

Transport and Environment Committee

10.00am, Tuesday, 19 March 2013

Objections to Proposed Waiting Restrictions Coltbridge Terrace - Traffic Regulation Order

Item number	8.3
Report number	
Wards	6 - Corstorphine/Murrayfield

Links

Coalition pledges	
Council outcomes	CO19 , CO21 , CO22
Single Outcome Agreement	SO4

Mark Turley

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Executive summary

Objections to Proposed Waiting Restrictions Coltbridge Terrace - Traffic Regulation Order

Summary

Proposed Traffic Regulation Order (TRO) for double yellow line waiting restrictions in Coltbridge Terrace (see Appendix 1 for location plan).

Recommendations

To set aside the objections and make the order as advertised to improve public safety, maintain emergency vehicular access and improve traffic flow.

Measures of success

It is considered that the parking restrictions will improve road safety for all road users and improve traffic flow.

Local monitoring by the West Neighbourhood Roads Team will be carried out if the order is approved and the parking restrictions implemented as proposed.

Financial impact

Financial implications include the cost of making the order, installing double yellow lines and signage at the location described. This can be met from within the existing West Neighbourhood Roads revenue budget and it is anticipated to be in the region of £2500.00.

Equalities impact

Consideration has been given to the relevance of the Equalities Act 2010 and there is no infringement of rights or impact on duties under this act.

Sustainability impact

The recommendations within this report do not have any adverse impact on carbon impacts, adaptation to climate change or sustainable development.

Consultation and engagement

Statutory consultation was carried out on 17 February 2012 with the previous ward 6 elected members in line with TRO procedures, with further ongoing engagement with local community representatives. Recent discussions with current ward 6 elected members have confirmed that all three Councillors accept the proposals and progression of the report to Committee.

Background reading / external references

None.

Objections to Proposed Waiting Restrictions Coltbridge Terrace - Traffic Regulation Order

1. Background

- 1.1 Representation was made in 2008 by elected members, and again more recently by local residents regarding the passage of emergency vehicles, specifically fire appliances, in Coltbridge Avenue, Coltbridge Vale and Coltbridge Terrace as a result of parked vehicles restricting the available width of carriageway.
- 1.2 Following site assessments, draft plans were drawn up to introduce parking restrictions in Coltbridge Terrace. This included the junction with Coltbridge Avenue, the right hand bend north of the junction and along the length of Coltbridge Terrace. However, during meetings with local residents at that time further concerns were raised with the Area Roads Manager in the West Neighbourhood team, regarding the negative impact that parking restrictions would have as a result of the possible relocation of parked vehicles into the residential areas within Murrayfield. These areas are recognised as having well used on-street parking.
- 1.3 As a result of these concerns, the draft plans were re-considered and the current plan, which focuses on specific road safety concerns identified during site inspections, was developed.
- 1.4 Proposals were drawn up to progress a TRO through the statutory process to introduce parking restrictions in Coltbridge Terrace and Coltbridge Vale.
- 1.5 As a result of heightened concerns for road safety at the junction with Coltbridge Avenue, parking restrictions were installed in Coltbridge Vale under a Temporary Traffic Regulation Order. The TRO to permanently implement these parking restrictions was included in TRO/11/20D and no objections have been received for this location, out of the three locations identified in the order.
- 1.6 The permanent order TRO/11/20D was advertised for public consultation from 17 February 2012 to 13 March 2012. All previous ward 6 local elected members were contacted on 17 February 2012 to advise of the public advertisement and there has been further ongoing engagement with local community representatives. Recent discussions with current ward 6 elected members have confirmed that all three Councillors accept the proposals and progression of the report to Committee.

- 1.7 Nine objections were received for one of the locations relating to the proposal for parking restrictions in Coltbridge Terrace. The objections are referenced in section 2.6 of this report. Full copies are available for background information if required.

2. Main report

- 2.1 Representation was made in 2008 by elected members and more recently by local residents regarding the passage of emergency vehicles in Coltbridge Avenue, Coltbridge Vale and Coltbridge Terrace.
- 2.2 A site inspection took place and subsequent verbal consultation with the Fire Master from Lothian and Borders Fire Brigade, and also considering access to waste collection vehicles, it was recommended that the installation of double yellow lines at certain 'pinch points' would be appropriate to improve public safety and improve traffic flow.
- 2.3 During site monitoring, vehicles parking at the junction of Coltbridge Terrace with Coltbridge Avenue were observed to obstruct sightlines for vehicles entering and exiting the junction. In addition vehicles parking at the right hand bend north of the junction were observed causing an obstruction for vehicles manoeuvring past other parked vehicles further along Coltbridge Terrace.
- 2.4 It is considered that the introduction of parking restrictions at the junction of Coltbridge Terrace with Coltbridge Avenue and at the right hand bend in Coltbridge Terrace, north of the junction, will improve sightlines and provide suitable provision for vehicles to pass. This will reduce the requirement for vehicles to reverse past parked vehicles and into oncoming traffic.
- 2.5 Since the introduction of double yellow lines in Coltbridge Vale, parked vehicles no longer cause concern for emergency vehicular access.
- 2.6 Following the advertisement of the TRO nine objections have been received from local residents. These have been outlined below, several points of objection have been noted in more than one objection. Several objections have the same response and these have been grouped accordingly.

- *Fewer spaces for residents to park – causing conflict between neighbours.*
- *Current layout is self-regulating – the narrowness of the road with parked cars on either side means that traffic is slow and safe.*
- *Adversely affect local shops as customer will struggle to find anywhere to park.*

This is being proposed in the interest of public safety. Residents in the area do not have a legal right to park their vehicles in a specific part of the public road. It is anticipated that around 4-5 parking spaces will be lost however, as per section 243 of the Highway Code drivers should not stop or park within 10 metres of a junction, except in a designated parking place, nor on a bend or anywhere where

access for emergency services would be prevented. The minimal loss of parking spaces is offset with the benefits to public safety and vehicular access. Public safety concerns are reduced sightlines at the junction and 'pinch point', vehicles reversing into oncoming traffic.

- *Anything that might encourage more cars and lorries to use Coltbridge Terrace will make it less safe for both local residents and school children (St George's school has entrance on Coltbridge Terrace).*
- *Speeding traffic.*
- *More attractive as a rat run.*

There is no evidence to support these objections.

- *Is there a need for the lines on the NW side of the Terrace (the concave side of the bend in the road) where cars cannot park in any case due to the existence of 2 garages that give onto the road?.*

Observations have shown that vehicles parking at the 'pinch point' at and near the garages cause obstructions and reduce visibility for oncoming vehicles.

- *Necessitate traffic wardens patrolling the area.*

Parking Attendants currently patrol the area. Any resource implications are outweighed by benefits to public safety and vehicular access.

- *Unnecessary expenditure for the Council.*

The expenditure is minimal and is outweighed with benefits to public safety and vehicular access.

- *Unnecessary hassle and inconvenience for residents.*

As noted above, residents in the area do not have a legal right to park their vehicles in a specific part of the public road. Public safety concerns are reduced sightlines at the junction and 'pinch point', vehicles reversing into oncoming traffic.

- *Use of Coltbridge Terrace by unsuitable vehicles – inadequate signage at top – means large vehicles have to reverse back from the left hand corner.*

The road signs in place, advising 'Unsuitable for Heavy Goods Vehicles', have been inspected and are considered appropriate under The Traffic Signs and General Directions Manual 2002. This objection is not relevant to the parking restriction proposals.

- *Request to introduce residents parking.*

There are no plans at this time to extend the controlled parking zone into the Coltbridge area at this time. This request is not relevant to the parking restriction proposals.

- *Banning of heavy goods vehicles, coaches and all large vehicles other than those for access or emergency vehicles.*

The Council, as a Roads Authority, cannot affect a partial ban for HGVs as this cannot be enforced. This request is not relevant to the parking restriction proposals.

- *Introduction of a one-way system.*

There are no plans to introduce a one-way system at this location as the road widths do not allow the accommodation of cycle lanes to maintain 2 way access for cyclists. This request is not relevant to the parking restriction proposals.

- *Communication with all sat-nav suppliers to have Coltbridge Terrace removed as a suggested route for large vehicles.*

There is appropriate visible signage in place to provide advice to drivers. There are no requirements for the Council to provide communication as requested. This request is not relevant to the parking restriction proposals.

Consideration has been given to the points raised in the objections received, however the introduction of parking restrictions is being proposed to improve public safety.

3. Recommendations

- 3.1 To set aside the objections and make the order as advertised to improve public safety, maintain emergency vehicular access and improve traffic flow.

Mark Turley

Director of Services for Communities

Links

Coalition pledges

Council outcomes

CO19 - Attractive Places and Well Maintained – Edinburgh remains an attractive city through the development of high quality buildings and places and the delivery of high standards

CO21 - Safe – Residents, visitors and businesses feel that Edinburgh is a safe city

CO22 - Moving efficiently – Edinburgh has a transport system that improves connectivity and is green, healthy and accessible

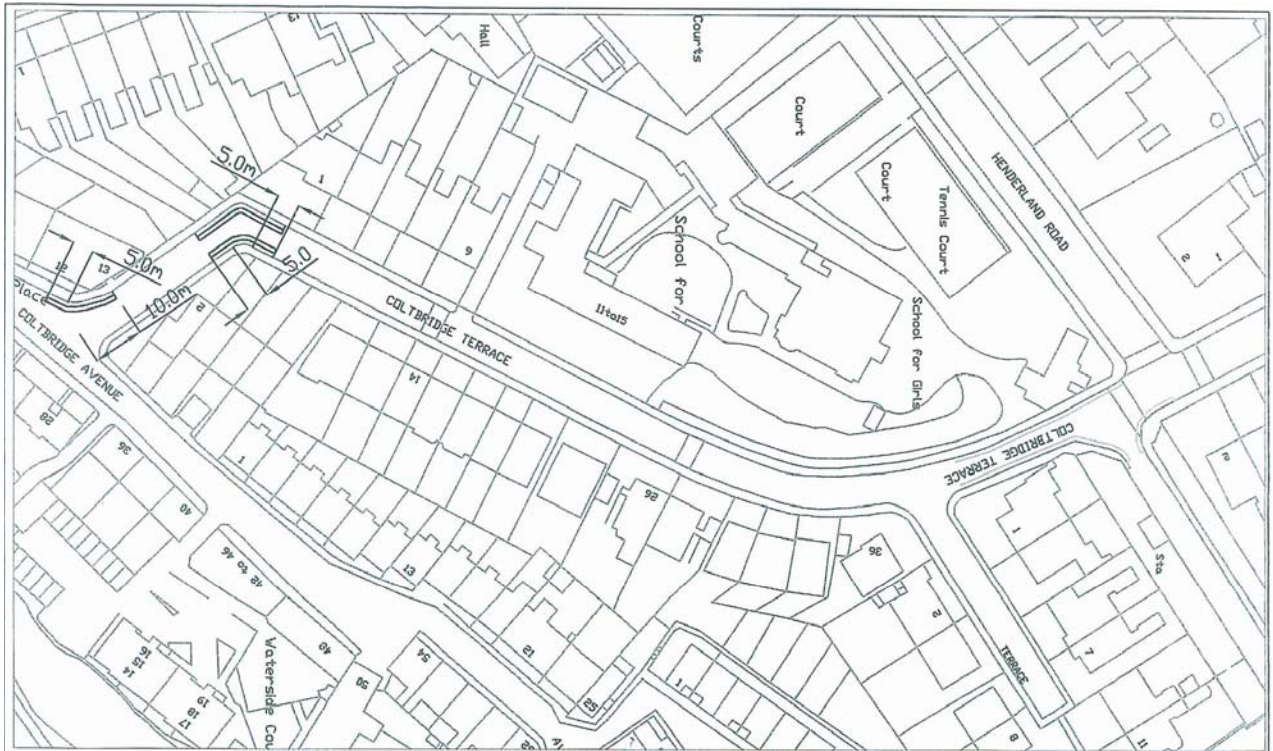
Single Outcome Agreement

SO4 - Edinburgh's communities are safer and have improved physical and social fabric

Appendices

Appendix 1 Location Plan

Appendix 1 Location Plan



 EDINBURGH THE CITY OF EDINBURGH COUNCIL		COLTBRIDGE TERRACE PROPOSED WAITING RESTRICTIONS	
Services for Communities The City of Edinburgh Council 500 Gorgie Road Edinburgh EH11 3YJ Tel. No. 0131 - 200 2000	ROAD SERVICES	Date: 29/11/2006	Drawn by: MAC
		Scale: NTS	Checked by: CHECKED
		DRG NO.	