



# Northumberland

## County Council

### RECORD OF DECISION TAKEN BY DIRECTOR OF ENVIRONMENT AND TRANSPORT

Paul Jones

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**Proposed 'No Waiting or Loading Monday to Friday 12pm - 4pm' parking restrictions on Morrison Road, Morpeth**

**Cabinet Member: Councillor John Riddle**

**17<sup>th</sup> May 2023**

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#### **Purpose of Report**

To consider the results of the public consultation exercise, regarding the proposed 'No Waiting or Loading Monday to Friday 12pm – 4pm' parking restrictions on Morrison Road, Morpeth

#### **Recommendations**

It is recommended that the 'No Waiting or Loading Monday to Friday 12pm – 4pm' parking restrictions be implemented as proposed.

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

This report is relevant to the following key themes in the Corporate Plan for 2023-26:

'Thriving Places and Culture – Neighbourhoods are safe, clean and well maintained'

#### **Key Issues**

1. Neighbourhood Services have raised concerns regarding access for refuse wagons to the back lanes off Morrison Road.
2. It has been reported that refuse collections have not been made on numerous occasions due to indiscriminate parking.
3. Cars are parking at the junctions to these back lanes, which in turn is preventing the refuse wagons from gaining access to undertake their collections.
4. The proposals are supported by Councillor Bawn

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5. The scheme will be funded through the 2023-24 Local Transport Plan programme.

### **Background**

Morrison Road is a small residential street which runs adjacent to Thorp Avenue just off Dark Lane in Morpeth. It also serves as an access road to almost 200 properties situated on Fenwick Grove, Olympia Gardens/Hill, Hood Street and Northbourne Avenue. With most of this area being terraced houses, almost all parking is on street.

Refuse collections are made down the back lanes where residents leave their bins. With vehicles parking so close to the junction, the refuse wagon has been unable to access these lanes, which has led to bins not being emptied on numerous occasions.

As a result of the concerns raised by Parking Services and Neighbourhood Services, the council have proposed that the 'No Waiting or Loading Monday to Friday 12pm – 4pm' parking restrictions be introduced in order to improve access and road safety in the area. This will allow the refuse wagon to safely access the street between these times, while still allowing parking outside these times.



Google image 1 of Morrison Road

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Google image 2 of Morrison Road



Google image 3 of Morrison Road

## Consultation

The proposed 'No Waiting or Loading Monday to Friday 12pm – 4pm' parking restrictions was the subject of a consultation exercise which concluded on 24<sup>th</sup> March 2023. The involved the delivery of a consultation letter to 197 residents and 28 statutory consultees, including the emergency services and disabled

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and transport associations and organisations. A copy of the consultation letter and plan is attached as Appendix A.

Responses were received from 38 consultees with 37 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 the exact timings of the restriction were questioned. Due to the Local Services team amending their routes, the exact times were omitted until they had been confirmed. The proposed restrictions will be in place Monday to Friday between 12pm and 4pm.

The length of the restriction was also questioned. The proposed restrictions will be a single car length from the junction. This will allow sufficient space for the refuse wagons to safely manouvre in and out of the lanes.

One consultee raised concerns that the proposed restrictions would not be enforced. The surrounding area is already well patrolled by CEOs. Once the proposed restrictions are in place, Morrison Road will be suitably patrolled during these times.

Another consultee suggested there should be signs along with the proposed road markings. The road markings will consist of a single yellow line on the carriageway with a single yellow line on the kerb. These markings signify that there is no waiting or loading between certain times. For these restrictions to be enforceable, there needs to be corresponding signage which states the days and times that these restrictions will be in force. This signage will be incorporated into the scheme and kept to a minimum where possible.

Requests for permit parking in the adjacent streets was made by a few consultees. The Council would not implement 'residents only' type restrictions i.e. permit holders only. Only 'shared use' schemes would be considered, so visitors to the area are still able to park for at least a time limited period as this also helps local businesses in our towns.

The condition of the carriageway and footpath was also mentioned during the consultation. These concerns have been passed on to the area maintenance team for for investigation by the local highways inspector.

## **Recommendation**

Given the concerns raised it is recommended that the 'No Waiting or Loading Monday to Friday 12pm – 4pm' parking restrictions be introduced as proposed.

## **Implications Arising out of the Report**

<b>Policy</b>	Consistent with existing policies
<b>Finance and value for</b>	Scheme will be financed through the Local Transport Plan 2023/24 programme

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<b>money</b>	
<b>Legal</b>	Motorists will be required to comply with the Traffic Regulation Order
<b>Procurement</b>	None
<b>Human Resources</b>	None
<b>Property</b>	None
<b>Equalities</b> (Impact Assessment attached) Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> N/A <input type="checkbox"/>	N/A
<b>Risk Assessment</b>	The proposal is designed to improve access and road safety in the area.
<b>Crime &amp; Disorder</b>	Regulations in place to carry out enforcement
<b>Customer Consideration</b>	The proposed 'No Waiting or Loading Monday to Friday 12pm – 4pm' parking restrictions will lead to a safer environment for road users. 100% of consultees were also in favor of the proposals.
<b>Carbon reduction</b>	None
<b>Wards</b>	Morpeth North

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### **Appendix Index**

Appendix A – Consultation letter and plan

Appendix B – Summary of consultation responses

Appendix C – Layout of proposed 'No Waiting or Loading Monday to Friday 12pm – 4pm' parking restrictions

### **Background Papers:**

None

### **Author and Contact Details**

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Report Author      **Michael McMonagle, Programme Officer**

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### DECISION TAKEN

**Title of Officer:** Director of Environment and Transport

**Subject:** Proposed 'No Waiting or Loading Monday to Friday 12pm – 4pm' parking restrictions on Morrison Road, Morpeth

**Consultation:** 38 responses received  
37 in favor  
0 against  
1 no opinion

**Decision Taken:** To implement the 'No Waiting or Loading Monday to Friday 12pm – 4pm' parking restrictions on Morrison Road, Morpeth

Signature of Director



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Date

7<sup>th</sup> August 2023

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### Appendix A – Consultation Letter



**Your ref:**  
**Our ref:** Morrison Road  
**Enquiries to:** Highways Programme  
**Email:** [Highwaysprogramme@northumberland.gov.uk](mailto:Highwaysprogramme@northumberland.gov.uk)  
**Date:** 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2023

Dear Sir/Madam,

#### **Proposed Parking Restrictions – Morrison Road**

Concerns have been raised regarding vehicles parking in and around junctions on Morrison Road. Vehicles being parking in these areas are restricting access to the refuse wagon, which has led to household waste has not been collected on numerous occasions.

In order to address ongoing concerns, the County Council is proposing the addition of single yellow lines, with a single blip, in the areas highlighted yellow on the plan overleaf. These markings would restrict stopping and loading in these areas between certain times. This will allow the refuse wagon to safely complete its route, while still allowing parking outside of these hours.

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](mailto:HighwaysProgramme@northumberland.gov.uk). For those who don't have access to emails, a free post response form is attached to facilitate the consultation process.

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 24<sup>th</sup> of March 2023**.

Thank you in advance for your participation.

Yours sincerely,

*M. McMonagle*

Michael McMonagle  
Programme Officer



County Hall, Morpeth, Northumberland, NE61 2EF  
[www.northumberland.gov.uk](http://www.northumberland.gov.uk)







# Northumberland County Council

## Proposed parking restrictions – Morrison Road



County Hall, Morpeth, Northumberland, NE61 2EF  
[www.northumberland.gov.uk](http://www.northumberland.gov.uk)



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### Appendix B – Summary of consultation responses

	FOR	AGAINST	NEITHER	
Thoroughfare				Other Relevant Comments
	1			Thank you for the notifications of proposed parking restrictions on Morrison road. I would like to confirm that I support the proposal. However, I do have the following points to make, the questions which I would be grateful if you could answer please. No information is provided regarding the hours that this restriction is in place, or the day/days. Refuse collection typically happens on the same day each week, but Bank Holiday arrangements cause this to vary from time to time. It would seem unnecessary and unhelpful to the hundreds of residents if this restrictions is not limited as far as possible to those days/times. Please can residents be informed of the restriction times as part of this consultation please? I would also ask that the yellow line is only as long as is necessary for the manoeuvring of the type of vehicle in question. I would suggest that this means approximately one car length either side of the land perpendicular to Morrison Road. The yellow marks seem to indicate this but could residents be reassured of the length of these lines as part of this consultation please? Enforcement of the parking on these lines would also be necessary to ensure that they have the desired impact, what are the council's plans in this respect?
Hood Street	1			I live at XX Hood Street and am on one of the roads affected by refuse wagons not being able to access the rear of our properties. I would therefore support the proposed parking restrictions on Morrison Road
Hood Street	1			Yes: Brilliant!
Hood Street				Further to your letter to residents, I am in favour of parking restrictions being put in place so refuse collections are made when they should be but how will having yellow lines actually enforce this? Additionally to this issue, as a resident of XX the parking situation has become intolerable. I live at no X and regularly am unable to park not only outside my property but even nearby (ending up on Fenwick Grove many times) This is because of non-residents using the street to go into the town centre or visiting the medical centre, as either a patient or a member of staff. It would be great if something could be done - ideally permits (we have one resident of XX who parks on Hood Street and gives their permit to a visitor it seems, taking one or our spaces sometimes for weeks on end) or at least white line bays to stop people parking badly and make more efficient use of the space available. I am not the only resident who is really fed up of this situation.
Northborne Ave	1			Support as long as restriction homes are limited as much as possible - i.e. marked to the hours that the refuse carry could collect. How will bank holidays be handled? Will specific dates & times be updated on the sign? Have seen this for football matches in other areas of the county
Fenwick Grove	1			Would make access to the rear of my property easier at times.
Olympia Gardens	1			Parking on all corners causes problems, not just entrance to back lanes.
Olympia Gardens	1			Can you also arrange for the roads and paths in the area to be resurfaced at the same time, they are in an extremely poor state, the paths are inaccessible for anyone using a wheel chairs.
Hood Street	1			I support the proposal however I would like to know the following - 1 Who is responsible for enforcing the restrictions? 2 What will the total cost to the council be if the proposal gets approved and implemented?
Hood Street	1			It may also be wise to notify residents of these streets to not park in the lanes which also prevents access. There are times where people are parking their work vans (white vans) in the lane next to Hood Street. This also prevents access to residents garages.

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Olympia Gardens	1		Fully agree with this proposal but hope the area will not be plastered with road signs.
Fenwick Grove	1		Totally agree with the yellow lines. The bin wagon not being able to access our back lane is becoming a regular occurrence. I would also point out the parking congestion is exacerbated by people using Fenwick Grove rather than The Mount NHS car park, I'd assume because the junction from The Mount and St Georges onto Whorral bank is too busy.
	1		I've recently received a letter in relation to the proposal of single yellow lines around Morrison Road. I do welcome this proposal however I believe the whole area surrounding Morrison Road needs to be addressed. We have shoppers and works parking in the street! I understand encouraging business into Morpeth but there are plenty of car parks
Hood Street	1		I do support the proposal however I think it fails to see the wider issue of parking on these residential streets. As residents, when have recently enquired about permits (this has been declined) as the number of cars in the street are causing issues for both waste collection, and also deliveries, parking etc. I have also raised the issue of parked vehicles in the back lane with the council as this also prevents waste collection, but leave me concerned as the lane is also an access route in an emergency. Unfortunately, cars are forced to park where you propose lines, as there are a number of work vehicles and holiday vehicles on the street. It is these vehicles which I object to, as they take up additional space and prevent residents and shoppers from accessing parking. Alongside the yellow lines, which I fully support, I would ask that the council consider the vehicles causing the difficulties and perhaps assess whether van (including work vehicles and campervans) are permitted in a residential street when clearly not the primary vehicle.
Olympia Gardens	1		Fully supported
Olympia Gardens	1		no comments
Braeside	1		no comments
Olympia Gardens	1		I'm broadly in favour but I would like to know the times that the restrictions apply first.
Northborne Ave	1		no comments
Olympia Hill	1		We fully support this as we have been affected by the inconsiderate parking. Many thanks to the efforts of the refuse wagon workers over the last few months - and many thanks for addressing this issue, so quickly.
Olympia Gardens	1		It is very inconvenient when the refuse lorry can't access the back lanes and our bins don't get emptied. Fully support the proposal.
Olympia Gardens	1		Suggest full time double yellow lines on the main junctions, inconsiderate parking makes it very difficult for all vehicles to negotiate the corners.
	1		no comments
	1		no comments
Hood Street	1		no comments
Fenwick Grove	1		To further assist bin collection - propose prohibition of parking of care, builders van etc from using back lanes on bin collection day - a letter to all households in the proposed area (i.e. for us - on a Tuesday)
Northborne Ave	1		Living on Northborne Ave There is the weekly uncertainty about whether/if the refuse wagon will get up the hill. So I'm pleased that this proposal looks at this important issue for local residents. I would ask that thought be given to doing something about the parking on or near the road safety feature at the junction of Fenwick Grove & Morrison Road. As common sense and car parking have a curious relationship in that area.
Northborne Ave	1		I support this fully. Also Hood Street and Northbourne Avenue needs marking and in favour of permit parking as public use street in this area for parking we now in Morpeth have more car parks etc. So neighbourhoods need to be priority for residents. This is long overdue and attention. The entrance to Northbourne Ave is blocked with cars I feel this needs to be kept clear for residents access on footpaths to get past cars on foot with heavy shopping, prams etc is difficult. Delivery drivers and our bin men service have a very difficult time. Permits for residents only is needed

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Olympia Gardens	1		I fully support the proposals but believe this does not go far enough. Olympia Gardens & Hood St already have yellow lines at the junctions with Howard Road. I think there should be a similar restriction at the top of the streets, i.e. the junctions with Morrison Road. I have seen delivery vans attempting to make the turn into Olympia from Morrison, they are often unable to do this because of the cars parked on the corners, they are the forced to reverse back to Fenwick Grove. If they enter Olympia from Howard they are also unable to turn at the top and have to reverse back onto Howard. This is even more dangerous than normal due to increased traffic because of the Cottingwood Lane diversion. If delivery vans have a problem there is no way an ambulance or fire engine will be able to make these manoeuvres. If parking is restricted within 6 meters of the corner - as it is on Fenwick Grove - this dangerous situation could be resolved.
Olympia Hill	1		We bring our caravan and car down upper Fenwick Grove. There is often a problem around the junction with Morrison Road/Oswald Road. At time there are 2 or 3 cars actually parked ON the raised speed bumps at this junction. Visibility is poor enough and tis a tight squeeze getting down to the main road. I have to get out of the car and direct my husband around these parked cars ( and often a van is on the raised area) I've watched the refuse lorry trying to negotiate around these cars too. I've seen the refuse wagon struggle and give up as its dangerous and impossible to do their job safely. They do a good job under the circumstances, so agree with any single yellow lines that will allow them to collect our refuse safely. I realise that many houses have 2 cars and it's almost impossible to park close to your house but these houses were built at a time when few people had cars (and certainly not garages) I'm not sure that what you have suggested will solve the problem but hopefully make it easier for the council to collect refuse.
Fenwick Grove	1		Good idea, should have been done ages ago!
Olympia Hill	1		We think this is a good idea and essential to allow the refuse collectors to do their job.
Fenwick Grove	1		There are also concerns generally about parking on the corner of Morrison Road into Fenwick Grove - on both sides making it hard to see traffic coming up Fenwick Grove.
Olympia Gardens		1	Parking is difficult enough without restricting spaces further. I live on XX and struggle to find a space near my home. I would be in support of these restrictions on bin days only
Olympia Hill	1		As a resident of XX I recognise the problem with the refuse wagon and would welcome the proposal. We do rely on street parking a lot as long as parking in these spots aren't very restrictive, it should be fine
Olympia Hill	1		My wife and I both agree - proposals good to go. I think the signage will need to be put in with discretion. We don't want a forest of poles. The signs should be placed as far as possible on existing lamppost and walls
Olympia Gardens	1		Proposal of parking permits for residents in similar fashion to Jesmond, where residents will get the first pass for free, second is charger at £25 and third (if you need a third) £75-100.The parking is getting to a tilting point, so it's a matter of time until this is needed. The main issue is the streets such as Olympia Hill etc with no on-street parking, which ultimately spills down onto Olympia Gardens/Hood Street and so on. Perhaps not fully relevant for this, but is there any proposal for electric charging on the streets/for homes as I would like to see more provisions.
Fenwick Grove	1		Parking right on the corner of these junctions have always been an issue. Problem is due to the restrictive parking for those living up Northborn and Olympia Hill. Also there are flats in Olympia Gardens. It is a very tricky situation but the bin collection wagons need access for health and safety and environmental problems from non-collection of waste. I hope this action will be fully policed and the deterrent will help the situation. Will there be street signs showing the parking information.

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Olympia Hill	1		<p>When applying the parking restrictions on Morrison Road, would it be possible for you to inspect and repair a broken pavement at the bottom of Olympia Hill? This has most likely occurred when a car, or cars mounted the pavement when being parked. It is quite dangerous, especially for residents with mobility issue including myself. I have stumbled more than once, and no doubt so have others. When cars are parked there, there is limited space to manoeuvre off the pavement onto the road in order to cross. I am not raising objection to cars being parked there but it would be helpful if it could be marked so as to leave a larger space. Also, repair of the pavement would be very much appreciated by the residents. Many thanks for your attention to this note, if I should be addressing it to a different department please let me know and I will do that.</p>
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Appendix C – Layout of proposed 'No Waiting or Loading Monday to Friday 12pm – 4pm' parking restrictions

