

WARWICKSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984

**Nuneaton CPE – Variation 7 – Bull Ring, The Waterway & Bridge Street,
Nuneaton - Waiting Restrictions**

STATEMENT OF REASONS

1. BACKGROUND

Warwickshire County Council is proposing to vary the existing Warwickshire County Council (Borough of Nuneaton and Bedworth) (Civil Enforcement Area) (Waiting Restrictions, On-Street Parking Places and Residents' Parking) (Consolidation) Order 2017 (as varied), the effect of which will be to introduce waiting restrictions on the lengths of Bull Ring, The Waterway and Bridge Street, Nuneaton, as described in the Schedule below.

Bull Ring carries moderate traffic levels as a through route between College Street and Edward Street bypassing use of the A444 and is regularly used by larger vehicles including buses. The Waterway is lightly trafficked but is the main access to a boatyard, and as such is regularly used by larger vehicles.

Demand for parking from commuters and visitors to the area (including some associated with the nearby George Eliot Hospital) leads to restricted traffic flow and reduced visibility. Proposals are to introduce sections of no waiting at any time restrictions to improve the free flow of traffic, reduce obstructive parking, and improve visibility in an area with high levels of pedestrian and cycle travel.

2. LEGAL FRAMEWORK

In deciding whether to make a Traffic Regulation Order, the Council is required to have regard to the matters set out in section 122 of the 1984 Act. Section 122(1) requires the Council to exercise the functions conferred on it by the 1984 Act as (so far as practicable having regard to the matters specified in section 122(2)) to secure the expeditious, convenient and safe movement of vehicular and other traffic (including pedestrians), and the provision of suitable and adequate parking facilities on and off the highway.

The matters to which the Council must have regard are: -

- the desirability of securing and maintaining reasonable access to premises
- the effect on the amenities of any locality affected and the importance of regulating and restricting the use of roads by heavy commercial vehicles to preserve or improve the amenities of the areas through which the roads run
- the national air quality strategy prepared under section 80 of the Environmental Protection Act 1995
- the importance of facilitating the passage of public service vehicles and of securing the safety and convenience of people using such vehicles
- and any other matters appearing to the Council to be relevant

Therefore, whilst the overall objective of the Council must be to secure the expeditious convenient and safe movement of vehicular traffic this will sometimes need to give way to the objectives in section 122(2), and a balance must be achieved between the overall objective and the matters set out in section 122(2).

Warwickshire County Council is proposing to make this Traffic Regulation Order based on the following legal grounds under the 1984 Act: -

- (a) for avoiding danger to persons or other traffic using the road or any other road or for preventing the likelihood of any such danger arising;*
- (c) for facilitating the passage on the road or any other road of any class of traffic (including pedestrians);*

Restricting parking to one side of the road along Bull Ring ensures sufficient carriageway width to accommodate two-way traffic flow including larger vehicles, while reducing instances of obstructive parking encroaching onto the footway, thereby improving intervisibility between motorists and pedestrians.

Restricting parking at the junctions of Bridge Street and The Waterway serves to improve intervisibility between vehicles turning into and out of the side roads with those travelling along Bull Ring.

Restricting parking along The Waterway ensures sufficient carriageway width to accommodate two-way traffic flow including larger vehicles, while reducing instances of obstructive parking encroaching onto the footway, thereby improving intervisibility between motorists and pedestrians.

The Council, as the Traffic Authority, is required to have regard to its duty under section 16 of the Traffic Management Act 2004, to manage the local road network to achieve as far as possible:

- securing the expeditious movement of traffic on the local road network; and
- facilitating the expeditious movement of traffic on road networks for which another authority is the Traffic Authority,
- having had regard to its other obligations, objectives and policies as far as possible.

The Council is required to have regard to its duty under section 149 of the Equality Act 2010 in the making of these proposals, and give regard to advance equality of opportunity between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it, and in particular, to the need to:

- remove or minimise disadvantages suffered by persons who share a relevant protected characteristic that are connected to that characteristic;
- take steps to meet the needs of persons who share a relevant protected characteristic that are different from the needs of persons who do not share it;
- encourage persons who share a relevant protected characteristic to participate in public life or in any other activity in which participation by such persons is disproportionately low.

Thorough consideration was given to the factors set out in Section 122 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 and Section 16 of the Traffic Management Act 2004 in proposing this Traffic Regulation Order.

Thorough consideration was given to the equality's duty of the Council under Section 149 of the Equality Act 2010.

3. SCHEDULE

Proposed No Waiting At Any Time

The Waterway, Nuneaton

- (i) West side, from its junction with Bull Ring, northwards to its junction with Navigation Close
- (ii) West side, from its junction with Navigation Close, northwards for a distance of 46 metres
- (iii) East side, from its junction with Bull Ring, northwards for a distance of 88 metres

Bull Ring, Nuneaton

- (i) North-west side, from its junction with The Waterway, north-eastwards for a distance of 35 metres
- (ii) North-west side, from a point 83 metres north-east of its junction with The Waterway, north-eastwards for a distance of 43 metres
- (iii) South-east side, from its junction with Bridge Street, north-eastwards for a distance of 50 metres
- (iv) South-east side, from its junction with Bridge Street, south-westwards for a distance of 25 metres

Bridge Street, Nuneaton

- (i) North side, from its junction with Bull Ring, eastwards for a distance of 14 metres
- (ii) South side, from its junction with Bull Ring, eastwards for a distance of 25 metres

4. Existing Order to be varied

The Warwickshire County Council (Borough of Nuneaton and Bedworth) (Civil Enforcement Area) (Waiting Restrictions, On Street Parking Places and Residents' Parking) (Consolidation) Order 2017 (As Varied)

5. Plans

Scheme Location	Consultation Plan Ref.	Map Tile Ref.	Revision No
Bull Ring, Bridge Street, The Waterway	PTRO26-020-01	CB68	2
		CB69	2

Ends.