



# **Northumberland**

## **County Council**

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

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

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#### **Proposed Disabled Parking Bays – Rothbury**

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

**02 December 2024**

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#### **Purpose of Report**

This report sets out the background to the proposal to formalise the existing disabled parking bays outside the Co-op and Library & Arts Centre in Rothbury.

#### **Recommendation**

It is recommended that the proposed disabled bays for Blue Badge holders only are formalised in order to improve parking facilities 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 abusive parking at the existing disabled bays outside the Co-op shop and the library centre in Rothbury.
2. Amendments to these disabled bays are proposed in order to alleviate these concerns and to allow enforcement so Blue Badge holders have improved parking provisions.
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

In the centre of Rothbury, demand for on-street parking is high throughout the day and is often at full capacity, especially outside areas with local shopping facilities. Most of the town centre is derestricted, including the advisory disabled bays situated outside the library on Front Street and the new Co-op store at Town Foot. This affords all motorists the opportunities to park in the disabled bays and reduces facilities for Blue Badge holders.



**Fig. 1: Existing advisory disabled bays at the library and Co-op store, Rothbury**  
(Source: Google Maps, 2024)

Concerns have been raised by Blue Badge holders regarding abuse of these bays, thus reducing their ability to park in the vicinity or having to park further away. In order to alleviate these issues, amendments to the disabled bays are proposed which include installing new signage to denote that the facilities are for Blue Badge holders only and re-marking the bays to coincide with the prescribed regulations in the Traffic Signs Regulations and General Directions 2016. To coincide with NCC's policy for implementing formal disabled bays in its town centres, the restrictions are proposed to apply between the hours of 8am-6pm, so residents can park as normal in the evening. The location of the disabled bays to be formalised and their extents are outlined in Appendix A.

The proposal is intended to increase parking facilities for Blue Badge holders and to protect the amenity of the area overall. Relevant statutory consultees and local businesses situated within the area will be notified of these

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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 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>	N/A
<b>Crime &amp; Disorder</b>	Regulations in place to carry out enforcement.
<b>Customer Consideration</b>	Statutory consultees and local businesses will be informed.
<b>Carbon reduction</b>	None
<b>Wards</b>	Rothbury

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### **Background Papers**

File reference – HE243818D-07

Appendix A – Scheme Layouts

### **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 formalised disabled bays at Rothbury
<b>Consultation</b>	Statutory consultees and local businesses will be informed
<b>Decision Taken</b>	To formalise existing disabled parking bays at Rothbury

**Signature of Director**



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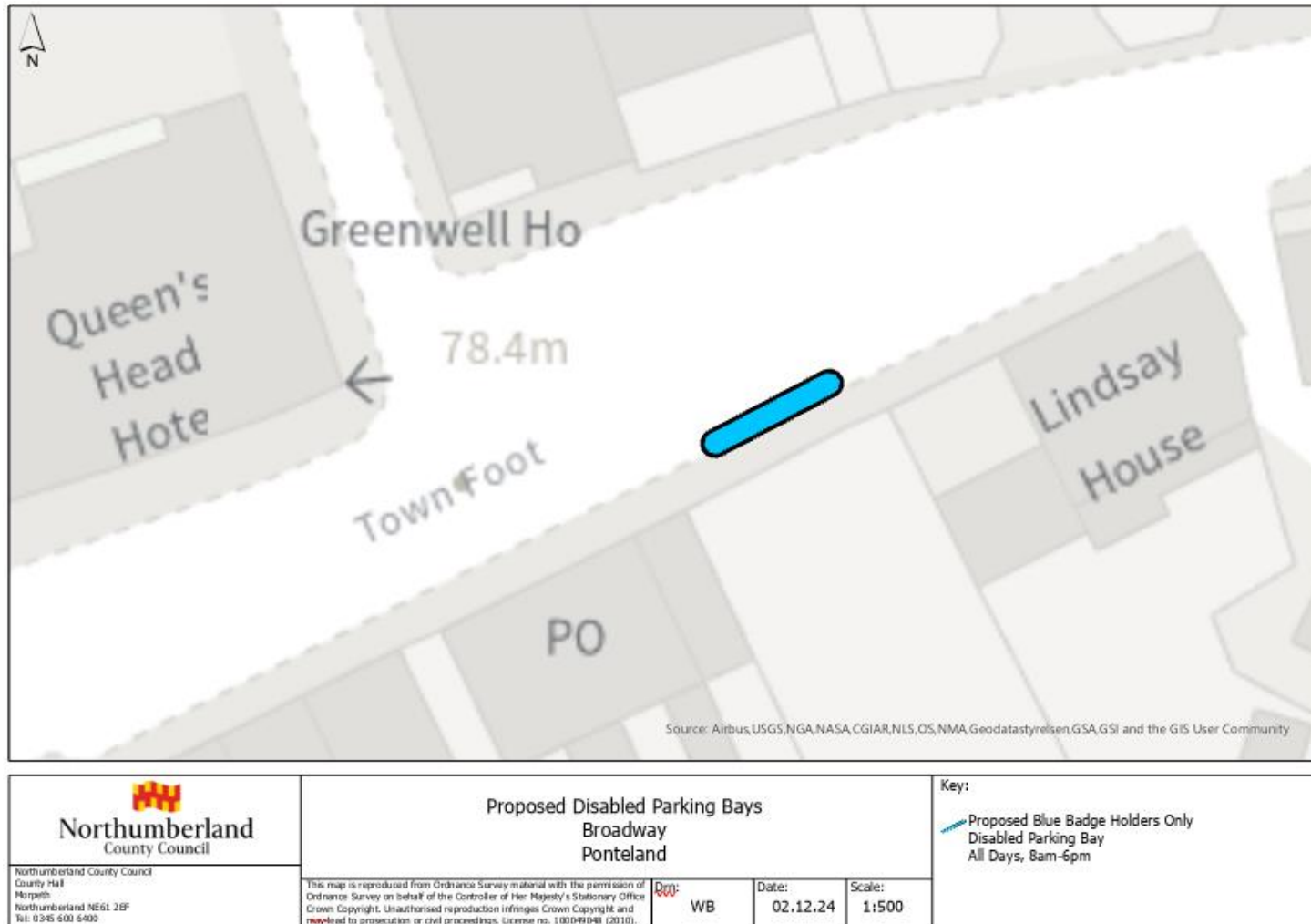
**Date**

3<sup>rd</sup> December 2024

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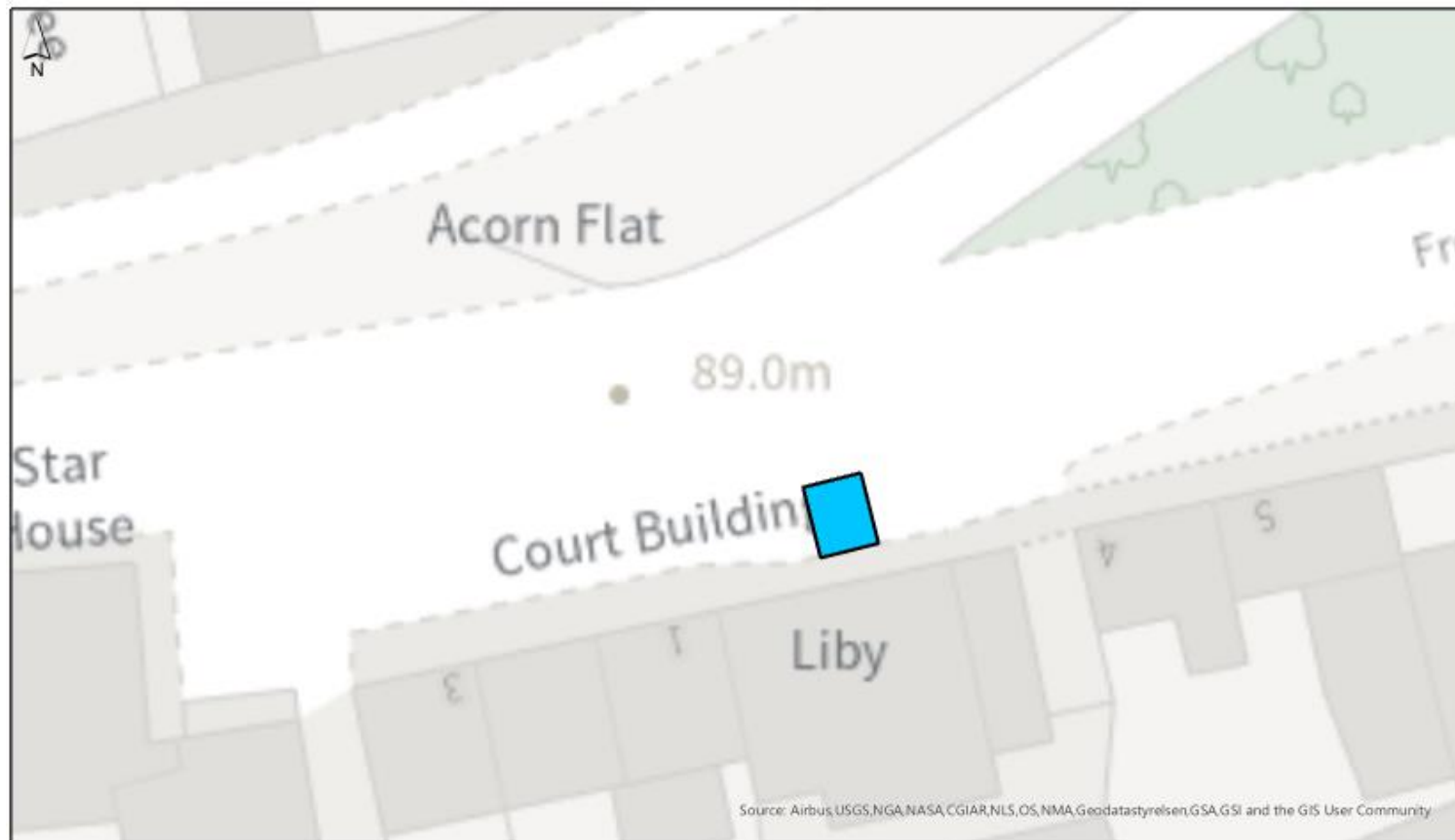
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### Appendix A – Scheme Layouts





## Delegated Decision



<div> <b>Northumberland</b> County Council</div> <div>Northumberland County Council County Hall Morpeth Northumberland NE61 2EP Tel: 01670 600 600</div>	<div>Proposed Disabled Parking Bays Broadway Ponteland</div> <div>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. Licence no. 100049040 (2010).</div>			<div>Key:</div> <div> Proposed Blue Badge Holders Only Disabled Parking Bay All Days, 8am-6pm</div>	
	<div>Drawn by: WB</div>	<div>Date: 02.12.24</div>	<div>Scale: 1:500</div>		