



Northumberland County Council

**RECORD OF DECISION TAKEN BY DIRECTOR
OF LOCAL SERVICES AND HOUSING DELIVERY**

**EXPERIMENTAL TRAFFIC REGULATION ORDER
INTRODUCTION OF PARKING RESTRICTIONS
CENTRAL PRIMARY LOWER SCHOOL**

Purpose of Report

To consider the introduction of parking restrictions around Central Primary Lower School in Ashington, which aim to improve road safety for children, parents, grandparents and carers, as well as staff attending the school.

Recommendations

In order to improve road safety at Central Primary Lower School, it is recommended that the following parking restrictions are introduced:-

- **School Keep Clear Markings (No Stopping Monday – Friday, 8am – 5pm), will be introduced on Milburn Road and Second Avenue**
- **No Loading Parking Restriction (double yellow lines with kerb ‘blips’) will be introduced on Second Avenue**

Link to Corporate Plan

This report is relevant to the 'Stronger Communities and Families' priority included in the NCC Corporate Plan 2013-2017.

Key Issues

- 1) We have been aware of issues at this school for a number of years, however, since became a primary school, with more children now attending, these concerns have increased.
- 2) Restrictions should improve road safety around the school
- 3) Scheme being funded by 2017/18 LTP
- 4) Scheme supported by Central Primary Lower School, County Councillor Wilson, Ashington Town Council and the Police
- 5) Parking restrictions to be introduced using Experimental Traffic Regulation Order which will allow effective monitoring of the restrictions imposed by inviting comments throughout the duration of the Order. This will enable us to amend or introduce additional measures as deemed necessary.

- 6) Scheme will have minimal effect on residents, however they have been notified of our intentions to introduce restrictions.

Background

- 1) We have been aware of issues at this school for a number of years, however, since became a primary school, with more children now attending, these concerns have increased.
- 2) The matter has been raised by various parties including the school, County Councillor Wilson, local police and residents. Particular concerns have been raised about inconsiderate parking at both entrances to the school (Milburn Road and Second Avenue).
- 3) Inconsiderate parking at school start and finish times is a potential road safety risk to everyone attending the school, as well as other road users.
- 4) Council Officers have held meetings with representatives of both the School and the Police as well as local residents with the aim of resolving these safety concerns.
- 5) In order to alleviate these concerns the following parking restrictions are to be introduced:-
 - School Keep Clear Road Markings (No Stopping Monday – Friday 8am – 5pm on Milburn Road and Second Avenue
 - No Loading Parking Restriction (double yellow lines with kerb ‘blips’) on Second Avenue
- 6) Bearing in mind the ongoing road safety concerns issues in relation to this school, and the fact that the additional restrictions are required to try and improve road safety, the restrictions will be introduced without any formal consultation. However an information letter has been sent to affected residents in the area. A copy of this letter together with a plan of the restrictions to be imposed is attached as Appendix A.

Recommendations

- 7) From the outset, the County Council has endeavoured to respond positively to local concerns raised in this area and it is inevitable that some sections of the community will be dissatisfied with whichever decision is reached. While the proposals are supported by Central Primary Lower School, Councillor Wilson, Ashington Town Council and local police, because the parking restrictions are being introduced without any formal consultation with any affected residents it is recommended that they are introduced using an Experimental Traffic Regulation Order. This will be in place for a period of 12 months and

will allow us to monitor the effectiveness of the restrictions imposed, allowing us to introduce alternative restrictions in the area if there was an issue. Feedback is therefore requested throughout the duration of the Experimental Traffic Regulation Order to assist us in making an informed decision at the end of this experiment.

- 8) The Council has the power to hold a public inquiry before making any traffic regulation order. Such an inquiry might enable disputed evidence to be tested under cross-examination and the need for an order to be critically examined by an independent inspector. In this particular case, officers believe that the extensive consultation process and involvement with interested parties, means that such an inquiry is unlikely to bring any fresh information to light and it is therefore recommended that an inquiry is not held.

Implications Arising out of the Report

Policy	Consistent with existing policies
Finance and value for money	Scheme will be financed through 2017/18 LTP
Legal	The necessary Traffic Regulation Order will be prepared.
Human Resources	n/a
Property	n/a
Equalities	n/a
Risk Assessment	Residential area, route to school, congestion and associated visibility issues.
Crime & Disorder	Scheme will assist in improving road safety in the area. The parking restrictions will be enforced by the Council's Civil Enforcement Officers.
Customer Consideration	Motorists will be required to adhere to the parking restrictions imposed and park elsewhere.
Sustainability	n/a
Consultation	No formal consultation, although the scheme is supported by Central Primary School, County Councillor Wilson, Ashington Town Council and local police. Any affected residents have been informed of our intention to introduce these restrictions.
Wards	Ashington Central

Appendix Index:

Appendix A - Copy of information letter and plan

Background Papers

None

Report sign off.

	initials
Finance Officer	n/a
Monitoring Officer/Legal	n/a
Human Resources	n/a
Procurement	n/a
I.T.	n/a
Director	
Portfolio Holder(s)	

Author and Contact Details

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DECISION TAKEN

Title of Cabinet Member or Officer(s):

Director of Local Services and Housing Delivery

Subject:

Introduction of various parking parking restrictions to improve road safety at Central Primary School

Consultation:

None undertaken. Restrictions required to improve road safety


Decision Taken:

To introduce scheme as proposed using an Experimental Traffic Regulation Order to allow monitoring of restrictions imposed.

Signature of Director



Date



APPENDIX A - COPY OF INFORMATION LETTER AND PLAN

County Hall • Morpeth • Northumberland • NE61 2EF

• Web: www.northumberland.gov.uk

The Occupier

Our Ref: Central Primary Lower

Your Ref:

Contact: Mr N Snowdon

Direct Line: 0345 600 6400

Fax: 01670 626136

E-mail: HighwaysProgramme@northumberland.gov.uk

Date: Monday 30th October 2017

Dear Sir / Madam

Introduction of New Parking Restrictions at Central Primary Lower School, Ashington

Concerns have been raised by Central Primary Lower School, County Councillor Wilson, local police and residents about road safety as a result of inconsiderate parking at both entrances to the school (Milburn Road and Second Avenue).

Inconsiderate parking at school start and finish times is a potential road safety risk to everyone attending the school (children, parents, grandparents carers and staff) as well as other road users.

I am writing to inform you that in order to alleviate these concerns and in an attempt to improve road safety around the school, the following parking restrictions (as shown on the attached plan) are to be introduced:-

- School Keep Clear Markings (No Stopping Monday – Friday, 8am – 5pm), will be introduced on Milburn Road and Second Avenue
- No Loading Parking Restriction (double yellow lines with kerb 'blips') will be introduced on Second Avenue

It is anticipated that these works will be completed before the end of the Autumn Term.

Thank you for your cooperation with this matter.

Yours faithfully

Neil Snowdon
Principal Programme Officer

