



Northumberland County Council

RECORD OF DECISION TAKEN BY DIRECTOR OF ENVIRONMENT AND TRANSPORT

Paul Jones – Director of Environment & Transport

Proposed Parking Restrictions – Newsham Primary School, Blyth

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

14 May 2024

Purpose of Report

This report sets out the background to the proposal to introduce new parking restrictions directly outside Newsham Primary School in Blyth.

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 during school start and end times outside Newsham Primary School in Blyth.
2. Additional parking restrictions have been proposed on Wharton Street and Warwick Street in Blyth as a result in order to alleviate these concerns.
3. The scheme is supported by the local County Councillor.

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4. The scheme is to be funded through the 2024/25 Local Transport Plan (LTP) programme.

Background

Wharton Street is situated to the north of Newsham Primary School where two school entrance accesses are in operation during start and end times, whereas Warwick Street is a shorter section of road where the southern access to the school exists.

Parking restrictions in the form of pedestrian crossing zig-zag lines, 'School Keep Clear' and 'No Waiting at Any Time' (double yellow lines) markings are in operation on Wharton Street to prohibit obstructive and indiscriminate parking directly outside the school, however a short section of the carriageway remains derestricted and is utilised as an informal pick-up or drop-off point during peak times and obstructs forward visibility along with the flow of traffic.



Fig. 1: Location of derestricted section of carriageway on Wharton Street, Blyth

On Warwick Street, a 'School Keep Clear' marking is in operation during school start and end times on the north side of the carriageway, but the area directly outside the school gates and the southern side remains derestricted. A School Streets scheme in the form of a Pedestrian & Cycle Zone was introduced during the Covid-19 pandemic to encourage social distancing when picking up or dropping off schoolchildren, but exemptions for use of this zone include residents who live within the zone. Residents' vehicles have been observed to be regularly parked on the derestricted side of the street, which also causes visibility and obstructive issues.



Fig. 2: Existing layout of Warwick Street, Blyth

In order to alleviate these issues, further parking restrictions are proposed outside the vicinity of the school's entrances on both Wharton Street and Warwick Street.

'No Waiting at Any Time' restrictions in the form of double yellow lines are proposed on Wharton Street to cover the area between the 'School Keep Clear' markings to discourage obstructive parking and are proposed to extend further east beyond the old railway line to ensure this location, as observed in Figure 3, is also included within the restricted area.



Fig. 3: End point of parking restrictions at Wharton Street, Blyth

Further double yellow lines on Warwick Street are proposed at the turning head of the school entrance gates, whereas an additional 'School Keep Clear' is to be implemented parallel to the existing zig-zag markings so that the carriageway is kept clear of vehicles when schoolchildren are entering or leaving the premises. The existing Pedestrian & Cycle Zone signs would also be removed so as to avoid any confusion or complications over these restrictions.

Details of the proposal can be found in Appendix A with consultation responses shown in Appendix B. Any restrictions which are to remain are not

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denoted within the plan and will not be altered as part of the scheme. The proposal is intended to increase road safety, maintain the free flow of traffic where possible and to protect the amenity of the area overall. Northumbria Police, other emergency services and relevant statutory consultees will be notified of these amendments as part of the process for making the permanent Traffic Regulation Order.

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Implications Arising out of the Report

Policy	Consistent with existing policies.
Finance and value for money	Scheme will be financed through the LTP 2024/25 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 directly affected residents and the school have been consulted.
Carbon reduction	None
Wards	Newsham

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Background Papers

File reference – HE233728D-11

Appendix A – Scheme Layout

Appendix B – Consultation Responses

Author

Report Author **William Binks, Programme Officer**

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DECISION TAKEN

Title of Officer	Director of Environment & Transport
Subject	Proposed parking restrictions at Newsham Primary School, Blyth
Consultation	For: 1 (100%) Against: 0 (0%)
Decision Taken	To introduce new parking restrictions at Newsham Primary School, Blyth

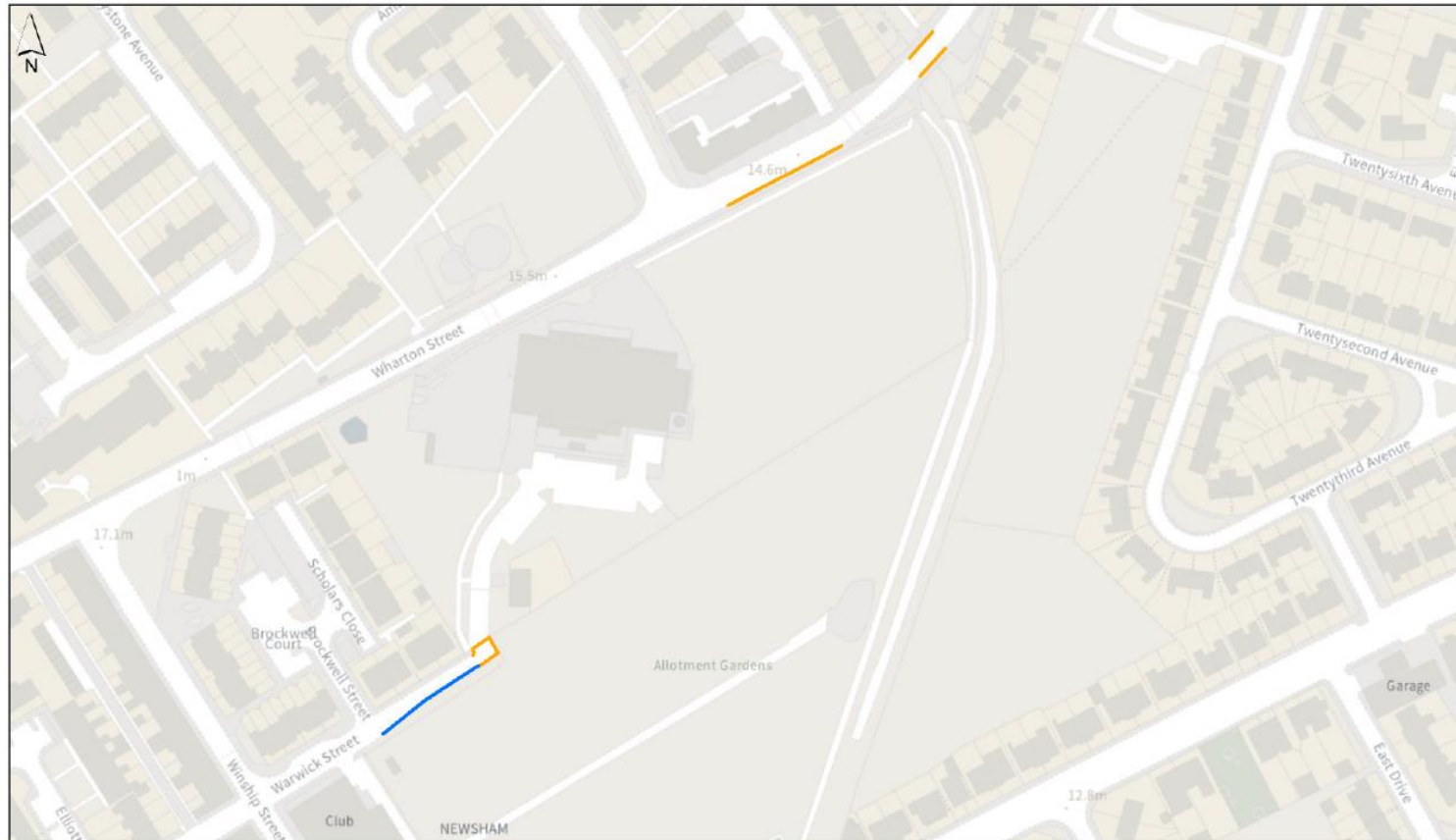
Signature of Director



Date
21st May 2024

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Appendix A – Scheme Layout



 <p>Northumberland County Council</p>	<p>Proposed Parking Restrictions Newsham Primary School Blyth</p>			<p>Key:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">  Proposed 'No Waiting at Any Time' (Double Yellow Lines) Restrictions  Proposed 'School Keep Clear' Restrictions Monday-Friday, 8am-5pm
<p>Northumberland County Council County Hall Marpath Northumberland NE61 2EF Tel: 0345 600 6400</p>	<p>This map is reproduced from Ordnance Survey material with the permission of Ordnance Survey on behalf of the Controller of Her Majesty's Stationary Office. Crown Copyright. Unauthorised reproduction infringes Crown Copyright and may lead to prosecution or civil proceedings. License no. 100049046 (2010).</p>	<p>Drn: WB</p>	<p>Date: 16.01.24</p>	

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Appendix B – Consultation Responses

Key: F = For; A = Against

F	A	RESPONSES
1		Would welcome these restrictions but do fear that vehicles will just park further up Newsham Road and cause obstruction to driveways.
1	0	

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