

## CUMBERLAND COUNCIL

### (VARIOUS ROADS, CARLISLE URBAN AND RURAL AREA) (CONSOLIDATION AND PROVISION OF TRAFFIC REGULATIONS) (NO. 2) ORDER 2024

#### STATEMENT OF REASONS

Cumberland Council considers it expedient to propose to make the above Order for one of more of the following reasons specified in Section 1(1) of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984: -

*(a) for avoiding danger to persons or other traffic using the roads or any other roads or for preventing the likelihood of any such danger arising, or*

*(c) for facilitating the passage on the roads or any other roads of any class of traffic (including pedestrians), or*

*(f) for preserving or improving the amenities of the area through which the roads runs.*

A summary of the proposals and the reasoning behind them, is as follows: -

#### **Carlisle Southern Gateway (Future High Street Funding)**

In Autumn 2019, Carlisle City Council secured £19.7 million from the Department of Levelling Up, Housing and Communities (DLUCH) and Town Deal Fund and for a package of improvements in Carlisle City Centre. The overall vision is to create a distinctive, coherent, and inclusive city centre. This initiative aims to enhance the perception of Carlisle, increase social value, and ultimately boost economic performance by attracting more residents and visitors, thereby increasing demand for services.

The enhancement of English Street, Victoria Viaduct, The Crescent, and Botchergate is a key component of the Carlisle Town Deal programme funded from the Department of Levelling Up, Housing and Communities (DLUHC). The improvements include wider footways and the incorporation of new cycling infrastructure. New seating, the introduction of biodiversity, and added greenery through planting are planned to improve the streetscape, making it a safer, more secure environment encouraging the use of open public spaces in the City Centre.

Carlisle Southern Gateway public realm and access improvements on English Street and Botchergate at a key gateway to the city centre. The project will provide a high-quality environment, contributing to the sense of place and showcasing Carlisle as a key city.

Challenges being addressed:

English Street is dominated by vehicles and severed by carriageway, buses and loading areas that inhibit the sense of place.

The public realm is not conducive to:

- showcasing the historic buildings and architecture or providing a sense of arrival at a key gateway to the city centre.
- providing the setting for major developments at Carlisle Station, Court Square and the University of Cumbria's new Citadels Campus; or
- providing a place for people to meet and spend time.

Project outcomes and key messages

- Improve perceptions and sense of place:
  - Over £100m is being invested on regeneration projects in the vicinity of Carlisle's Southern Gateway
  - This project provides wider footways, new cycling infrastructure, new seating, planting and art features to enhance the streetscape for people to enjoy.
  - The scheme will offer a step change in how Carlisle is perceived; ensuring it has the character and feel of a regional economic, cultural, and historic centre.
- Increased walkability and access to cycling provision in the city centre:
  - Wider footways and enhanced public realm will transform the feel of these streets, encouraging businesses to spill out and pedestrians to spend more time there.
  - With Carlisle Southern Link Road being developed, we want this area to look and feel more attractive for pedestrians and cyclists. We will achieve this by widening some footways, providing safe cycling routes, and creating a nicer environment for people.

In summary, the proposals are: -

English Street, Carlisle (between Victoria Viaduct/Devonshire Street and Citadel Row/The Crescent):-

- i) Remove the "English Street Bus Lane" on the east side, from a point 30m north of its junction with Citadel Row to its junction with Devonshire Street;
- ii) Amend the extents of the "No Waiting At Any Time" restrictions on parts of the south-west and north-east sides;

- iii) Remove the “No Loading/Unloading, 8.00am – 9.30am, 12 noon-1.30pm, 4.30pm-6.00pm, Monday to Saturday inclusive” restriction on the west side;
- iv) Remove the “Loading Only, All Day, Every day” restriction on the north-east side;
- v) Introduce “No Loading/Unloading At Any Time” restrictions on the north-east and south-west sides;
- vi) Remove the “Disc Parking (Residents of Zone C Exempt), 8.30 am – 6 pm, Monday to Saturday” restriction on the north-east side;
- vii) Remove the “Prohibition of Waiting, Except for Loading/Unloading, 8.30 am – 6.00 pm, Monday to Saturday inclusive, waiting limited to 1 hour, return prohibited within 1 hour” restriction, on the north-east side;

NB: A “No waiting Except for Taxis, Midday – 5am and Loading Only 5am – Midday” bay will also be introduced on south-west side but this will form part of a separate taxi rank order.

#### Devonshire Street

- i) Remove Loading only area, 5am – Midnight, and No Stopping Except Taxi’s Midday – 5am on the south side and replace it with a “Loading Only, All day, Everyday” restricted bay.

#### Citadel Row, Carlisle

- i) Remove the “No Waiting At Any Time” restriction on parts of the south-west and north-east sides; and
- ii) Replace “One-way Traffic” restriction and the “Prohibition of Entry, except for Access” restriction with a “Prohibition of Motor Vehicles” restriction (no exemptions).

#### Victoria Viaduct, Carlisle

- i) Amend the extents of the “No Waiting At Any Time” restrictions on the south-east and north sides;
- ii) Remove the “No Loading/Unloading At Any Time” restrictions on the north side (Blackfriars Street to Devonshire Street);
- iii) Introduce “No Loading/Unloading At Any Time” restrictions on the south-east side (English Street to Bush Brow) and north side (West Walls to Devonshire Street).

NB: There will also be a bus stop area installed on the south side (opposite the junction with Blackfriars Street).

## The Crescent, Carlisle

- i) Replace the existing “No Loading/Unloading – 8.00am-9.30am, 12 noon-.30pm, 4.30pm -6.00pm, Monday to Saturday inclusive” restriction on the east side and replace it with “No Loading/Unloading At Any Time”; and
- ii) Re-locate existing “Loading Only - All day, Every day” bay on the south-east side.