



Northumberland County Council

RECORD OF DECISION TAKEN BY THE DIRECTOR OF ENVIRONMENT AND TRANSPORT

Paul Jones – Director of Environment & Transport

Proposed Parking Restrictions – Commercial Road, Spittal

Cabinet Member: Councillor John Riddle, Improving Our Roads & Highways

15 January 2024

Purpose of Report

This report sets out the background to the proposal to introduce new parking restrictions at Commercial Road in Spittal.

Recommendation

It is recommended that the proposed parking restrictions are implemented in order to improve road safety in the area.

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. Northumberland County Council has received concerns regarding obstructive and indiscriminate parking through the full length of Commercial Road in Spittal.
2. ‘No Waiting at Any Time’ restrictions in the form of double yellow lines are proposed in order to alleviate these concerns.
3. The scheme is supported by the local County Councillor.
4. The scheme is to be funded through the 2023/24 Local Transport Plan (LTP) programme.

Background

Commercial Road is situated in the centre of Spittal and is primarily residential in nature with a narrow carriageway and footways adjacent to these properties. It is currently derestricted and as a result, the area is used for parking but causes obstructions due to the narrow widths here which forces pedestrians onto the carriageway or prevents vehicles from navigating in and out of the road.



Fig. 1: Example of existing layout at Commercial Road, Spittal (Source: Google Maps, 2024)

'No Waiting at Any Time' restrictions in the form of double yellow lines are therefore proposed on both sides of Commercial Road to alleviate the concerns raised with obstructive and indiscriminate parking. It is acknowledged that the new restrictions would remove parking for residents on Commercial Road, however site observations suggest available kerbside space exists throughout the year on adjoining and nearby streets which can be utilised. In addition, motorists are still able to stop on these waiting restrictions to load/unload, should it be required.

The proposed restrictions can be observed in Appendix A, with consultation responses listed in Appendix B. They are intended to increase road safety, maintain the free flow of traffic where possible and to protect the amenity of the area. Northumbria Police, other emergency services, relevant statutory consultees and directly affected properties will be notified of this amendment as part of the process for making the Traffic Regulation Order.

Delegated Decision

Implications Arising out of the Report

Policy	Consistent with existing policies.
Finance and value for money	Scheme will be financed through the LTP 2023/24 programme.
Legal	Motorists will be required to comply with the Traffic Regulation Order.
Procurement	None
Human Resources	None
Property	None
Equalities Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> N/A <input type="checkbox"/>	N/A
Risk Assessment	The proposal is designed to reduce the risks associated with obstructive and indiscriminate parking.
Crime & Disorder	Regulations in place to carry out enforcement.
Customer Consideration	Statutory consultees and directly affected residents have been consulted.
Carbon reduction	None
Wards	Berwick East

Delegated Decision

Background Papers

File reference – HE233723D-08

Appendix A – Scheme Layout

Appendix B – Consultation Responses

Author

Report Author **William Binks, Programme Officer**

Delegated Decision

DECISION TAKEN

Title of Officer	Director of Environment & Transport
Subject	Proposed 'No Waiting at Any Time' restrictions at Commercial Road, Spittal
Consultation	For: 2 (67%) Against: 1 (33%)
Decision Taken	To introduce new 'No Waiting at Any Time' restrictions at Commercial Road, Spittal

Signature of Director



Date

13th February 2024


Appendix A – Scheme Layout




Northumberland
 County Council
 Northumberland County Council
 County Hall
 Morpeth
 Northumberland NE61 2EF
 Tel: 01670 533000

**Network Management
 Information System**
This map is reproduced from Ordnance Survey material with the permission of Ordnance Survey on behalf of the Controller of Her Majesty's Stationery Office. Crown Copyright. Unauthorised reproduction infringes Crown Copyright and may lead to prosecution or civil proceedings. License no. 100049048 (2009)

Title: Commercial Road, Spittal
 Proposed No Waiting At Any Time
 Parking Restrictions
Dm: CE **Date:** Nov 23 **Scale:** NTS

KEY
 Proposed Double Yellow Lines 

Delegated Decision

Appendix B – Consultation Responses

Key: F = For; A = Against

F	A	RESPONSES
1		I hope parking and driving on pavements in Spittal is addressed in the future.
1		This being in the Spittal Conservation Area the yellow lines should be narrow and pale yellow.
		<p>Whilst not wholly against your proposal regarding double yellow lining in Commercial Rd, I wonder if this proposal has been properly thought through.</p> <p>Most of the backstreets in the nearby vicinity are narrow. Imposing a no parking restriction in Commercial Rd will (theoretically at least) force residents to park their vehicles in other streets thereby shifting the 'safety' aspect to other locations. Is that fair on others who either live, work or have to pass through the area? In my experience there will always be drivers who simply ignore double yellow lines and park over them in the knowledge that illegal parking is rarely enforced. It would also force delivery and other vehicles needing close access to the houses in Commercial Rd to be parked illegally albeit for short periods of time. From my own personal circumstances as a resident of that road, I may well find myself a victim of thoughtless parking blocking my driveway which leads onto North Greenwich Rd just around the corner from Commercial Rd.</p> <p>Perhaps you should take into consideration the Government's policy of persuading people to buy electric vehicles which will require access to plug in points.</p> <p>Perhaps you should also consider a one-way system down Commercial Rd which may be more effective in relieving traffic congestion and improving any safety issues.</p>
2	1	