



# **Northumberland**

## **County Council**

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

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

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#### **Proposed Parking Restrictions – Prudhoe Castle Access Road**

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

**25 September 2024**

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#### **Purpose of Report**

This report sets out the background to the proposal to introduce new parking restrictions on the access road to Prudhoe Castle in Prudhoe.

#### **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 from English Heritage staff regarding obstructive and indiscriminate parking at the access road to Prudhoe Castle, which has prevented refuse collections from entering the site on numerous occasions.
2. As a result, ‘No Waiting at Any Time’ (double yellow lines) parking restrictions have been proposed in order to alleviate these concerns.
3. The scheme is supported by the local County Councillor.

## **Delegated Decision**

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

### Background

The access road to Prudhoe Castle is situated just south of the castle itself and is the only route for refuse collections to use via its junction with Station Road. The junction is considerably wide and is utilised for parking by residents of Castle View and visitors to the area.



**Fig. 1: Prudhoe Castle access road and its junction with Station Road, Prudhoe**  
(Source: Google Maps, 2024)

Concerns have been raised by English Heritage that excess parking on the access road often prevents refuse collections being undertaken due to their vehicles being obstructed from entering the carriageway as it narrows.



**Fig. 2: Example of parking which obstructs route for refuse collections on the Prudhoe Castle access road**

In order to address these issues, 'No Waiting at Any Time' restrictions in the form of double yellow lines are proposed at the Prudhoe Castle access road and its junction with Station Road. During the consultation process, comments were received indicating residents used the wider kerbside space of the junction for parking as opposed to directly on Station Road so as not to obstruct the free flow of traffic on this main route through Prudhoe. Site observations suggest that larger vehicles could manoeuvre through the junction whilst maintaining some parking spaces here, so the initial plan has been altered to reduce the extents of double yellow lines proposed.

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The original proposed plan can be found in Appendix A, with consultation responses in Appendix B and details of the proposed amendments with final planned extents outlined in Appendix C.

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.

## Delegated Decision

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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 2024/25 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 have been consulted.
<b>Carbon reduction</b>	None
<b>Wards</b>	Prudhoe North

## **Delegated Decision**

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### **Background Papers**

File reference – HE243821D-06

Appendix A – Consultation Plan

Appendix B – Consultation Responses

Appendix C – Post-Consultation Plan

### **Author**

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**Report Author     William Binks, Programme Officer**

## **Delegated Decision**

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### **DECISION TAKEN**

<b>Title of Officer</b>	Director of Environment & Transport
<b>Subject</b>	Proposed parking restrictions at Prudhoe Castle access road
<b>Consultation</b>	Statutory consultees have been consulted
<b>Decision Taken</b>	To introduce new parking restrictions at Prudhoe Castle access road

**Signature of Director**



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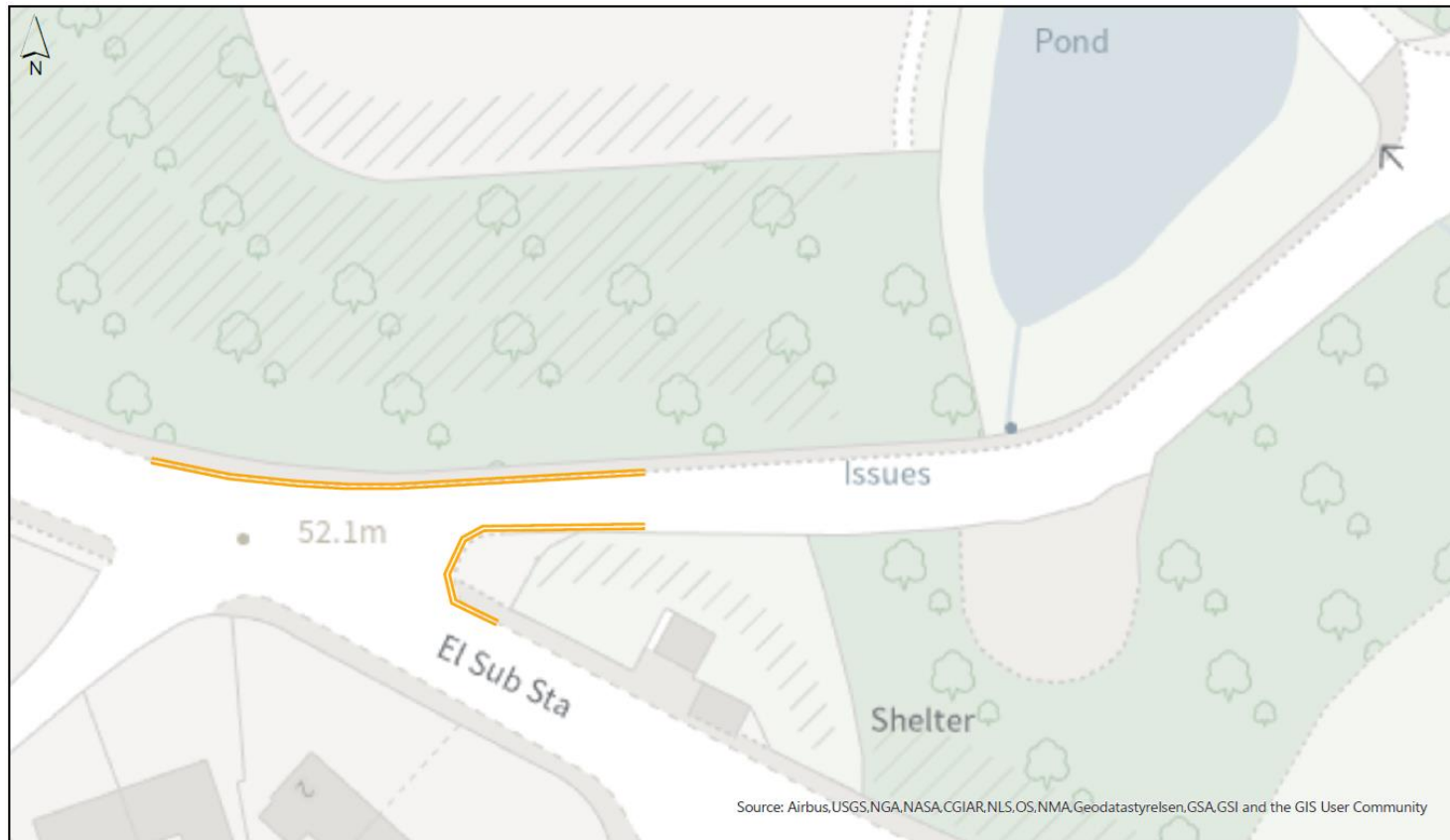
**Date**



25<sup>th</sup> September 2024

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## Delegated Decision

### Appendix A – Consultation Plan



 <b>Northumberland</b> County Council	<b>Proposed Parking Restrictions</b> <b>Prudhoe Castle Access Road</b> <b>Prudhoe</b>			<b>Key:</b>  Proposed 'No Waiting at Any Time' (Double Yellow Lines) Restrictions	
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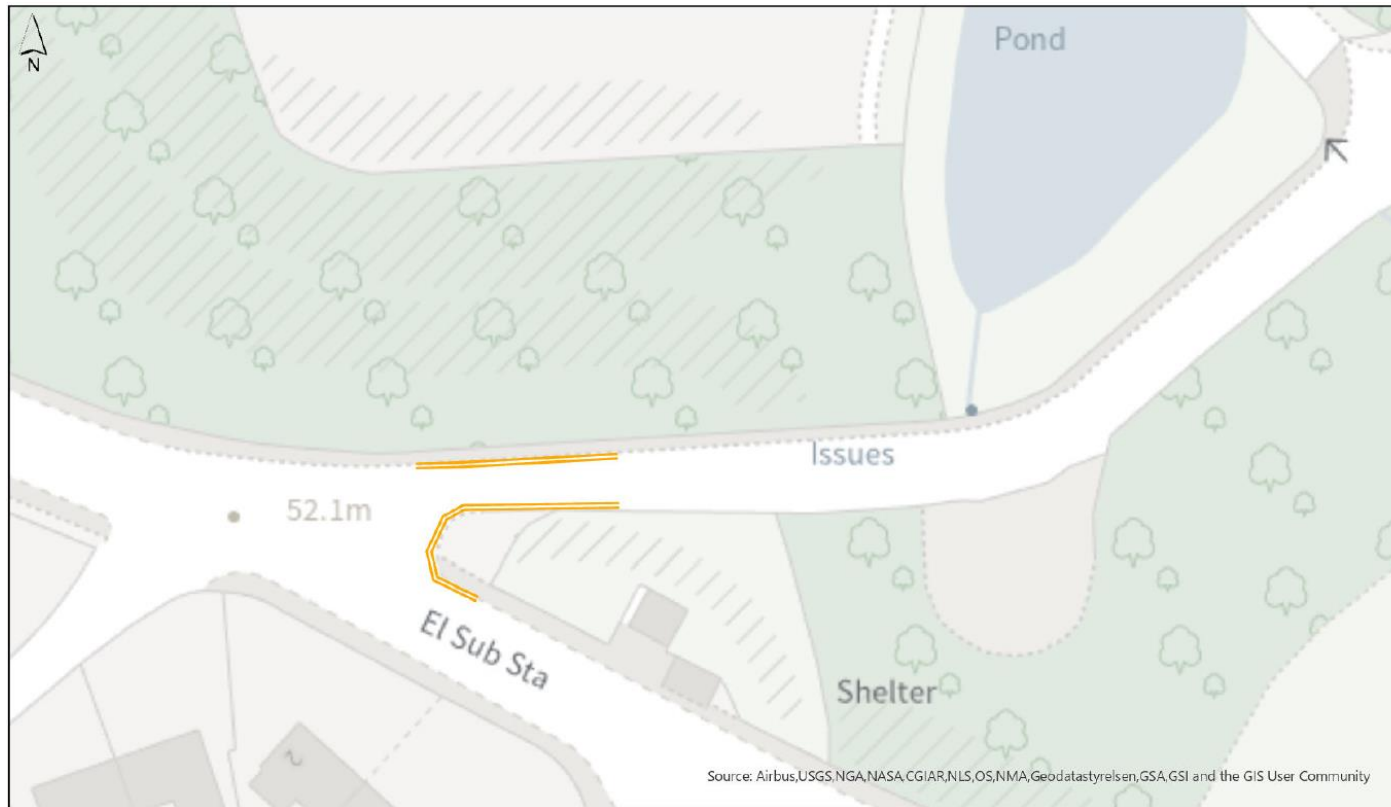
## Delegated Decision



### Appendix B – Consultation Responses

Key: F = For; A = Against

F A	RESPONSES
1	<p>I am writing in connection with the above proposal and whilst not directly affected, as a resident on Castle View for twenty three years I wish to give my view. There is space for two or three cars to park without causing obstruction to the entrance for larger vehicles or the dropped curb for disability vehicles and prams. There are three properties owned by Karbon Homes at the end of Castle which do not have drives and two of the residents of these properties own cars. They have parked their cars at the entrance where the road is wide for many years without causing any problems to access. I have recently witnessed on two occasions that the bin lorry has been unable to gain access to the Castle because of extra parked cars who have obviously not considered the implications. This seems to be a recent problem since X Castle View became occupied by a person with special needs who requires twenty four hour care. Two of the carers frequently park their cars behind the residents cars and this has been the issue on both occasions I have witnessed the bin lorry not being able to get access. If double yellow lines are put all the way to the junction then all the cars would probably park on the main road where some cars already park by people visiting their nearby allotment. This makes exiting Castle View onto Station Bank difficult and some times dangerous because of blocked vision and this would be made much worse by cars being parked there all of the time. A compromise might be to have space for two or three cars and to even have them designated for Castle View residents who do not have drives.</p>
1	<p>I've just read the proposal for double yellow lines on the access road to Prudhoe Castle. As a resident of one of the 3 houses on Castle View without a driveway, we depend on the lay-by for parking. We've noticed the parking issues highlighted and have seen the bin lorry being blocked from reaching the castle on numerous occasions. We have always made sure that when we park, we do so in a way that does not block the access to the castle or the dropped curb. Unfortunately we have seen multiple times that cars that do not belong to residents of the street park in very inconsiderate ways. While we agree that adding double yellow lines to some of the access road would be beneficial, we feel that there is enough space to allow a couple of cars to park without blocking access to the castle or the dropped curb. Because of the lack of marked parking bays, some people just park wherever they like. We would suggest marking out 2 parking bays where the road is much wider and then placing double yellow lines further down. Without the ability to park at the castle lay-by we would have nowhere else to park other than on the main road or all the way around on Castle Road so this would be a major inconvenience the houses without off street parking.</p>
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### Appendix C – Post-Consultation Plan



 <b>Northumberland</b> County Council	<b>Proposed Parking Restrictions</b> <b>Prudhoe Castle Access Road</b> <b>Prudhoe</b>				<b>Key:</b>  Proposed 'No Waiting at Any Time' (Double Yellow Lines) Restrictions
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