



Northumberland County Council

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

**Paul Jones**

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**Proposed Prohibition of Driving (Except for Access),  
Wolsingham Court, Cramlington**

**12th April 2017**

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**Purpose of Report**

To consider the results of a consultation, for the introduction of a Prohibition of Driving (Except for Access) on Wolsingham Court, Cramlington.

**Recommendations**

1. It is recommended that a prohibition of driving (except for access) is introduced on Wolsingham Court in Cramlington.

**Key Issues**

1. This area has been subject to indiscriminate parking over a long period of time, due to its proximity to the Royal Mail collection office and Cramlington Railway Station, which has had a significant impact on the residents of Wolsingham Court.
2. The Scheme is funded and supported by Councillor Barry Flux.

## **Background**

1. Concerns had been identified to Councillor Flux by residents on a number of occasions with regard to the Wolsingham Court being used by rail commuters leaving their vehicles for extended periods.
2. After the closure of the Royal Mail depot to drivers and the introduction of double yellow lines on adjacent roads, visitor parking has increased causing congestion, safety concerns and access issues for residents.
3. Residents are unable to park near their homes and have problems accessing their properties.
4. A proposal was drawn up to introduce a prohibition of driving restriction in the Wolsingham Court. This was consulted on and the results detailed below.
5. Councillor Flux has been aware of the residents' concerns for some time and fully supports the proposals.

## **Consultation**

1. These proposals were the subject a consultation exercise, which was conducted on the 7th March 2017. This involved the delivery of a consultation letter to 22 residents and 28 statutory consultees, including the emergency services and various disabled and transport associations/organisations. A plan showing the proposals is attached together with a copy of the consultation letter (see Appendix A).
2. The consultation exercise ended on 4th April 2017 and responses were received from 9 consultees, with 7 in favour, 1 against and 1 neither for nor against the proposal. A summary of the responses is attached as Appendix B.

## **Recommendations**

1. It is recommended that, in view of the results of the consultation exercise and with the full support of the local Councillor, we should proceed with the introduction of a prohibition of driving restriction in Wolsingham Court, Cramlington.
2. 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.

**File References**

S:\Highways\PROJECT\16\HO16 MEMBER  
SCHEMES\HO166210\_CRAMLINGTON\_Wolsingham Ct\_FLUX\Consultation

**Appendix Index**

Appendix A – Consultation Letter and Plan  
Appendix B – Consultation Responses

## Implications Arising out of the Report

<b>Policy</b>	None
<b>Finance and value for money</b>	Funded through the Member's Local Improvement Programme allocation for Councillor Barry Flux
<b>Legal</b>	Preparation of Traffic Regulation Orders (TRO)
<b>Procurement</b>	
<b>Human Resources</b>	None
<b>Property</b>	None
<b>Equalities</b> (Impact Assessment attached) Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> N/A <input type="checkbox"/>	None
<b>Risk Assessment</b>	Introduction of Prohibition of Driving (Except for Access)
<b>Crime &amp; Disorder</b>	Traffic safety concerns i.e. indiscriminate parking and obstruction
<b>Customer Consideration</b>	Scheme is anticipated to improve parking provisions for residents in the area
<b>Carbon reduction</b>	
<b>Wards</b>	Cramlington West

### Background papers:

None



**Report sign off.**

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

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

**Author and Contact Details**

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## DECISION TAKEN

**Title of Officer(s) and Portfolio Holder** Director of Local Services and Housing

**Subject:** Proposed Prohibition of Driving (Except for Access) Restriction

**Consultation:**

9 Responses

7 For

1 Against

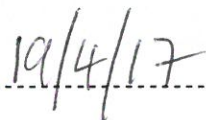
1 Neither for nor against

**Decision Taken:** To introduce prohibition of driving (except for access)

Signature of Director



Date



## Appendix A



Northumberland County Council

County Hall Morpeth Northumberland NE61 2EF  
Web: [www.northumberland.gov.uk](http://www.northumberland.gov.uk)

The Occupier

Our Ref: HX16x219  
Your Ref:  
Contact: Terry Luck  
Direct Line: 01670 622588

E-mail: [Highwaysprogramme@northumberland.gov.uk](mailto:Highwaysprogramme@northumberland.gov.uk)  
Tuesday 7th March 2017

Dear Sir/Madam

**Proposed – Prohibition of Driving (Except for Access)**  
**Wolsingham Court, Cramlington**

At the request of residents and with the support of their County Councillor, Barry Flux, the County Council is proposing the introduction of a 'Prohibition of Driving' restriction on Wolsingham Court.

I am therefore writing in accordance with Regulation 5 of the Local Authorities Traffic Orders (Procedure) (England and Wales) Regulations 1998 (as amended) to formally ask for your comments on the proposal to introduce a 'Prohibition of Driving' restriction at Wolsingham Court, Cramlington as shown on the attached plan.

The County Council is seeking your views on the proposals and a freepost response form is attached to facilitate the consultation process.

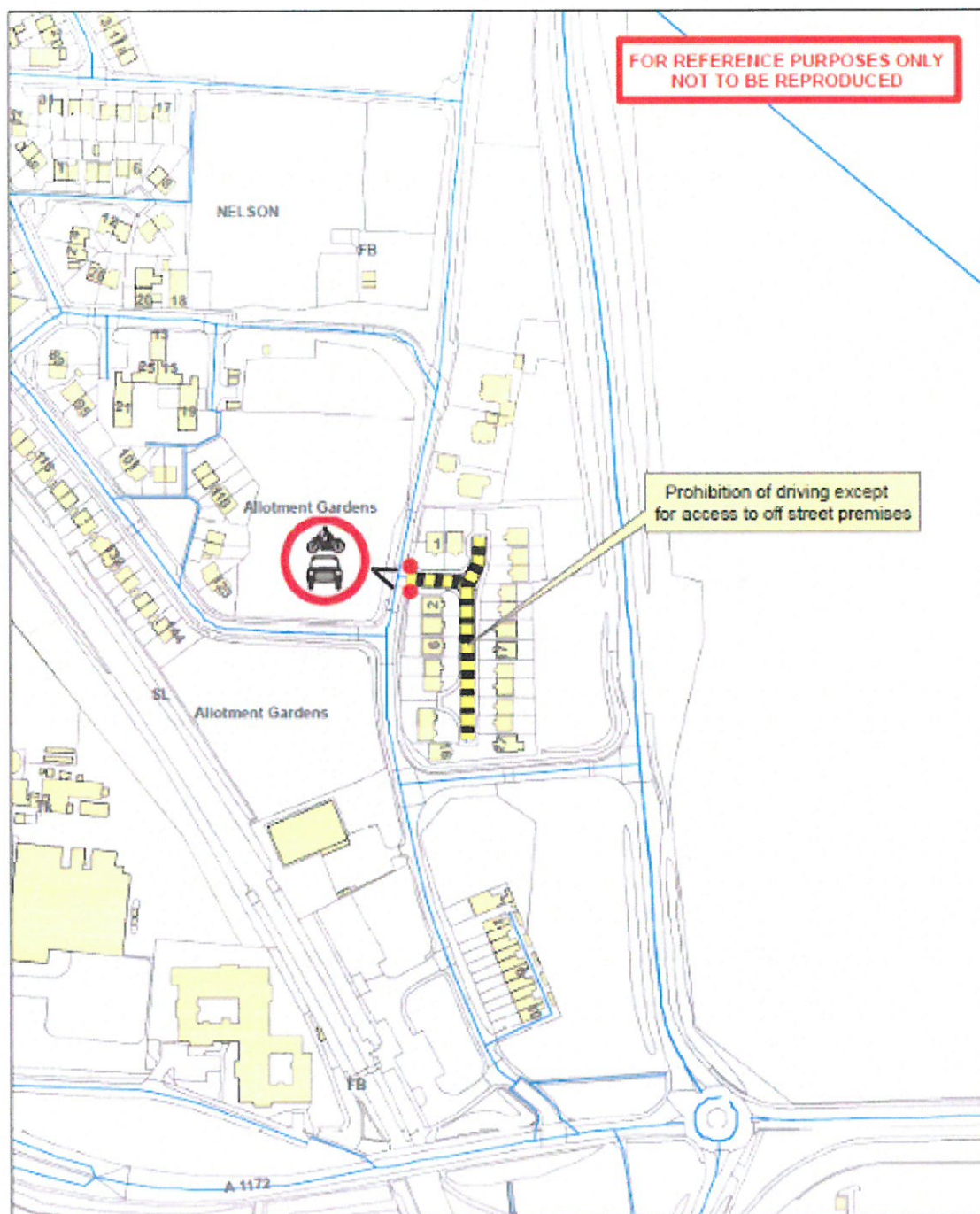
Regrettably, it is not possible to reply to individual comments, but you may wish to note that comments may be included in a Decision Report, to the Executive Director of Local Services and may be available for public inspection. The closing date for any comments you may wish to make is **Tuesday 4th April 2017**. If you wish to respond to this consultation online, please visit the web address <http://trafficconsult.northumberland.gov.uk/>.

I thank you for your assistance in this matter.

Yours faithfully

Terry Luck  
Programme Officer (Members Schemes)





**NORTHUMBERLAND**  
Northumberland County Council

**Network Management  
Information System**

**Title:** Proposed Prohibition of Driving  
Except for Access  
Wolsingham Court Cramlington

Northumberland County Council  
County Hall  
Morpeth  
Northumberland NE61 2ET  
Tel: 01670 533000

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<b>Drm:</b>	<b>Date:</b>	<b>Scale:</b>
AW	Mar 17	NTS



## Appendix B

F O R	A G A I N S T	N E I T H E R	Other Relevant Comments
1			This street is being used as a car park for the post office sorting office and Cramlington railway station.
	1		I do not agree with these proposals. The prohibition of driving is, as you know a police matter however the residents of the area will complain to NCC regarding people parking in their street. The police are stretched as it is so enforcement by them will be sparse to say the least. This type of scheme in my opinion is pointless. Drivers fail to recognise them so we will achieve very little for our expense except many phone calls from irate residents and we will not be able to help them.
1			Road grid into Nelson Village to severe, damage springs on vehicles
1			We are all very pleased that this has been proposed, as parking for our families and friends is very difficult as strangers park all day in our spaces, either going to work on the train, or picking up parcels from Royal Mail. Thank you to Councillor Barry Flux for supporting us in this request.
1			We have had people parking in front of our drive which we find annoying. We have had a lady who parked for 3 days and more. She had a suitcase so we assumed she was going on holiday. As we have a lot of very elderly people living in the court we need the spaces for nurses, carers and doctors to visit these people. If you voice an opinion we get abuse. We all have relatives come to visit us but there are not always parking available. We do hope this parking is sorted soon.
1			
	1		Thank you for your letter dated 7th March 2017 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			Most of the parking problems have been since the parking charges at Cramlington Station were introduced. Commuters are now parking beside the allotments and in Wolsingham Court to avoid paying parking charges at the station.
1			
7	1	1	

