

# STATEMENT OF REASONS

## NORTH SOMERSET COUNCIL (LEIGH WOODS AREA, LONG ASHTON) (PROHIBITION AND RESTRICTION OF STOPPING AND WAITING AND ON-STREET PARKING PLACES) ORDER 2021

The council proposes to introduce a new on-street parking scheme at Leigh Woods. The scheme will help residents, commuters and other users share available parking more fairly, whilst also making the roads safer and the air cleaner.

The proposals would manage available parking spaces through the introduction of yellow lines, pay and display charges and resident-only bays. Residents' permits would allow residents to park in either the dedicated resident-only bays or in pay and display bays exempt from charge.

The need to manage parking here was identified by residents and local members several years ago and the scheme has been in development iteratively since then with input from stakeholders.

In February and March 2020, an informal consultation exercise sought input from residents, Leigh Woods community groups and the wider public to better understand parking issues affecting the area. This engagement produced valuable feedback and, as a result, a number of amendments were made to the initial proposals. The Council's Executive Committee reflected on the feedback from the consultation and decided in October 2020 to implement the scheme.

The scheme is intended to strike a balance between the various parking space users rather than exclude certain groups. The objective is to remove a proportion of commuter/visitor parking to provide sufficient free spaces for residents. Availability of off-street/driveway parking in the area means that there is less need for resident-only on-street parking than the number of parking spaces currently available. These surplus spaces will be managed with pay and display charges to help maintain the fair balance of commuter/visitor and residents on-street parking in the area.

The number of spaces reserved for residents has been informed by evidence collected through surveys and input from local people.

In recognition of pressure on parking near the suspension bridge, the proposals also include some short-stay only bays on North Road nearest the bridge and at the northern end of Burwalls Road.

The Leigh Woods on-street parking scheme now requires a statutory consultation exercise in order to take forward the Traffic Regulation Order needed to create the legal basis for the scheme.

Following statutory consultation, a decision will be made on whether to finalise the order in light of comments received, with or without amendments. If the scheme is to

go ahead, we expect it will be implemented later this year with the aim of getting it up and running in the autumn.

The proposals include the revocation of the traffic orders for the existing permanent double yellow lines around several junctions with Bridge Road, and the temporary double yellow lines which were installed in December 2020. These restrictions will be incorporated into the proposed Order.

The restrictions will avoid danger to persons or other traffic using the roads, and preserve and improve the amenities of the area.

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