

Report to Township



Date of Meeting	19 th July 2022
Portfolio	Cabinet Member for Highways and Housing
Report Author	Darren McCrohan
Public/Private Document	Public

Objections to Proposed Traffic Order Prohibition of Waiting, Count Street & Sandfield Road Area, Rochdale

Executive Summary

- 1.1 The proposal was prepared in response to local representation received and subsequent Township approval for scheme development.
- 1.2 The proposed scheme seeks to enhance highway operational safety through the implementation of localised junction protection (prohibition of waiting) at the Kingsway and Prince Street junctions with Count Street as well as the junction of Sandfield Road with Royds Street.
- 1.3 It is understood that operational width and visibility can be compromised by carriageway parking in the absence of restrictions at the above junctions.
- 1.4 The approved scheme was advertised through a Notice of Intent posted between 16th March and 6th April 2022. Two formal objections were received during this period and both specifically related to the junction of Sandfield Road and Royds Street.
- 1.5 This report provides consideration of the objections formally received and seeks Township decision on an appropriate outcome.

Recommendation

- 1.1 Committee should consider whether the Traffic Regulation Order, (Borough of Rochdale, ((Civil Enforcement of Traffic Contraventions) (Various Streets) (Rochdale Township) Order 2008) (Amendment) (No. 196) Order 2022, be implemented as advertised; or be amended (to reduce or remove proposals for the objection junction of Sandfield Road and Royds Street); or be fully abandoned in-light of objections received.
- 1.2 It is the recommendation of Highways that the original scheme as advertised (presented in **Appendix A** to this report) be implemented as commissioned to appropriately enhance operational safety at each of the subject locations.

Reason for Recommendation

1.3 From advertised Statement of Reasons...

“The proposed scheme seeks to enhance highway operational safety through improved control of parking and greater protection of sight lines at the Kingsway and Prince Street junctions with Count Street and at the junction of Sandfield Road with Royds Street.

Further to local representation, investigations confirm operational width (of both carriageway and footway) and visibility to be compromised at the relatively narrow subject locations through the occurrence of indiscriminate and obstructive parking.

To protect operational width, it is proposed to introduce a 10 metre prohibition of waiting (‘No Waiting at Any Time’) along both sides of the southern section of Count Street, extended as ‘No Waiting 9am-5pm’ along the eastern side to its junction with Newton Street.

Similar ‘No Waiting at Any Time’ restrictions are also proposed at the northern end of Count Street at its junction with Prince Street and further east, at the Sandfield Road junction with Royds Street.

The small amount of parking that will be displaced by the scheme proposals can be more appropriately accommodated elsewhere in the locality.

The scheme proposals will be enhance road safety for all users at these locations.

The subject location is not Strategic Highway.”

1.4 Two formal objections of a reasonably consistent nature, both specific to the junction of Sandfield Road and Royds Street, were received during public advertisement and these are included as **Appendix C** to this report.

1.5 The following section provides interpretation and response to the key issues raised, supporting the recommendation presented herein for Committee decision.

Key Points for Consideration

Key Issue(s) Raised	Highways Response
<p>4.1 <i>There is already a difficulty in parking near to the junction (of Sandfield Road and Royds Street) and this proposal will only increase pressure with limited space available and will also increase the potential risk of vehicle damage.</i></p>	<p>The scheme has been promoted responsibly by Highways in the interests of enhancing road safety through better protection of visibility for drivers and pedestrians. This accords with the Council’s statutory responsibility to ensure that its highways operate safely and efficiently for all road users.</p> <p>Recognising pressures on residential parking, Highways have sought to keep the proposed restrictions to the recognised minimum standard of 10 metres along each side (of the junction subject to objection at Sandfield Road and Royds Street).</p>
<p>4.2 <i>It is irresponsible to ask residents to park remotely from outside their own property.</i></p>	

<p>4.3 <i>Clarification is sought on why this scheme has been put forward? What benefits would it bring? How would it be monitored and enforced?</i></p>	<p>Reiterating the Statement of Reasons that accompanied the advertised Notice of Intent, the scheme for localised junction protection arose from local representation with subsequent Member approval to develop.</p> <p>Highways have prepared and promoted a relatively standard scheme of junction protection seeking to maintain enhanced visibility (for drivers and pedestrians crossing) immediately around junctions where this is known to be compromised by parking.</p> <p>The proposals accord with the Council's statutory responsibility to ensure that its highways operate safely and efficiently for all road users.</p> <p>Implementation of yellow lines, consistent with all other such locations across the borough, would allow the Council to undertake enforcement and issue Penalty Charge Notices as necessary.</p>
<p>4.4 <i>Notification of the proposals has been done secretly.</i></p>	<p>Advertisement was undertaken openly and transparently in full accordance with the Council's standard procedures and statutory responsibility to post in a local newspaper and through the attachment of Legal Notices to street lighting columns. The proposals were formally displayed in appropriate conspicuous locations relative to the scheme elements, and included advertisement in the Rochdale Observer newspaper.</p>
<p>4.5 <i>Prefer road humps than parking restrictions given a perceived existing issue of speeding traffic.</i></p>	<p>Road humps would not meet the requirements of the commissioning brief in seeking to improve visibility and thereby safety at a number of key residential junctions.</p>
<p>4.6 <i>Prefer a one-way system to better accommodate parking demands by eliminating the need for width to accommodate two-way traffic.</i></p>	<p>A one-way system would not necessarily contribute to improving visibility at local junctions and would also have the potential to result in increased traffic speeds known to already be an issue in the locality (as referred in the objection noted above).</p>

Costs and Budget Summary

- 1.6 The cost of the proposed Traffic Regulation Order and associated highway works was estimated to be in the order of £5,500 with Township approval for funding previously confirmed.
- 1.7 Committee should note that any amendment of significance will require further Legal approval with additional costs for re-advertisement to be met by Township.

Risk and Policy Implications

1.8 The scheme is being promoted and recommended as part of the Council's statutory responsibility to ensure that its highways operate safely and efficiently for all road users.

Consultation

1.9 Consultation, required by the Local Authorities' Traffic Orders (Procedure) (England and Wales) Regulations 1996, has taken place.

1.10 Consultation with relevant statutory bodies was undertaken in February 2022.

1.11 A Notice of Intent was posted on-site and published in the local newspaper on 16th March 2022 (included as **Appendix B** to this report).

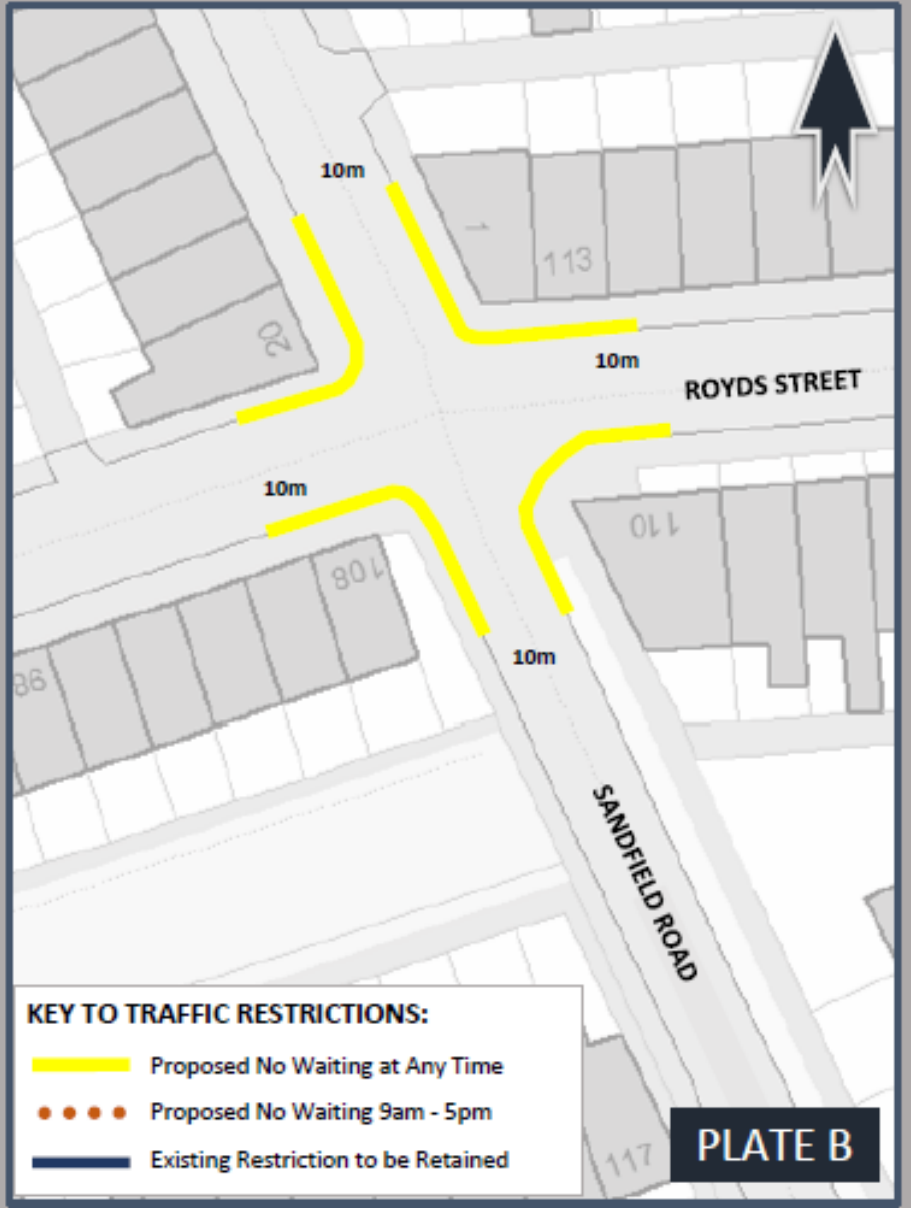
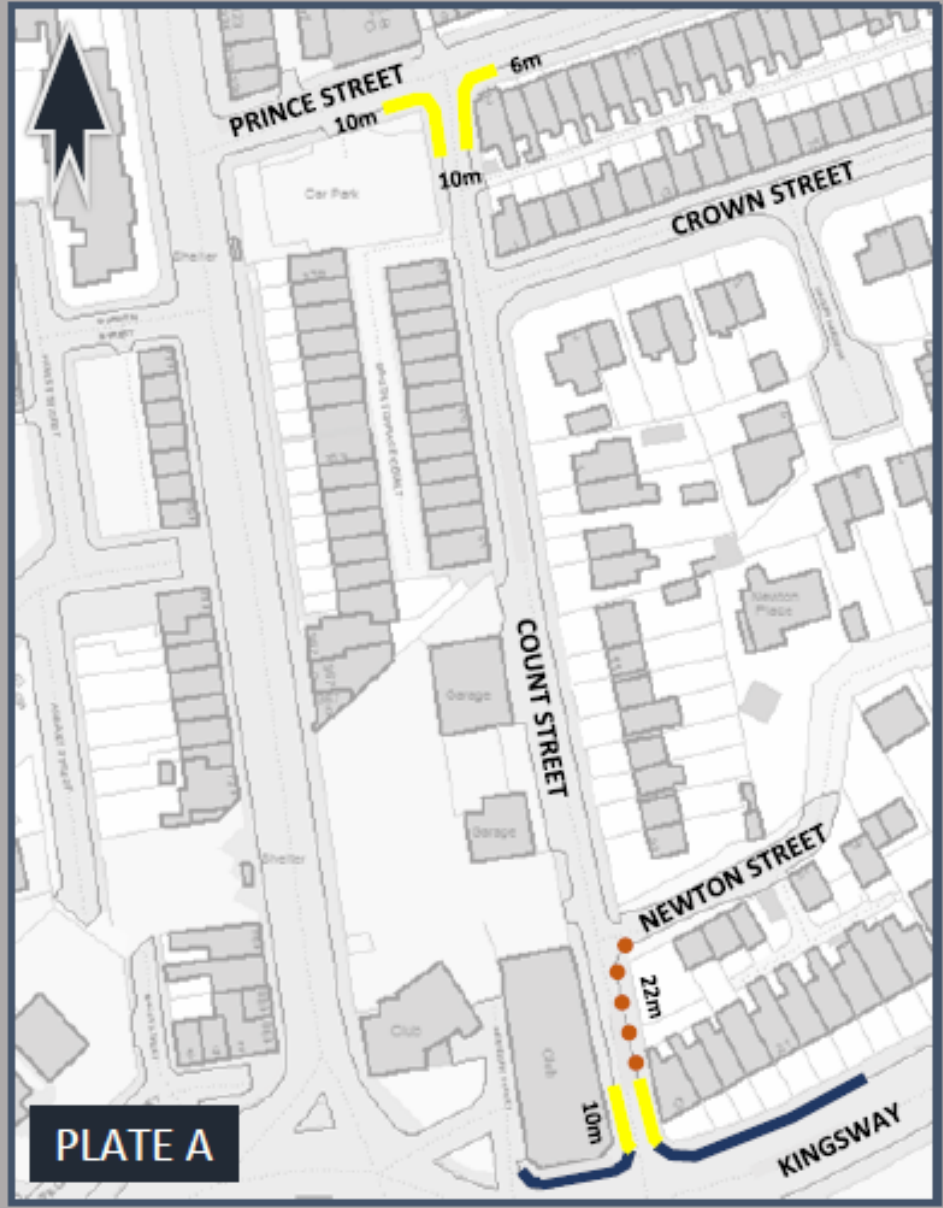
Background Papers

1.12 Not applicable.

For Further Information Contact:

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APPENDIX A – ADVERTISED Scheme Plan



TRO Ref No H60/1359

BOROUGH OF ROCHDALE
((CIVIL ENFORCEMENT OF TRAFFIC CONTRAVENTIONS)
(VARIOUS STREETS) (ROCHDALE TOWNSHIP) ORDER 2008)
(AMENDMENT) (NO. 196) ORDER 2022

Count Street and Sandfield Road Area, Rochdale

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Rochdale Borough Council, in exercise of its powers under Sections 1(1), 2 and 4 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, intend to make an Order, the effect of which would be to amend the Borough of Rochdale (Civil Enforcement of Traffic Contraventions) (Various Streets) (Rochdale Township) Order 2008, by inserting the following:-

Schedule No. 1.1

No Waiting at Any Time

Count Street, Kingsway Ward

- n(i) both sides from its junction with Kingsway for a distance of 10 metres in a northerly direction
- n(ii) both sides from its junction with Prince Street for a distance of 10 metres in a southerly direction

Prince Street, Kingsway Ward

- n(i) the south side from a point 10 metres south-west of its junction with Count Street to a point 6 metres north-east of its junction with Count Street

Sandfield Road, Kingsway Ward

- n(i) both sides from a point 10 metres south-east of its junction with Royds Street to a point 10 metres north-west of its junction with Royds Street

Royds Street, Kingsway Ward

- n(i) both sides from a point 10 metres south-west of its junction with Sandfield Road to a point 10 metres east of its junction with Sandfield Road

Schedule No. 2.30

No Waiting 9am-5pm

Count Street, Kingsway Ward

- n(i) the east side from its junction with Newton Street for a distance of 22 metres in a southerly direction

A copy of the proposed Order and a map showing the lengths of road concerned, together with a Statement of Reasons for making the Order, may be viewed on the Council's website www.rochdale.gov.uk/roads, or by phoning Highways on 0300 303 8879 to request a copy via post.

Objections to the proposed Order, stating the grounds on which they are made, must be made in writing and forwarded to trafficorders@rochdale.gov.uk or, alternatively, to Network Management, Floor 2, Number One Riverside, Smith Street, Rochdale, OL16 1XU to reach the Council on or before 6th April 2022, quoting H60/1359.

Dated this 16th day of March 2022

Asif Ibrahim
Assistant Director (Legal, Governance & Workforce)
Rochdale Borough Council

Number One Riverside
Smith Street
Rochdale
OL16 1XU

Objection 1

Sent: 18 March 2022 22:01

To: Traffic Orders <traffic.orders@rochdale.gov.uk>

Subject: H60/1359 Objection to proposed no waiting at any time

To whom it may concern,

I would like to raise an objection to the proposed no waiting at any time proposal for the junction of Sandfield Road and Royds Street for the reasons outlined below:

1. I am the homeowner of [REDACTED] and have been for circa [REDACTED] years and this proposed plan would directly result in me no longer being able to park outside my own house. There are multiple houses in this small cul-de-sac part of the road, and most of us have vehicles and we have to share the space as best we can which is a nightmare already. Removing the right for 3 of the residents to park on the road is just going to make things more difficult and increase the risks of damages to vehicles as people try to squeeze in an order small space.

2. The plan suggests that there is adequate space to park within the locality of the proposed plan. This is absurd - the roads directly surrounding the road are bombarded with cars of an evening. Has any actual research been done on the area at night or just during the day when most people are at work? It is also totally unsafe to do so so due to the volume of vehicles parked overnight.

3. We regularly suffer with joy-riders, and lunatics who use the roads. Only 2 weeks ago the occupier of [REDACTED] had a vehicle literally lose control and crash into their car and house, and so the fact you suggest we park our cars down an already cluttered and narrow road is irresponsible.

We are risking our cars being damaged and insurance premiums soaring as we cannot park outside our own houses.

4. I have a small child - I do not relish the thought of [REDACTED] having to get out of a car potentially on a busy road where there is no adequate space and having to walk and squeeze [REDACTED] way through to get home. Especially when, as I have stated in my points above the road is used by idiots who do not follow the speed limit.

I would like to know why this proposed plan has been suggested? What benefit does it serve? How will this be enforced and monitored? I also find the notification of this proposed plan has been done so secretly that you were just hoping it would go through without anyone noticing. Surely you could have posted the information through the doors of those residents it would directly affect rather than sticking an A4 notice to a lamppost! Which by the way has all but peeled off and become difficult to read since it got wet! If I hadn't have been home when this was being put up we would have not known.

I'm sure the residents would much rather have speed bumps put down to stop the idiotic 60mph racers we suffer with than be told they cannot park close to their own home.

There are other sections of the local roads that need to have these restrictions in place. For example since the opening of the Channings Childcare nursery next to the Moss Lodge Hotel cars are regularly abandoned for drop off - for here and the two local schools. Making the exit of the road a major safety hazard.

I look forward to hearing your response and would be happy to discuss this in person as I feel this would be more beneficial.

Regards

Objection 2

Sent: 19 March 2022 09:59

To: Traffic Orders <traffic.orders@rochdale.gov.uk>

Subject: No Waiting Restrictions Sandfield Road

I would like to lodge my reason as to why I am against the No Waiting/At Anytime Restrictions for Sandfield Road and Royds Street.

I have lived at [REDACTED] for [REDACTED] years and parking has always been difficult, but by restricting available space it will be very difficult to find anywhere to park.

Bringing in a one way system would be a much better solution, eliminating the need for vehicles travelling in opposite to pass each other.

Yours sincerely