



# Northumberland

## County Council

### **RECORD OF DECISION TAKEN BY SERVICE DIRECTOR - LOCAL SERVICES**

**Paul Jones - Service Director - Local Services**

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#### **PROPOSED AMENDMENT to CLEARWAY, B6318 CHOLLERFORD**

**Cabinet Member: Councillor John Riddle**

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#### **Purpose of Report**

To consider a proposal to remove a section of the existing Clearway (No Stopping) from the B6318 in Chollerford.

#### **Recommendations**

It is recommended that the Clearway is amended as proposed.

#### **Link to Corporate Plan**

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

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

#### **Key Issues**

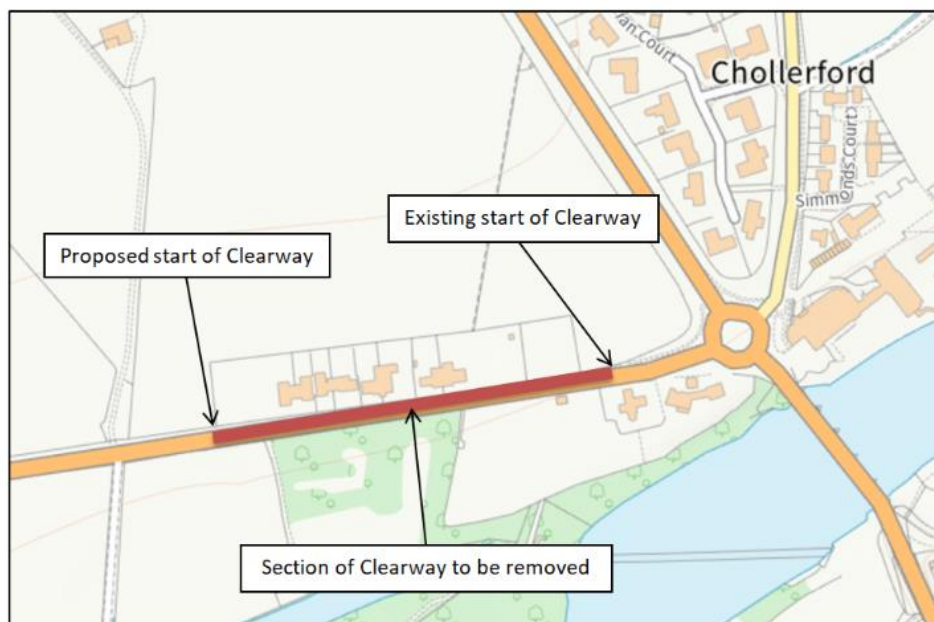
- The County Council has received concerns via the local Ward Member and Parish Council about traffic issues on the B6318 in Chollerford.
- The 'Clearway' in place on the B6318 includes a section of built-up road in Chollerford which affects residents and their visitor's ability to park and access properties.

## Delegated decisions

### Background

1. The B6318 'Military Road' runs across the County from Heddon-on-the-Wall in the east to Gilsland in the west. It is a significant tourist route providing access to major visitor attractions along Hadrian's Wall.
2. The section from Chollerford roundabout to the Milecastle Inn, a distance of 14 miles, is subject to a 'Clearway'.
3. Clearways limit stopping along a length of road. The Clearway on the B6318 is a '24 hour Rural Clearway' which prohibits stopping on the main carriageway at all times, with exceptions for specific circumstances, e.g. refuse collection. Its purpose is to ensure the free flow of traffic along the route which could otherwise be subject to parking by those wishing to access Hadrian's Wall, including avoidance of parking or entry fees at official visitor sites.
4. Guidance set out in Chapter 3 of the Traffic Signs Manual states that Clearways should not normally continue through villages or small settlements. If there is a need to keep a section of carriageway clear in these locations, yellow lines are more appropriate as these allow for the picking up and setting down of passengers as well as loading and unloading (where not specifically prohibited).
5. At its eastern end, the Clearway begins 60 metres west of Chollerford roundabout. When the Clearway was implemented in 1976, the built-up area of the village did not extend to the west of this point.
6. In recent years, however, residential development has taken place within the extent of the Clearway. As set out above, it is inappropriate for a clearway to be in place within a residential area as it places an unnecessary restriction on residents and their visitors.
7. In addition, this section of the road is long and straight, resulting in high vehicle speeds entering the 40mph speed limit at Chollerford, (data from February 2022 showed recorded speeds were in excess of the threshold for police enforcement).
8. A separate proposal to enhance the speed limit through better gateways and road markings is under consideration. However, it is expected that removing the Clearway and allowing vehicles to park at the roadside will emphasise to motorists that they are entering a residential area and contribute to reducing speeds.
9. Residents and statutory consultees were therefore consulted on a proposal to relocate the start of the Clearway 250 metres west, as shown below:

## Delegated decisions



10. Four responses were received, three in favour, one against. A summary of the responses is shown in Appendix A.

11. Humshaugh Parish Council and the local Ward Member are in favour of the proposal.

### *Conclusion*

12. The presence of new development means that the Clearway is no longer an appropriate restriction for this section of road, and the consultation results are in favour of its removal.

13. It is therefore recommended that the proposed changes to the Clearway are implemented.

## Implications Arising out of the Report

<b>Policy</b>	The proposal is in accordance with relevant guidance.
<b>Finance and value for money</b>	The proposal will be funded via the Local Transport Plan Programme.
<b>Legal</b>	Motorists will be required to comply with the Traffic Regulation Order.
<b>Procurement</b>	None
<b>Human</b>	None

## Delegated decisions

<b>Resources</b>	
<b>Property</b>	None
<b>Equalities</b> (Impact Assessment attached) Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> N/A <input type="checkbox"/>	None
<b>Risk Assessment</b>	None
<b>Crime &amp; Disorder</b>	None
<b>Customer Consideration</b>	Statutory consultees have been consulted.
<b>Carbon reduction</b>	None
<b>Wards</b>	Humshaugh

### **Background papers:**

File ref: HE223628  
Military Road B6318 24 Hour Main Clearway Order 1976

### **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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## **Delegated decisions**

Report Author ***Richard McKenzie – Senior Programmes Officer***

## Delegated decisions

### Appendix A

#### Consultation Responses

F O R	A G A I N S T	N E I T H E R	Other Relevant Comments
1			<p>I write with reference to the clearway restriction amendment, and I am very much in favour of this restriction being lifted. As a resident of New Houses Chollerford, we face daily challenges on this stretch of road with speeding vehicles and dangerous driving. The opportunity to park cars outside our homes would present natural traffic calming, and therefore a safer environment for all residents and other road users. This along with other traffic calming measures would be very welcome indeed. If you require any further information, please do not hesitate to contact me.</p>
1			<p>Ref HE223628: Proposed amendment to Clearway (No stopping) restriction B6318 Chollerford. With regard to the proposed amendment, Humshaugh Parish Council are supportive of this amendment, having lobbied for measures to contribute to traffic calming by New Houses Chollerford. The Parish Council believe this removal of the Clearway restriction will remove the unnecessary restriction of roadside parking for residents and their visitors, as well as support other measures to reduce the speed of traffic on this stretch of the B6318.</p>
1			<p>Thanks to those who attended a meeting last week with Cllr. I've been made aware (as on holiday) as a result of the meeting that the clearway is to be cleared! Pardon the pun. Also, the plan that had been drawn up for new signs etc will be implemented next year. This is fantastic news to myself and family. We have an autistic boy and could not let him out at all into the front garden, whilst also sleepless nights when a truck hurtles pas and wakes him, not to mention a few near misses when pulling off the drive, so thank you so much as this is a start to a calmer flow of traffic. If I can be of any further help please do not hesitate to contact me.</p>
1			<p>As a resident of Chollerford along the section of highway being proposed for amendment. I wish to state my objection of the removal of the Clearway as proposed. There is ample parking provided on driveways for residents and visitors. Having cars parked on the road will only serve to increase the danger caused by passing traffic with visibility possibly being impaired. If the removal of the clearway will lead to traffic calming then I am not quite so objectional. My only concern is that if there are a lot of cars park on the road and traffic continues to speed it will be even more difficult and dangerous to see them approaching when coming out of the drive. And cause a blind spot for children</p>
3	1	0	

**Delegated decisions**

**DECISION TAKEN**

**Title of Officer(s) and  
Portfolio Holder (where  
appropriate):**

**Paul Jones - Service Director - Local Services**

**Subject:**

**PROPOSED AMENDMENT to CLEARWAY, B6318  
CHOLLERFORD**

**Consultation**

Total responses: 4

For: 3

Against: 1

**Decision Taken:**

The proposed changes to the Clearway should be implemented.

Signature of Director



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**Date**

26.01.23

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