



Northumberland

County Council

RECORD OF DECISION TAKEN BY SERVICE DIRECTOR - LOCAL SERVICES

Paul Jones

Proposed extension of the 'No Waiting at Any Time' parking restrictions on Dunsgreen, Ponteland

Cabinet Member: Councillor John Riddle

30th November 2022

Purpose of Report

To consider the results of the public consultation exercise, regarding the proposed extension of the 'No Waiting at Any Time' parking restrictions on Dunsgreen, Ponteland.

Recommendations

It is recommended that the 'No Waiting at Any Time' parking restrictions be extended 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"

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

Key Issues

1. Residents have raised concerns about road safety on Dunsgreen, Ponteland.
2. Residents have reported that there have been a number of near misses, especially during school pick up and drop off times.
3. Parking in this area is making it difficult for residents to safely access their driveways, vehicles are now having to approach the main road on the wrong side of the carriageway, and some vehicles are blocking the footpath forcing pedestrians to walk in the live carriageway.
4. The proposals are supported by Councillor Darwin.
5. The scheme will be funded by the Local Transport Plan 2022/23 programme.

Delegated Decision

Background

Dungreen is an estate in Ponteland with approximately 110 dwellings. There is only one way in and out of the estate and this access is situated directly opposite Ponteland Primary School and to the left of Ponteland High School on Callerton Lane.

When the new school car park was built, 'No Waiting at Any Time' parking restrictions were installed along Callerton Lane and at the junction to Dungreen. This was in an effort to make parents would use this car park, rather than parking on the main road or in the estate when dropping off/picking up their children.

Site visits have confirmed that, during school pick up/ drop off times, vehicles are parked all the way up the right-hand side of the entrance to Dungreen, leaving enough room for only one running lane of traffic. So vehicles leaving the estate must now do so on the wrong side of the carriageway, which has led to numerous near misses. Some of these vehicles also block the footpath, which is forcing pedestrians to walk in the live carriageway. This is especially concerning when children are walking to/from school.

As a result of the concerns raised by residents, the council have proposed that the 'No Waiting at Any Time' parking restrictions be extended in order to improve pedestrian and road safety in the area.



Consultation

The proposed extension to the 'No Waiting at Any Time' parking restrictions was the subject of a consultation exercise which concluded on 18th November 2022. The involved the delivery of a consultation letter to 39 residents and 28 statutory consultees, including the emergency services and disabled and transport associations and organisations. A copy of the consultation letter and plan is attached as Appendix A.

Responses were received from 8 consultees with 7 in favor and 0 against the proposals. One consultee did not express an opinion. A summary of the responses received is attached as Appendix B.

During the consultation, one consultee raised the issue about the parking restrictions leading to vehicles parking in their car park. We will monitor the parking in this area and look to install measures to prevent vehicles using this carpark should this become an issue.

Another consultee mentioned that there was also an issue with vehicles parking opposite the entrance to the estate. Rule 243 of the Highway Code states, **DO NOT** stop or park opposite or within 10 metres (32 feet) of a junction, except in an authorised parking space. This means that the Police can take action if necessary.

A recommendation for a 'Motor vehicles prohibited except for access to off street premises' sign was also made, for the reason that it would be a more efficient and cost-effective solution. As this sign would also require a traffic regulation order, there would be no cost saving over the 'No waiting at Any Time' parking restrictions. These signs have also been found to be largely ineffective against unauthorised parking, as they are rarely enforced by the police.

Recommendation

Given the safety concerns raised it is recommended that the 'No Waiting at Any Time' parking restrictions be extended as proposed.

Delegated Decision

Implications Arising out of the Report

Policy	Consistent with existing policies
Finance and value for money	Scheme will be financed through the Local Transport Plan 2022/23 programme
Legal	Motorists will be required to comply with the Traffic Regulation Order
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	The proposal is designed to improve pedestrian and road safety in the area.
Crime & Disorder	Regulations in place to carry out enforcement
Customer Consideration	The proposed extension to the 'No Waiting at Any Time' parking restrictions will lead to a safer environment for pedestrians and road users. 100% of consultees were also in favor of the proposals.
Carbon reduction	None
Wards	Ponteland East and Stannington

Delegated Decision

Appendix Index

Appendix A – Consultation letter and plan

Appendix B – Summary of consultation responses

Appendix C – Layout of proposed extension to the ‘No Waiting at Any Time’ parking restrictions

Background Papers:

None

Author and Contact Details

Report Author **Michael McMonagle, Programme Officer**

DECISION TAKEN

Title of Officer: Service Director, Local Services

Subject: Proposed extension to the 'No Waiting at Any Time' parking restrictions on Dunsgreen, Ponteland.

Consultation: 8 responses received
7 in favor
0 against
1 no opinion

Decision Taken: To extend the 'No Waiting at Any Time' parking restrictions on Dunsgreen, Ponteland.

Signature of Director



26.01.23

Appendix A – Consultation Letter



Your ref:
Our ref: Dunsgreen
Enquiries to: Highways Programme
Email: Highwaysprogramme@northumberland.gov.uk
Tel direct: 0345 600 6400
Date: 3rd November 2022

Dear Sir/Madam,

Proposed Extension of Parking Restrictions – Dunsgreen.

Concerns have been raised regarding vehicles parking along the entrance to Dunsgreen, during school pick up and drop off times. When doing so this is forcing vehicles into oncoming traffic when approaching the junction to Callepton Lane.

In order to address ongoing road safety concerns, the County Council is proposing the extension of the existing double yellow lines in the areas highlighted yellow on the plan overleaf.

I am therefore writing to you to ask for your views on this proposal. Please visit <https://www.northumberland.gov.uk/Highways/Roads/Traffic.aspx> or send your views via email to HighwaysProgramme@northumberland.gov.uk

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 Director of Local Services and may be available for public inspection.

This consultation is open until **Friday the 18th of November 2022.**

Thank you in advance for your participation.

Yours sincerely,

M. McMonagle

Michael McMonagle
Programme Officer



Proposed parking restrictions – Dunsgreen.



County Hall, Morpeth, Northumberland, NE61 2EF
www.northumberland.gov.uk



Delegated Decision

Appendix B – Summary of consultation responses

	FOR	AGAINST	NEITHER	
Thoroughfare				Other Relevant Comments
				I live in Dunsgreen Court a private complex with private parking with signs to say it is private. The entrance has been blocked when school pick up takes place and the car park is used as a pick up point and turning point I did think the new school parking would make a difference but not so, some drivers are abusive when asked to move. I am not sure what we can do to stop this as it seems the drivers choose to ignore the signs. I hope the new double yellow lines work but do not direct the traffic in to our car park.
Dunsgreen	1			I live at XX Dunsgreen. I have a x year old and a x year old who attends Ponteland Primary School. We walk to school and when I have the pram and my son I have to go onto the road on the way back home because of all the cars parked on the road/pavement where the double lines are proposed. On numerous occasions we have had to stop traffic to get on and off the pavements to accommodate the parents parking. There is a blind bend at the top of the street so it isn't a pleasant experience. I believe at both the primary school and high school there is sufficient parking providing where this doesn't need to happen. It is actually massively inconsiderate and I feel puts my young son in danger especially when I am struggling with the pram and the weather is bad. I feel the only deterrent for this would be double yellows. My only concern is that it would then encourage people to park in front of my house but this is something I would be willing to put up with to make it safer for me and my children to walk home. I really hope the proposal goes through as it is something which would improve my life especially when my son enters reception next year and the school run will be five days a week. I appreciate that there are lots of people who travel from outside the area to the schools but I would hope local residents who can walk to school would be prioritised in this instance and the safety of those children.
Dunsgreen	1			There is a problem with parked cars during school times in particular, but this also happens at other times of the day. There is also a problem with vehicles parking opposite the entrance of Dunsgreen Court. I myself have had near misses when trying to enter or leave the court because a vehicle was parked directly opposite the entrance.

Delegated Decision

	1			I refer to your recent letter dated 25/10/2022 regarding the proposed extension of parking restrictions at the entrance to Dunsgreen. I welcome this proposal and I have written numerous time expressing my concerns at the current parking habits and potential road safety concerns. Being resident at number X Dunsgreen (i.e. the entrance) we are possibly the only residents directly witness the impact of drop off and collection on the traffic flow coming out of the new school car park. Other residents will obviously also see the impact of this parking when they have to negotiate the parked vehicles when approaching Callerton lane road.
Dunsgreen	1			Please continue extending yellow lines as per photo, it should have been done years ago.
Dunsgreen	1			There has been irresponsible and dangerous parking at Dunsgreen by parents collecting their children from school for some considerable time. I expected that with the new parking facilities at the School this problem would have ended but this has not been the case. The continuation of the double yellow lining is very welcome but hope it will not encourage parents to park in the private Dunsgreen Court car park. I am amazed that parents allow their children to cross the busy Callerton lane. Often parents park their cars on the pavement forcing pedestrians with push chairs onto the road.
	1			Having seen the information about the parking on Dunsgreen, I would like to support the council in extending the yellow lines around to the side road. I would also say we have the same problem on the road to Mayfair Gardens road. Thanks
Dunsgreen				The problems arising from parking in Dunsgreen during school pick-up and drop-off times have been an ongoing problem/headache/frustration for the residents ever since the schools on Callerton Lane first opened. Surely the most effective and cost efficient answer to the problem would be to erect signs at the access to Dunsgreen as those present at the entrance to Mayfair Gardens "NO ENTRY EXCEPT FOR ACCESS TO OFF STREET PREMISES"

Appendix C – Layout of proposed extension to the ‘No Waiting at Any Time’ parking restrictions

Delegated Decision



