

Lothian Street, Bonnyrigg – Introduction of All Day Waiting Restrictions

Report by Derek Oliver, Chief Officer – Place

Report for Decision

1 Recommendations

It is recommended that Cabinet:

- i. Note the challenges for movement of buses and other large vehicles along Lothian Street, Bonnyrigg and the safety of pedestrians crossing the road due to parked cars;
- ii. Note that significant objections were received to the formal public consultation proposing to extend double yellow lines on Lothian Street, Bonnyrigg;
- iii. Approves on the grounds of pedestrian road safety and traffic flow improvement the introduction of the relevant traffic and legal orders to bring into effect the proposed double yellow line scheme in Lothian Street, Bonnyrigg shown on the drawing at paragraph 3.9 and the draft order at appendix B2.

2 Purpose of Report/Executive Summary

This report describes the challenges for movement of buses and other large vehicles along Lothian Street Bonnyrigg and the safety of pedestrians crossing the road due to restricted vision caused by parked cars at various pinch points along the route.

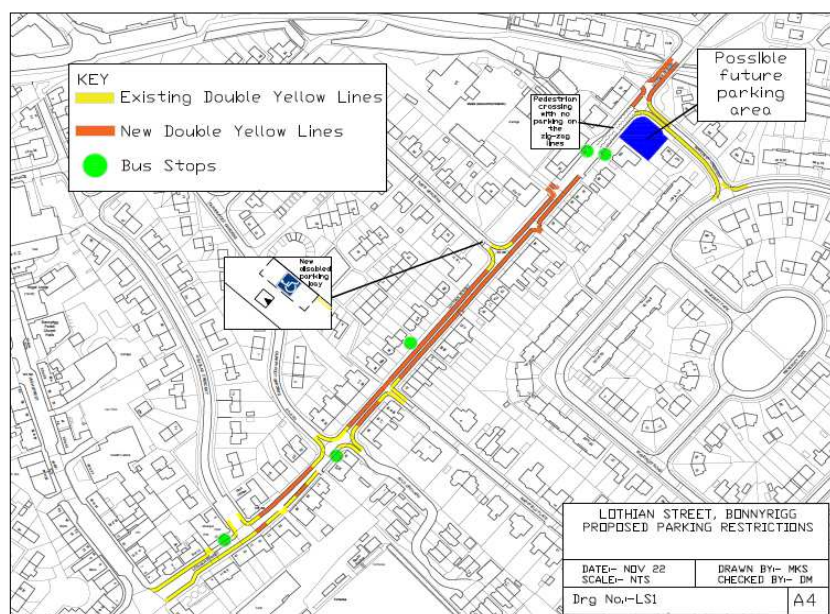
The report notes an informal public consultation took place in November 2022 with local residents of Lothian Street, Bonnyrigg. It also reports on the output from the formal public consultation of a proposal informed by the earlier local consultation and discussions with local elected members. The proposal laid out a Council draft order (appendix B2) for further prohibition and restriction on waiting, loading and unloading by way of extension of double yellow lines on certain designated parts of the carriageway at Lothian Street, Bonnyrigg.

This report asks elected members to note there were significant objections to the consulted proposal and lays out four legal pathways as next steps. Elected members are asked to consider these pathways and agree to approve that pathway a) be adopted to introduce the relevant traffic and legal orders to bring into effect the prescribed double yellow line scheme on Lothian Street, Bonnyrigg.

Date: 1 October 2023
Report Contact: Robbie Beattie Senior Manager, Neighbourhood Services
Email: robbie.beattie@midlothian.gov.uk

3 Background

- 3.1 A6094 Lothian Street in Bonnyrigg is a key link in Midlothian's road network. It forms part of the main route from Bonnyrigg to Dalkeith and the east-bound City Bypass and is an important corridor for bus services.
- 3.2 The character of this road, between its junctions with High Street and Eldindean Road, is such that traffic movements and especially bus services are regularly impeded. There are safety concerns for pedestrians who must cope with cars which park on the relatively narrow footways restricting vision when trying to cross the road.
- 3.3 Traffic volumes are growing, with ongoing increases in housing development in local areas, commercial activities at the A7 / A6094 junction hub, access to Midlothian Community Hospital, and so on.
- 3.4 The carriageway is constricted in some sections due to a) the needs of residents to park their own vehicles on street since some of the properties don't have garages or run-ins, b) the location is used for parking by customers and visitors to nearby retail outlets.
- 3.5 In November 2022 an informal consultation was conducted with local residents of Lothian Street. Residents were sent a letter with an outline of a proposal to introduce waiting restrictions by way of double yellow lines and provision of a small amount of additional parking on a vacant site adjacent to the road. The circulated draft proposal is copied below.

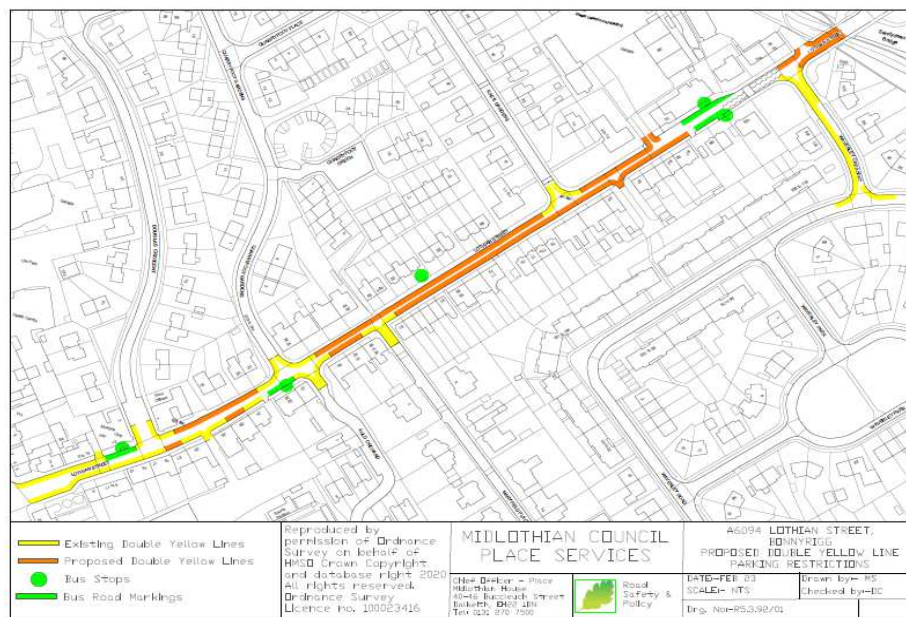


- 3.6 There were 18 responses to the informal consultation. Of those seven (39%) were supportive of additional double yellow lines in some form, eight (44%) were against introduction of double yellow lines with many proposing alternative car parks be created or other sites be used for provision of parking for residents and three (17%) did not express an opinion on double yellow lines. Some feedback suggested the proposal for additional parking provision was for retail use rather than local resident use.

- 3.7 Taking account of feedback from the November 2022 informal consultation with local resident and discussion with local elected members the Council published a formal consultation process on a revised proposal. This amended proposal altered the extent and location of some of the double yellow lines to take account of views expressed and removed the provision of additional parking space.

Main Report

- 3.8 The carriageway of Lothian Street, Bonnyrigg is constricted in parts which creates difficulties for large vehicles such as buses and emergency vehicles to navigate. Following local resident and elected member feedback a formal public consultation was held. The consultation on the proposed draft traffic order was conducted in compliance with the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 as amended and as modified by The Road Traffic (Permitted Parking Area and Special Parking Area) (Midlothian Council) Designation Order 2018.
- 3.9 The draft order proposed the prohibition and restriction on waiting, loading and unloading by way of introduction of double yellow lines on certain designated parts of the carriageway. The plan circulated is copied below which shows in yellow the extent of current double yellow lines and in red the extent of proposed additional double yellow lines.



- 3.10 There were nine responses to the three-week consultation. Of the responses received none were supportive of the measures in full, there were two responses which suggested modifications to the location of some of the double yellow lines.
- 3.11 Some responses also included alternative proposals such as introduction of a 20mph zone, traffic calming measures such as humps, provision of additional parking or additional speed detection activity and parking enforcement to deal with pavement parking. One response highlighted that whilst introduction of double yellow lines would clear the carriageway to improve traffic flow this would increase speed and make the road more dangerous contrary to the aims of the proposal.
- 3.12 AECOM were commissioned by the Council to undertake a design review of the proposals to restrict on street parking in Lothian Street,

Bonnyrigg. The aim was to examine the proposed design and to highlight any possible road safety issues that may be present, prior to implementation of the scheme on site to ensure that the Council were providing infrastructure that was safe for all expected road user types.

- 3.13 The review concluded in summary the proposed design would be safe for the majority of all road users.
- 3.14 The AECOM review also recommended that a speed survey be conducted in advance of implementation of the proposal to provide baseline data. A further speed survey should be conducted after implementation to determine if there had been any significant change in the speed profile. If a significant adverse speed change is noted warranting remedial corrective measures, then consideration should be given to introduction of speed calming and widening of footways to narrow the carriageway.
- 3.15 With the consultation now concluded the legal pathways open to the Council are:
- (a) Repel the objections and implement the scheme as advertised.
 - (b) Remove controversial elements of the proposal and implement the remainder which can be done without needing to re-advertise the reduced proposal.
 - (c) Make changes to the proposal to vary lengths and location of new double yellow line not covered by the original proposal. This would require the 3-week statutory consultation to be re-run.
 - (d) Abandon the proposal.
- 3.10 Officers recommend that pathway a) is followed. If the proposal is approved Officers will make the necessary draft legal orders, conduct a speed survey and paint the lines.
- 3.11 Officers will also review the available local land to determine if any of that can be designated for parking. If a suitable and affordable proposal is identified this will be reported to Elected Members.

4 Report Implications (Resource, Digital and Risk)

4.1 Resource

The introduction of the scheme will be contained within Road Services approved budget.

4.2 Digital

The proposal in this report has no digital impact.

4.3 Risk

There is evidence of previous impacts on the local community due to restricted access for emergency vehicles and running times for bus services. Sight lines for pedestrian to cross the busy road in some sections are impacted by parked cars.

4.4 Ensuring Equalities (if required a separate IIA must be completed)

The subject of this report does not have a significant impact on equality.

4.5 Additional Report Implications**Appendices****Appendix A – Additional Report Implications****Appendix B – Background information/Links****APPENDIX A – Report Implications****A.1 Key Priorities within the Single Midlothian Plan**

In terms of the key priorities through the Single Midlothian Plan safety, children and sustainability feature highly.

A.2 Key Drivers for Change

Key drivers addressed in this report:

- Holistic Working
- Hub and Spoke
- Modern
- Sustainable
- Transformational
- Preventative
- Asset-based
- Continuous Improvement
- One size fits one
- None of the above

A.3 Key Delivery Streams

Key delivery streams addressed in this report:

- One Council Working with you, for you
- Preventative and Sustainable
- Efficient and Modern
- Innovative and Ambitious
- None of the above

A.4 Delivering Best Value

The project will deliver Best Value.

A.5 Involving Communities and Other Stakeholders

This proposal is in response to requests from local residents and elected members for action to be taken.

A.6 Impact on Performance and Outcomes

The proposal will reduce the number of parked vehicles on the street improving sight lines for pedestrians to cross the road safely. It will also be easier for emergency services and buses amongst others to travel along Lothian Street, Bonnyrigg with reduced restrictions.

A.7 Adopting a Preventative Approach

The proposal will reduce the number of parked vehicles improving sight lines for pedestrians to cross the road safely and help prevent accidents.

A.8 Supporting Sustainable Development

The proposal will improve the flow of traffic along Lothian Street reducing vehicle engine idling.

APPENDIX B

Appendix B1 Copy of consultation notice

THE MIDLOTHIAN COUNCIL (VARIOUS ROADS) (PROHIBITION AND RESTRICTION ON WAITING, LOADING AND UNLOADING ETC) (VARIATION NO _) ORDER 202_ - TO/R5.3.92

The Council proposes to make a new Order to apply Double Yellow Line waiting restrictions along the length of the A6094 Lothian Street, Bonnyrigg between Douglas Crescent and Eldindean Road, to improve road safety, to remove congestion along a key link road and to facilitate the movement of buses.

Details may be examined from 30 March to 21 April 2023 at Council Libraries, at www.tellmesotland.gov.uk or from david.chambers@midlothian.gov.uk. Any person wishing to object to this proposal should send details of their grounds of objection in writing, quoting reference R5.3.92, to: The Legal Services Manager, Midlothian Council, Midlothian House, 40-46 Buccleuch Street, Dalkeith EH22 1DN, or to legal@midlothian.gov.uk, to arrive not later than 21 April 2023.

Appendix B2 Draft Order laying out location of double yellow line restrictions.

Variations etc to The Midlothian Council (Various Roads) (Prohibition and Restriction on Waiting, Loading and Unloading etc) (Decriminalised Parking Enforcement) Designation and Consolidation Order 2018

The above Order shall have effect as if:

- (a) In [Appendix 2](#) after all the existing words in the table there were added the words:

Mid/R5.3.19-06	dd/mm/2023	dd/mm/2023	R5.3.92 Applies DYL waiting restrictions along A6094 Lothian Street, Bonnyrigg.
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- (b) In [the computerised plan](#) which records all the restrictions imposed by Traffic Order R5.3.19 as varied there were added the lengths of road subject to 'Schedule 2' 24 hour waiting restrictions (double yellow lines) shown in Table 1 below, all as illustrated on Plan R5.3.92/01 attached.

TABLE 1: Schedule 2 - Lengths of Road Subject to 24-hour Waiting Restrictions (Double Yellow Lines)

Settlement	Road	Section	Ref	Length (metres)
Bonnyrigg / Lasswade	A6094 Lothian Street	North-west Side		
		(a) from the extended north-east kerbline of Douglas Crescent north-eastwards to the extended south-west kerbline of Quarryfoot Gardens, a distance of 74 metres or thereby.	2.24.a	74
		(b) from the extended north-east kerbline of Quarryfoot Gardens north-eastwards to the extended south-west kerbline of Rae's Gardens, a distance of 167 metres or thereby.	2.24.b	167
		(c) from the extended north-east kerbline of Rae's Gardens north-eastwards for a distance of 59 metres or thereby.	2.24.c	59
		(d) from the projected south-east kerbline of Waverley Crescent north-eastwards for a distance of 27 metres or thereby.	2.24.d	27
		South-east Side		
		(a) from the projected north-east kerbline of Douglas Crescent north-eastwards for a distance of 66 metres or thereby.	2.24.e	66
		(b) from the projected north-east kerbline of Auld Orchard north-eastwards to the south-west kerbline of Maryfield Place, a distance of 40 metres or thereby.	2.24.f	40
		(c) from the north-east kerbline of Maryfield Place north-eastwards for a distance of 191 metres or thereby.	2.24.g	191
		(d) from the extended north-east kerbline of Waverley Crescent north-eastwards for a distance of 31 metres or thereby.	2.24.h	31