



# Northumberland County Council

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

**Paul Jones – Director of Environment & Transport**

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**Proposed Parking Restrictions – Pinewood Drive, Morpeth**

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

**24 November 2023**

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### **Purpose of Report**

This report sets out the background to the proposal to introduce new parking restrictions on Pinewood Drive directly outside Morpeth All Saints Church of England Aided First School in Morpeth.

### **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 primarily during school start and end times outside Morpeth All Saints Church of England Aided First School in Morpeth.
2. Additional parking restrictions have been proposed on Pinewood Drive in Morpeth as a result in order to alleviate these concerns.

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3. The scheme is supported by school representatives and the local County Councillor.
4. The scheme is to be funded through the 2023/24 Local Transport Plan (LTP) programme.

### Background

Pinewood Drive is a single carriageway road situated directly outside Morpeth All Saints Church of England First School and includes a school entrance access with informal parking bay arrangements that have been marked adjacent to this. This area is used as a pick-up and drop-off point by parents accessing the school during peak start and end times, with parking restrictions in the form of 'School Keep Clear' zig-zag markings currently in place directly across the school entrance to prohibit dangerous parking on Pinewood Drive.



**Fig. 1: Existing layout outside Morpeth All Saints Church of England First School**

As can be observed in Figure 1, the remainder of the carriageway is derestricted and leaves the area open to vehicles parking near the uncontrolled crossing point, thereby obstructing forward visibility and putting vulnerable pedestrians such as schoolchildren at risk.

### Proposal

In order to alleviate these issues, further parking restrictions are proposed outside the vicinity of the school's entrance gates.

'No Waiting at Any Time' restrictions in the form of double yellow lines are proposed where obstructive and indiscriminate parking has been observed on Pinewood Drive in an effort to encourage motorists to use the provided parking bays, which would in turn improve forward visibility and the free flow of traffic.

Details of the proposal can be found in Appendix A and results of the consultation can be observed in Appendix B. It is intended to increase road safety, maintain the free flow of traffic where possible and to protect the amenity

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of the area overall. Northumbria Police, other emergency services, relevant statutory consultees and directly affected properties 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

<b>Policy</b>	Consistent with existing policies.
<b>Finance and value for money</b>	Scheme will be financed through the LTP 2023/24 programme.
<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> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> N/A <input type="checkbox"/>	N/A
<b>Risk Assessment</b>	The proposal is designed to reduce the risks associated with obstructive and indiscriminate parking.
<b>Crime &amp; Disorder</b>	Regulations in place to carry out enforcement.
<b>Customer Consideration</b>	Statutory consultees, directly affected residents and the school have been consulted.
<b>Carbon reduction</b>	None
<b>Wards</b>	Morpeth North

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### **Background Papers**

File reference – S:\Highways\PROJECT\18\HE MINOR IMPROVEMENTS\HE185320 Morpeth All Saints School Parking Phase 1

Appendix A – Scheme Layout

Appendix B – Consultation Responses

### **Author**

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**Report Author** William Binks, Programme Officer

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**DECISION TAKEN**

<b>Title of Officer</b>	Director of Environment & Transport
<b>Subject</b>	Proposed parking restrictions at Pinewood Drive, Morpeth
<b>Consultation</b>	For: 2 (67%) Against: 0 (0%) Neither 1 (33%)
<b>Decision Taken</b>	To introduce new parking restrictions at Pinewood Drive, Morpeth

**Signature of Director**



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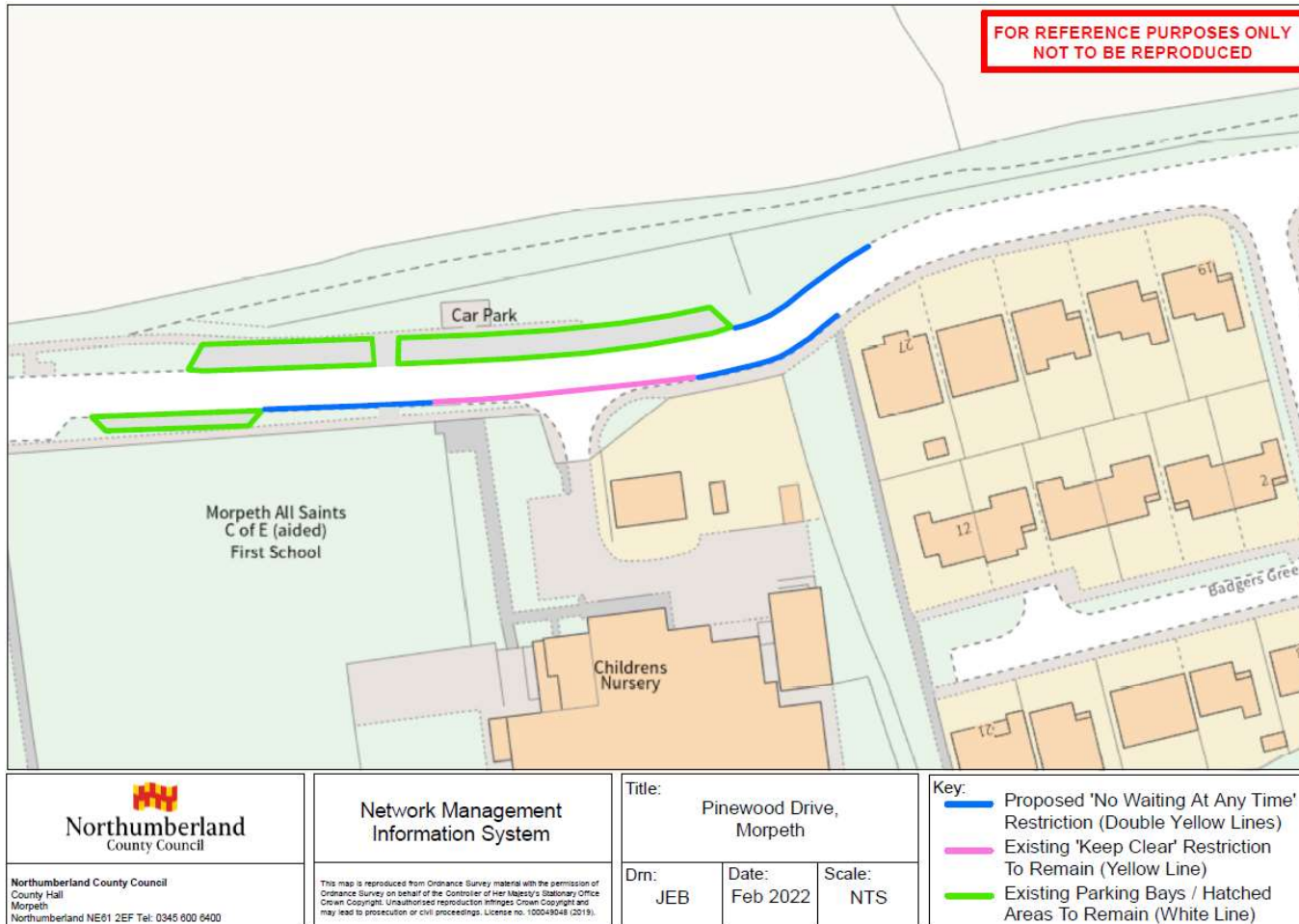
**Date**

4<sup>th</sup> January 2024

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## Appendix A – Scheme Layout



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### Appendix B – Consultation Responses

Key: F = For; A = Against, N = Neither

F	A	N	RESPONSES
1			We would support the proposed parking restrictions for the benefit of children and families safety around Morpeth All Saints CE First School.
1			I am writing regarding the proposed parking restrictions of a no waiting at any time outside of Morpeth All Saints First School. I am the nursery manager of Childcare @ Dawn to dusk and we run out of the caretakers cottage on the school site. We operate from 7.30-6.00 providing out of school care to Morpeth All Saints. Our access is directly onto the path outside school, leading directly to the road. We would extremely in favour of any improvements to limit traffic stopping around the School entrance, it is currently dangerous and very concerning. We would like to comment that bringing in parking restrictions would have a big positive impact on the safety of children accessing our setting and the school. Unfortunately some parents park on the zigzag lines directly at the School entrance, causing a safeguarding risk. I wrote to one of you colleagues recently to highlight this issue and note that there has been a presence outside school observing parking. We find that parents pull up in front of the keep clear restriction that is direct access to All saints. This is a positive proposal that we are in favour of. If I could ask how would this restriction be enforced? As some parents don't currently adhere to current restrictions, apologies if this sounds negative when you are obviously trying to make positive improvements.
		1	Morpeth Town Council have no comments to the above proposal, subject to the information provided at this time.
2	0	1	