was also a minor anomaly identified within the Waiting Traffic Regulation Order rendering it invalid. In order to rectify the anomaly and to include the loading restriction, the Experimental Traffic Regulation Order will be reissued with minor amendments made.

Signs are in place at each available access to the zone which denote where the restriction applies. Parking will only be permitted within the zone where traffic signs and markings clearly delineate the possibility to do so. The zone negates the need to apply 'No Waiting and No Loading' restrictions in the form of double yellow lines and kerb blips'. From an enforcement perspective, any vehicle parked or loading outside any of the designated bays within the zone could be liable to receiving a Penalty Charge Notice.

Details of the proposals are shown on the plan at Appendix A.

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Implications Arising out of the Report

Policy	Consistent with existing policies
Finance and value for money	The new Traffic Regulation Order will be funded through the Local Transport Plan.
Legal	Traffic Regulation Orders (reference TRO_11_78) Experimental Order for 12 months will be revoked and a new Experimental TRO introduced which includes Waiting and Loading
Procurement	None
Human Resources	None
Property	None
Equalities (Impact Assessment attached) Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> N/A <input type="checkbox"/>	N/A
Risk Assessment	None
Crime & Disorder	Regulations in place to carry out enforcement.
Customer Consideration	Town Centre improvements, investment and regeneration, positive environmental and health impact.
Carbon reduction	Maintaining the free flow of traffic assists with carbon reduction. Speed reduction assists with carbon reduction.
Wards	Ashington Central

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Background papers:

File reference - S:\Highways\PROJECT\16\TDI Internal Design\TDI160012 -
Ashington NE Quarter\TRO's\Decision Report

Appendix A – Scheme Plans - Experimental TRO

Report sign off.

Authors must ensure that relevant officers and members have agreed the content of the report:

	initials
Finance Officer	N/A
Monitoring Officer/Legal	N/A
Human Resources	N/A
Procurement	N/A
I.T.	N/A
Director	
Portfolio Holder(s)	

Author and Contact Details

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DECISION TAKEN

Title of Officer:

Service Director - Local Services

Subject:

Revocation of Experimental Restricted Parking Zone (No Waiting) Traffic Regulation Orders in Ashington, namely the South East Northumberland Area (Waiting and Loading) Composite Order - Amendment No 78 and introduce new Experimental Restricted Parking Zone (No Waiting and Loading) Traffic Regulation Orders in Ashington, namely the South East Northumberland Area (Waiting and Loading) Composite Order - Amendment No 83

Consultation:

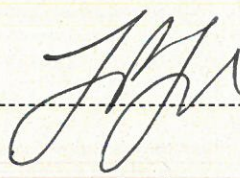
These works form part of the Advance Northumberland Ashington NEQ project which has been well publicised.

Decision Taken:

To revoke the Experimental TRO_011-78 (Restricted Parking Zone) which prohibits waiting only and introduce a new Restricted Parking Zone which prohibits waiting, loading and unloading.

Signature of Director

Date


4/6/19