



Northumberland County Council

**DIRECTOR OF LOCAL SERVICES AND HOUSING DELIVERY IN
CONSULTATION WITH PORTFOLIO HOLDER**

1 July 2017

**PROPOSED PARKING RESTRICTIONS, WINDSOR GARDENS,
BEDLINGTON**

Cabinet Member: Councillor Glen Sanderson

Purpose of Report

To consider the results of the public consultation exercise, regarding a proposal to implement parking restrictions in Windsor Gardens, Bedlington

Recommendations

It is recommended that:

- 1) The proposed parking restrictions should be implemented, namely:
 - a) A 'No Waiting at Any Time' parking restriction is applied opposite numbers 2-6 Windsor Gardens.
 - b) Residents Permit Parking is provided for the whole of Windsor Gardens.

Link to Corporate Plan

This report is relevant to the *Places and Environment Aim* in the Corporate Plan:

"Our aim is to maintain and further improve the quality of our towns, villages and countryside and make it easier for residents to access services and high quality, affordable homes and to travel using different modes of transport. To achieve this, we will keep Northumberland clean, green and safe from detrimental impacts of climate change, build more houses to benefit those most in need and provide a convenient, integrated public transport network."

Key Issues

1. The County Council has received complaints about vehicles parked at the north end of Windsor Gardens in Bedlington, where the road is narrow.
2. Due to its proximity to Front Street and the Community Centre, excessive visitor parking is taking place.
3. This parking is narrowing the road, making it difficult for vehicles to pass. There have been anecdotal reports of larger vehicles, including ambulances, being unable to access the street.
4. Visitor parking also occurs further into Windsor Gardens.

Background

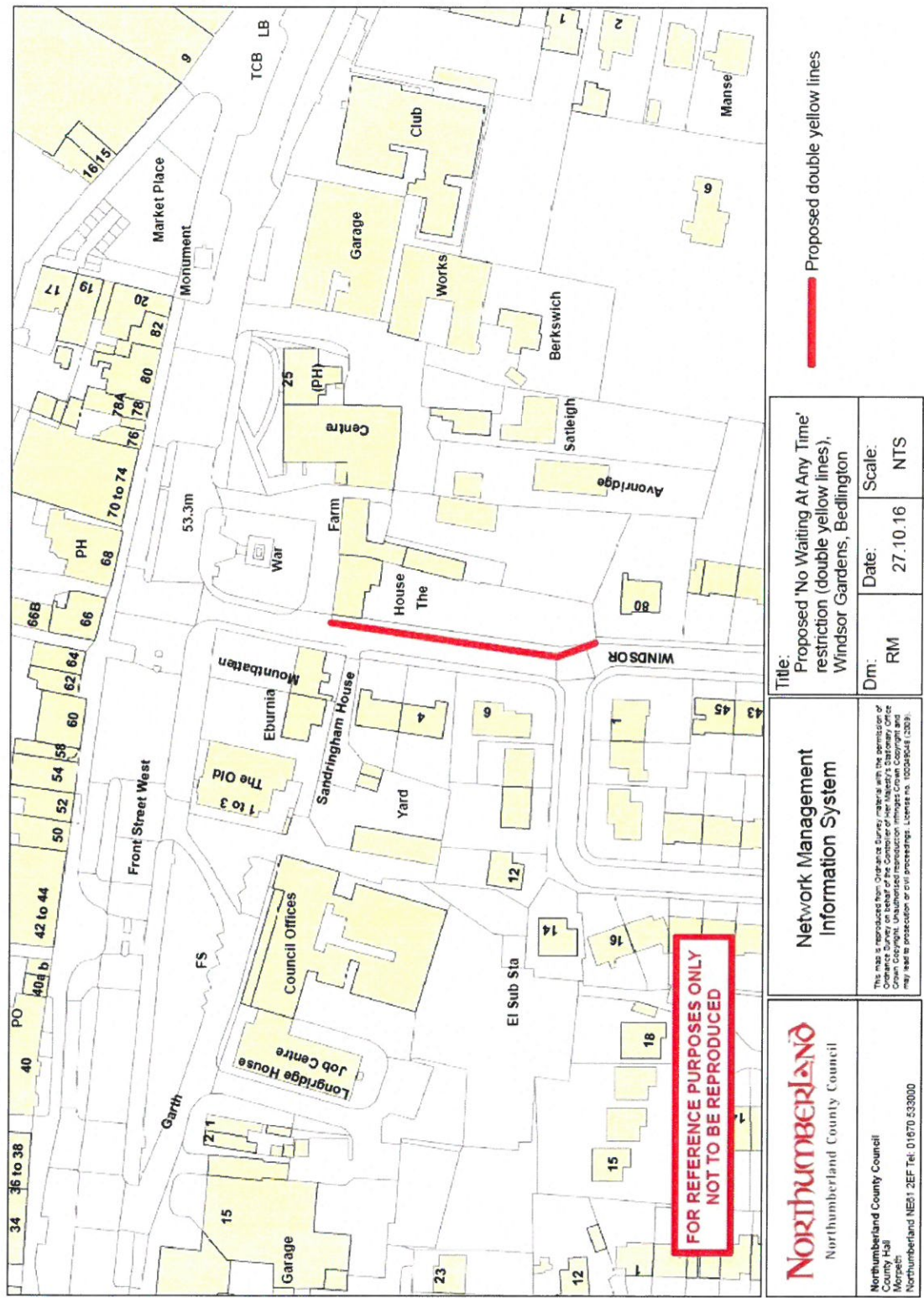
1. The County Council has received complaints about vehicles parked at the north end of Windsor Gardens in Bedlington, where the road is narrow.
2. This section of Windsor Gardens is in close proximity to Front Street and Bedlington Community Centre and consequently is subject to parking by people using nearby facilities.
3. This parking makes it difficult for vehicles to access Windsor Gardens and there have been anecdotal reports that large vehicles, including emergency vehicles, have been unable to get through.
4. In response to these issues residents were consulted on a 'No Waiting at Any Time' restriction on the east side of the road. The results of this consultation were:
 - 21 in favour (81%)
 - 3 against (12%)
 - 2 neutral (7%)

A copy of the consultation plan is shown in Appendix A. Comments received in this consultation are shown in Appendix B.

5. A significant number of the responses were received, including a petition with 26 names, that called for residents permit parking to be provided for the whole of Windsor Gardens because some public parking already occurs further into the street and the proposed double yellow lines may exacerbate this.

6. A second consultation was therefore carried out regarding providing permit parking. The results of this second consultation were:
 - 32 in favour (71%)
 - 12 against (27%)
 - 1 neutral (2%)Comments received in this consultation are shown in Appendix C.
7. A number of responses were received from addresses elsewhere in Bedlington. When these are filtered out to leave the responses from Windsor Gardens residents only, the results are:
 - 27 in favour (90%)
 - 3 Against (10%)
8. The local ward member, Councillor Wallace, supports the majority view of the residents. There was no response from West Bedlington Town Council.
9. The Council's Senior Civil Enforcement Officer supports the proposals.
10. It is therefore recommended that:
 - A 'No Waiting at Any Time' parking restriction is applied opposite numbers 2-6 Windsor Gardens.
 - Residents Permit Parking is provided for the whole of Windsor Gardens.

Appendix A - Consultation Plan



Appendix B - No Waiting at Any Time Consultation Responses

FOR	AGAINST	NEITHER	Comments
		1	Thank you for your letter dated 28th October 2016 in which you invite us to offer our comments on the above proposal. I would inform you that as Emergency Service we may be required to use the above road(s) for access and egress in the event of being activated to attend an emergency call, or to convey patients to hospital for outpatient appointments. I would thank you for your consultation on this matter and offer our support for the ongoing road safety programme.
1			I acknowledge receipt of your letter dated 28 October and note the contents. I am delighted with the proposal and fully support the action suggested therein. The only reservation I have is the possibility that those who habitually park on the east side of the street will simply transfer their vehicles to the West side and thus park immediately outside my residence. Could this anticipated problem be best addressed by the introduction of Residence Permit parking for the West side of the street? If this is not possible the proposed change will still be a step forward in controlling the constant obstruction of road and pavement leading into Windsor Gardens.
1			This introduction would be a big help. It is well known that people are parking here for long periods of time whilst either working or shopping in the town centre. I would recommend the introduction of the restriction.
1			
1			Thank you for your letter outlining the proposed parking restrictions at Windsor Gardens Bedlington. Currently at least 6 to 8 vehicles (including 2 large vans) park outside our house every day. These vehicles belong to local shop workers and people visiting shops and the parking situation is particularly bad when there are events on (sometimes daily) at the Community Centre, with people regularly double parking. We therefore fully support the proposal to have double yellow lines outside numbers 2 to 6 to try and improve the current parking situation. However, we strongly believe that the lines should be painted on the west side of the road (IE outside our house) not on the east side as proposed. If the lines are painted on the east side then all the vehicles that currently park on that side will start parking on the west side outside our house instead. This will make it difficult for us to drive on and off our drive but more importantly it will become dangerous for our two young children when they are trying to cross the road as their view down Windsor Gardens will be severely impeded by cars and large vans which will be parked outside our house, in some cases completely blocking the pedestrian walkway. The ideal outcome for ourselves and probably the other residents of these houses, would be to have double yellow lines on the west side and resident permit parking on the east side of the road for people visiting us who currently have great difficulty finding a parking space. We hope you are able to consider our views on this matter and we look forward to hearing from you in due course.
	1		Proposed parking restrictions to Windsor Gardens do not go far enough to resolve the dangerous congestion in the area. Parking has not been confined to the East side of the road adjacent to numbers 2 to 6 as shown on your plan for double yellow lines. Indeed the rest of Windsor Gardens below this, also frequently suffers dangerous congestion. The proposed double yellow lines, WITHOUT ANY OTHER SAFEGUARD, would permanently move the problem to the rest of Windsor Gardens. In the rest of Windsor Gardens local trading vans on top of inconsiderate parking sees conflicts between cars meeting in the middle of the road. Also cars having to do a zig zag manoeuvre through them makes an accident waiting to happen. The rest of Windsor Gardens having houses on both sides of the road - East and West. Further up the road, the three houses 2,4 and 6 have a long wall opposite them where double yellow lines proposed, albeit nearer the brow of the hill, where yellow lines currently exist. The majority of residents in Windsor Gardens where the problem will be permanently moved are elderly, and some disabled as are my husband and myself living at number 76 - opposite 43 on your plan. This worries me for safety of the infirm and visiting grandchildren. A SYSTEM OF 'RESIDENTS ONLY PARKING' PLUS ONE VISITOR PASS WOULD APPEAR APPROPRIATE FOR THE REST OF WINDSOR GARDENS ALONGSIDE THE CURRENT PROPOSAL OF DOUBLE YELLOW LINES. This works well in other areas. Please give this your consideration now you are aware of the full extent of the problem. Hoping you are able to help. I was by the way unable to access the web address.
1			I have attempted to respond to the information sent to No. 80 Windsor Gardens but the given web response address seems to lead nowhere. PLEASE take the following statement into consideration when this matter is decided upon.

		<p>Proposed Parking Restrictions - Windsor Gardens, Bedlington.</p> <p>As a deaf and disabled resident of Windsor Gardens (No 43) who has suffered from unseen/unheard vehicles approaching from front Street I fully support the proposed parking restriction recently described Ref. HE163341-28. Apart from large commercial vans etc. any event at the nearby Community Centre usually contributes to the dangerously senseless parking at the 'chicane' corner.</p> <p>This stretch of road has a constant flow of estate traffic and my personal fear is that the welcome restriction will simply move the inconsiderate parkers to the rest of Windsor Gardens where there is already frequent congestion and inconvenience for residents. We have already seen this with local traders' vans frequently reducing the roadway to a single narrow track with conflicts between opposing cars meeting in the middle.</p> <p>PLEASE give urgent attention to a system of 'Residents Only' parking which works well in other areas with one parking pass for visitors per household. Many thanks for a kindly reply to my misinformed contribution. It is still the 25th of November as I write this so I hope you may be able to consider a final suggestion - no more, I promise. Adopt the shortened double yellow lines at 'chicane corner' as suggested in my previous message BUT make that stretch of road a 'One Way Exit Only' to Main Street. This would serve a triple purpose:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Casual parkers would be deterred from seeking access to the proposed double-line stretch by the necessary detour via Church lane or Hartlands entrances. 2. Traffic in Windsor Gardens would then be mainly down-hill avoiding the frequent head-on conflicts in a narrow roadway. 3. Residents would have a fair chance of being able to park outside their own houses without the need for 'Residents Only' restrictions...although they would be nice too! <p>It makes sense to me so I hope this can be given due consideration. Further to my recent email approving of the proposed yellow lines in Windsor Gardens, Bedlington. I have now been told that our suggestion of a 'Residents Only' parking scheme not possible. If this is the case then you are about to set up a hazardous parking nightmare on a road that was never intended as an estate access from the main street and I must recall my previous email in support.</p> <p>Please consider a simple compromise which will at least give the 'best of both worlds'. Replace the proposed full length parking restriction along the east side brick wall with just a one car length e.g. 3 metres continued round onto the awful chicane corner which is the real hazard and obstruction. This would allow some casual parking without driving the thoughtless inconsiderates further down the street</p> <p>PLEASE give this some thought or perhaps a trial in pursuit of a constructive solution.</p>
1		<p>I do not support the proposals to place yellow lines in Windsor Gardens as outlined in the proposed parking restrictions. I do not think this will resolve the parking issue. My reasons are below.</p> <p>The problem with vehicles left parked throughout the day in Windsor Gardens which prevents residents easy access to and from their properties is not only opposite houses numbered 2-6, it is a problem for all residents in this street.</p> <p>When all available space opposite houses 2-6 is occupied, usually 9 vehicles, vehicles are then parked outside no's 1 and 80 and then outside no's 78 and 45 and then vehicles are parked further down the street .</p> <p>Vehicles are parked on the footpath, doubled parked and with no consideration to residents. My family have difficulty entering and exiting my driveway with their own cars as vehicles are parked directly opposite my drive and double parked up to the entry of my drive. My family have asked drivers who park there to be more considerate in future when parking their vehicles outside my house explaining the difficulties they have, however the response is negative and drivers not obliging. My neighbours also experience this problem at their properties.</p> <p>Some delivery vehicles and hospital transport have been unable to use the road due to parked vehicles. It must be remembered this road is a through road from Front Street to Leeches Estate.</p> <p>When vehicles are parked on the footpath it is impossible to walk two abreast on the pavement or use the pavement with a pushchair.</p> <p>The situation is worse when events/meetings/ classes are held at Bedlington Community Centre as the parking instructions for the Centre is- parking available nearby.</p> <p>I am an elderly resident, as are many of my neighbours, we need access to our properties as walking is not always easy. I rely on my family to collect me from my door, by car, and this is not always possible.</p> <p>If yellow lines are placed opposite houses numbered 2 – 6, the parking situation will immediately be transferred to another area in Windsor Gardens. Drivers will park their vehicles wherever they can ie directly outside these properties(nos 2-6) and then continue down the street which is the case now. There are usually 9 vehicles parked where the yellow lines are proposed.</p> <p>My recommendations:</p>

			<p>I recommend 'resident only parking' in Windsor Gardens with parking permits available to 'residents only' to enable their family and their visitors to park in street during their visit. This would resolve the situation for all residents who have suffered for some time with vehicles parked all day when the owners go to work or visit other businesses. There are large public car parks located at the rear of Front Street, these are free of charge, and are never full. With parking restricted to residents only, it will enable pedestrians to use the footpaths safely and the flow of traffic will not be disrupted. I acknowledge this situation needs resolving and introducing resident only parking in Windsor Gardens will resolve the situation for all residents. I have spoken to neighbours and surprised to learn they were not notified of the Council's proposals which will affect them if they are implemented</p>
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	1		<p>I support parking restrictions on the road as identified by the proposal. However, I feel that if double yellow lines were applied. Some people would just park on the other side of the road next to the houses, with the probability of blocking or restricting the driveways. I would prefer some form of parking for residents only to enable visitors of the residents to park, disc parking perhaps? I am led to believe that this solution may be cheaper than double yellow lines.</p>
		1	<p>Further to my recent email approving of the proposed yellow lines in Windsor Gardens, Bedlington. I have now been told that our suggestion of a 'Residents Only' parking scheme not possible. If this is the case then you are about to set up a hazardous parking nightmare on a road that was never intended as an estate access from the main street and I must recall my previous email in support.</p> <p>Please consider a simple compromise which will at least give the 'best of both worlds'. Replace the proposed full length parking restriction along the east side brick wall with just a one car length e.g. 3 metres continued round onto the awful chicane corner which is the real hazard and obstruction. This would allow some casual parking without driving the thoughtless inconsiderate further down the street</p> <p>PLEASE give this some thought or perhaps a trial in pursuit of a constructive solution.</p>
21	3	2	

Appendix C - Residents Permit Parking Consultation Responses

FOR	AGAINST	NEITHER	Comments
1			I am in favor of the introduction of the yellow lines. In my opinion motorists will move further into Windsor Gardens which will inconvenience local residents and could cause difficulties for them to access their drives at certain times of day. Given that Windsor Gardens is quite narrow I think the introduction of the permit scheme will help the residents.
1			Is the £30 charge for 2 permits a single payment or yearly? Who would be responsible for monitoring the scheme. When do you propose to initiate the scheme.
1			I fully agree with the proposal for residents only parking in Windsor Gardens. The sooner the better. At present it is not only inconvenient but at times it is dangerous due to double parking and I know of at least two occasions when large vans could not drive down the street. I dread to think what may happen is an ambulance is needed or god forbid the fire service. The sooner this is approved the better.
1			Properly enforced permit parking will address the problem which has existed for many years. We are delighted with the proposal.
1			The parked vehicles which cause obstruction to other vehicles trying to get through Windsor Gardens are a potential hazard. These also impede severely the admission of ambulances, fire engines and refuse collection. It's only a matter of time before there is a serious accident with vehicle double parking with residents trying to get up and down the street.
1			I agree that the parking at the top of the street is now getting dangerous with people parking both sides. I do not agree that there should be a charge for the permits as it is our street which some of us had to pay for originally before it was taken over by the council. We pay council tax for our facilities this should be included in that. Permits are a definite need as there is adequate parking behind the front street for the lazy individuals that won't walk 100 yards.
1			I BACK THIS PROPOSAL 100%. £15 IS A SMALL PRICE TO PAY, WE HAVE OURSELVES CONTACTED THE COUNCIL AND POLICE ABOUT THIS MATTER. CAN I ALSO TAKE THE OPPORTUNITY TO DRAW YOUR ATTENTION TO RESIDENTS WORKS VEHICLES BEING PARKED ON PAVEMENTS, FORCING PEDESTRIANS AND CHILDREN ONTO THE ROADS, THIS IS AN ACCIDENT WAITING TO HAPPEN.
1			I support the proposal for residents permit parking. We have lived in Windsor gardens for many years and obstructions to the entrance of the street has always been problematic and we hope that we never need emergency services to get through especially at times when the community centre is busy. On many occasions I have had to reverse my car and go through the estate to get onto the Front Street as the inconsiderate motorist has not left enough space to drive past. The bends in the street are also a problem as people obviously can't remember the highway code and park on the junction. Not only is there a problem with parking there is a problem with a residents van blocking the pavement making it dangerous for pedestrians walking in the street, so moving the yellow lines further up the street may cause more problems with cars blocking the pavements. This is an issue that we have raised with Ian Lavery. Please see attached photos. We don't mind paying for the permits but how is the parking going to be monitored, the frequency of checks and what penalties would be incurred? Quite a few of the residents have altered their existing drive to provide on property parking for 2 cars as the street is quite narrow and if all the residents parked their cars on the street it would be very congested. These residents will be very upset if their drives are blocked by parked cars. We have submitted the online form.
1			I certainly support the proposals. Just this week due to the vans and cars parked at the northern end of Windsor Gardens and further down the street neither a fire engine or ambulance would have got through. The mini bus carrying my husband from respite care was unable to get through. Info - due to the peculiar numbering of Windsor Gardens the houses further down the street from the northern entrance are - 80,78,76,74,72,70,68,66,64,43,41,39,37,35,33,31.
1			We would welcome both of these measures as this hopefully would solve the problems that some residents now encounter parking in their own drives. It would also help the flow of through traffic.
1			

	1	Although we agree that yellow lines are needed in the northern entrance to Windsor Gardens, we will not be supporting the proposal of permit parking. In our household we own 4 vehicles, so having only 2 permits for ourselves and visitors would not be sufficient. we also do not believe we should have to pay an admin fee of £15 per permit, just to park outside our own home.
	1	Thank you for your letter dated 14th December 2016 in which you invite us to offer our comments on the above proposal. I would inform you that as Emergency Service we may be required to use the above road(s) for access and egress in the event of being activated to attend an emergency call, or to convey patients to hospital for outpatient appointments. I would thank you for your consultation on this matter and offer our support for the ongoing road safety programme.
1		My only concern would be how you propose to ensure that only residents with permits park in the street. Will there be a warden patrolling from time to time
1		Thank you for making me aware of this consultation taking place. I realise it is not "normal" practice supporting residents permits but being aware of the situation at Windsor Gardens whenever there is an event at the community centre it makes parking extremely difficult for residents. If the residents reply in favour I would definitely be supportive.
1		This is a great idea, I have often thought that the way people park would make getting a fire engine onto the estate very difficult if not impossible without a detour. This will only work if the area is monitored by traffic wardens.
	1	I do not see any reason why i or members of my family should have to pay for the Privilege of parking in my street, we pay enough already. The people who abuse the street parking at the north end of windsor gardens should have been encouraged to use the nearby car parks on Front Street. Of course that option is limited now due to the impending closure of the Tesco car park. There's a piece of joined up planning for you!!!!
1		
1		I see no alternative to agreeing the proposal in as much as those currently parking close to Windsor Gardens entrance may look further afield in the estate I reckon they would probably not want to park as far away from the front street as where i live but feel almost pressured into guarding against it (surely motorists will find authentic car park spaces behind the front street shops will be closer and handier?) Those living nearest the new double yellow lines will no doubt feel they are obligated to seek permits and obviously there will be a knock on effect! In the event of their introduction I would be seeking 1 permits and would question whether there is sufficient space for 2 permits per households. Currently I have neighbours on either side who do not own vehicles and would presumably not seek to pay for permits. If replicated throughout Windsor Gardens this would led to a mix of permits/non permit properties, leading perhaps to confusion and irritation.
1		The proposal is fine but I feel that it would need to be policed in the early stages to prevent parking further into the estate, it should be yellow lines on both sides! Whilst I appreciate admin costs. As a ratepayer I feel my right to park outside my house should be free and i would also accept that i should pay for a visitor permit. I am sure that the relevant signage will also be put into place to indicate resident and permit parking only. A significant problem is people using the community centre. A warning notice and information would be helpful and the staff notified to give a verbal warning to their clientele. I have spent a written reply. The proposal has my support but I would suggest that the lines need to be on both sides of the road and that a residents only with permit signs displayed. The charge for residents permit ought to be free as we already pay a substantial amount to NCC with but I would accept payment for a visitors permit as being reasonable. The whole area needs to be policed in early stages and people using the community centre advised of the changes to be implemented. I would also suggest that many homes have more than one car and that would require more than two permits. However I am pleased that the issue is being addressed.
1		Anything to reduce the public parking would be welcome. The scheme will only work if the payment for permits is used to pay for the checking of permit display.
1		
1		The number of cars and vans parked at the northern entrance to Windsor Gardens are making things dangerous for other drivers and pedestrians and, often, difficult for residents to access their property. Driving up the hill or turning left you cannot see oncoming traffic because of the obstructions. Pavement access is also limited and people are forced to walk on the road. I have often wondered how emergency vehicles would cope, if they were called to this area. Unfortunately, it is probably the case that the extension of double yellow lines would result in vehicles moving down the street, despite the fact that Bedlington has adequate parking, only a five minute

			walk away, behind Front Street. The proximity of the Community Centre adds to this problem also. Therefore, I think that permit parking will be the only solution.
1			In the future I suggest that making the 'longwall' part of Windsor Gardens a 'one way' to Main Street' would be the best solution. This would prevent cars at opposite ends of the street being in conflict in a very congested road.
1			Just before christmas we drove up towards the Front Street only to find two vehicles parked opposite each other, blocking the road. We had to reverse back down the road onto our driveway and exit the estate from the bottom road. At present we often have strangers parking next to our house; obviously because there isn't a space nearer the Front Street. We watch them park their car and disappear up the road. Because they're not blocking anyone's driveway they don't see any problem. However the road isn't very wide and their parking could make maneuvering out of a residents driveway onto the road awkward, difficult or even impossible. Whenever any of the residents have visitors who park awkwardly, we can go and ask them to move no problem. Strangers park and leave, we don't know who they are, where they are, a resident could be stuck on their driveway. With yellow lines at the top of the street all of those cars and large vans who habitually park up there will gravitate down our narrow road. Residents and residents visitors parking permits would appear to be the answer, or a lovely road, will become a nightmare road.
1			
1			We strongly support the proposal to have permit parking at Windsor Gardens, Bedlington. As mentioned in our previous letter we strongly believe that the double yellow lines outside numbers 2 to 6 should be painted on the west side of the road (outside our house) and the permit parking should be on the east side (opposite our house). This would be safer for our children when crossing the road, it would be easier for us to drive on and off our drive and there is also more space for permit parking on the east side as it is a continuous stretch of road with no driveway entrances. If the permit parking is on the east side we would also like to ask if the current double yellow line painted on that side directly opposite our drive could be extended by a further 2-3 metres. This would stop vehicles parking opposite our drive and make it much easier for us to reverse out.
1			I support the proposals for Residents Permit Parking in Windsor Gardens, Bedlington. The parking situation has become a nuisance over the last few years with shoppers/workers/general public parking and leaving their vehicles all day blocking residence access to drives. If parking in Windsor Gardens is to be Resident Permit Parking only, signs will be erected advising the public of this and therefore will it still be necessary to have yellow lines painted on the road. In addition to street signs are there plans to place a notice in the community centre too, as when events are held here, visitors will also park in this street.
	1		I have both family and carers visit my house. Parking restrictions would make this difficult
1			
1			
	1		AS the car park behind the Tesco site has been taken from us and no alternative has been provided where are people supposed to park, either residents or workers. Also when the new town centre is started and completed where are these workers and shoppers supposed to park. We know that the council offices are up for sale and plenty of land has been allocated to housing would it not be an idea to put parking here. Long term if a charge was made it would generate income. How about a multi-storey car park for Bedlington as well as Ashington etc.
1			Carry the yellow lines down to include the right hand junction to prevent cars parking on the corner as they are doing at present.
	1		
	1		If residents are concerned about parking and the use of permits is to be introduced then why the charge if £15 for a second permit, money making for the council
	1		
1			Can something be done to make hotspur avenue a cul de sac as traffic is disgusting its a rat run for all traffic from all housing in surrounding estates the acres bayard woods church lane millfield
	1		
	1		I am a nearby resident on the estate who uses the Windsor Gardens route many times a day. I would wish to object to the proposal for the following reasons: The street contains 80 houses, all of which are 3, 4 or (few) 5 bedrooms, most have garages, however these are not compatible with modern car sizes. The layout of the street (and others in the vicinity) leaves some houses the capacity to park only one car on a driveway, whereas others may have double/triple drives (or the capacity to

		<p>do so); these ratios are not in relation to house size and therefore a house with 4+ bedrooms may only have the capacity to park 1 car on a driveway. The majority of houses are currently owned by either long-term residents with grown-up families out of the home, or young families, however this trend will be unlikely to remain and many houses may increase volume of cars over a relatively short period of time. Providing a permit system could mean that a house will only have the capacity to park one car on the road and one on the street, which is may not be enough parking for some families (particularly those in larger homes. This in turn may be off-putting to prospective buyers in the area, having a negative effect on house prices/saleability if cars cannot be accommodated.</p> <p>In providing a single permit for guests, this leaves an issue where residents will be limited to the number of people visiting at one time.</p> <p>Residents may decide to deal with the issue of permit parking by building a wider drive/installing dropped kerb, however this will only decrease the number of on-street parking places and is not an option which is affordable or practicable for every garden layout.</p> <p>As for the knock-on effect to adjoining streets, it is likely that some additional cars will park in neighbouring streets if they are unable to obtain permits. As Windsor Gardens is bordered by the Front Street on one side, this means it is likely the streets of Windsor Close, Church Close, Church Court and Acorn Avenue will suffer the additional traffic. Once a precedent is set, will this now need to roll out over the estate?</p> <p>With regards to the yellow lines at the top of Windsor Gardens, I use the street many times a day as both a driver, a pedestrian and a cyclist, often with young children, I can actually see the benefits of the parking at the top. There is no traffic calming on the estate and the cars/vans parked there consistently proves to be the only form of traffic calming at the brow of the hill. On the East of the hill, there is a point where there is no footpath (nor would the road be wide enough to accommodate one) which would leave pedestrians walking out from behind a tall wall, directly onto oncoming traffic that is not slowing down. In other areas on the same estate, where on street parking is less prevalent, cars travel at much higher speeds.</p> <p>Finally, as a regular user of Bedlington Community Centre, I am concerned that many of the service users will use Windsor Gardens as a parking place and if this is taken away, there is no other options on the same side of the street. With an extra 200m (using the crossing) from the Front Street parking and 500m (using the crossing) from the car park, this is too far for many users to walk. This could have a huge impact on the services that people can access or indeed the numbers needed for services to continue.</p> <p>I can understand that parking is at a premium in this area, however this has been the case for some time and residents have coped. Perhaps if this situation is reviewed, it should be done alongside parking on the Front Street, a review of the Community Centre parking, the pathways along Windsor Gardens and primarily, traffic calming on the whole estate in general.</p>
1		
	1	<p>It is wrong to charge residents to park at their own door, parking is difficult in Bedlington due to the amount of construction work being carried out, I am disabled and couldn't manage to walk from the rear of the front street and the only disabled bays constantly have non blue badge owners parked there. The community centre which we are encouraged to use has no disabled access onto the footpath and no disabled parking bays.</p>
	1	<p>This would have a negative impact on a whole range of user groups for the community centre. Instead of taking away more Town centre parking should be provided. The footpath which runs out on the east side of this road could be taken away and turned into bay parking which would increase the available road width when cars are parked there. I have never heard any resident complain about this 'problem'.</p>
1		
1		<p>Traffic parking on the hill, particularly those which park at the top on the yellow lines, narrow the road to one lane, and neither side can see what is coming up the other side until they meet face to face at the top. It's also used as a parking lot by the staff working in the shops across the road.</p>
	1	
32	12	1

Implications Arising out of the Report

Policy	None
Finance and value for money	The proposal will be funded through the Local Transport Plan
Legal	Preparation of Traffic Regulation Orders (TRO)
Procurement	None
Human Resources	None
Property	None
Equalities (Impact Assessment attached) Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> N/A <input type="checkbox"/>	None
Risk Assessment	None
Crime & Disorder	None
Customer Consideration	Local property owners/occupiers have been consulted.
Carbon reduction	None
Wards	Bedlington Central

Background papers:

File ref: HE163341-28

Report sign off.

Authors must ensure that relevant officers and members have agreed the content of the report:

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

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DECISION TAKEN

Title of Officer(s) and Portfolio Holder: Director of Local Services & Housing Delivery
Portfolio Holder for Local Services

Subject: Proposed parking restrictions, Windsor Gardens, Bedlington

**Consultation 1
(Double Yellow Lines)**

25	Responses
21	For
3	Against
1	Neither for nor against

**Consultation 2
(Permit Parking)**

45	Responses
32	For
12	Against
1	Neither for nor against

Decision Taken:

The proposed parking restrictions should be implemented, namely:

1. A 'No Waiting at Any Time' parking restriction is applied opposite numbers 2-6 Windsor Gardens.
2. Residents Permit Parking is provided for the whole of Windsor Gardens.

Signature of Director/
officer/Portfolio Holder



Date

