

To: Councillor Ayub (Chair)  
Councillors Debs Absolom, David Absolom,  
Barnett-Ward, Carnell, Duveen, Hacker,  
Ennis, Page, R Singh, Stanford-Beale, Terry  
and Whitham

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24 February 2021

Your contact is: **Jenny Hazell- Committee Services**

NOTICE OF MEETING - TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT SUB-COMMITTEE 4 MARCH 2021

Further to the agenda for the meeting of the Traffic Management Sub-Committee which will be held on Thursday, 4 March 2021 at 6.30 pm, and in accordance with Section 100B (4)(b) of the Local Government Act 1972, the Chair has agreed to allow the item listed below to be considered as a matter of urgency to allow the Sub-Committee to consider the objections that have been received from Thames Valley Police

- Agenda Item 10(a) - Abattoirs Road No Right Turn - Results of Statutory Consultation

Jenny Hazell  
Committee Administrator

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## READING BOROUGH COUNCIL

### REPORT BY EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR FOR ECONOMIC GROWTH & NEIGHBOURHOOD SERVICES

<b>TO:</b>	<b>TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT SUB-COMMITTEE</b>		
<b>DATE:</b>	<b>4 MARCH 2021</b>		
<b>TITLE:</b>	<b>ABBATOIRS ROAD NO RIGHT TURN - RESULTS OF STATUTORY CONSULTATION</b>		
<b>LEAD COUNCILLOR:</b>	<b>COUNCILLOR TONY PAGE</b>	<b>PORTFOLIO:</b>	<b>STRATEGIC ENVIRONMENT, PLANNING AND TRANSPORT</b>
<b>SERVICE:</b>	<b>TRANSPORT</b>	<b>WARDS:</b>	<b>ABBEY</b>
<b>LEAD OFFICERS:</b>	<b>JEMMA THOMAS</b>	<b>TEL:</b>	<b>0118 9372101</b>
<b>JOB TITLES:</b>	<b>NETWORK MANAGEMENT TECHNICIAN</b>	<b>E-MAIL:</b>	<b>NETWORK.MANAGEMENT@READING.GOV.UK</b>

#### 1. PURPOSE OF REPORT & EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- 1.1 The Sub-Committee gave approval for Officers to undertake a statutory consultation for banned (right turn) movements at the junction of Abattoirs Road and Caversham Road at their meeting in January 2021. Officers carried out the statutory consultation in February 2021.
- 1.2 The need for these movement restrictions is to allow for a new vehicle entrance into Cattle Market car park whilst maintaining safety at the junction.
- 1.3 This report provides the objection that has been received from Thames Valley Police and seeks Sub-Committee approval to implement or otherwise, the scheme as recommended and advertised.
- 1.4 Appendix 1 provides the drawing of the consulted design.
- 1.5 Appendix 2 provides the consultation feedback received by officers.

#### 2. RECOMMENDED ACTION

- 2.1 That the Sub-Committee notes the content of this report.
- 2.2 That the Sub-Committee reviews the consultation feedback in Appendix 2, alongside the officer recommendations in this report, and agrees to either implement, remove, or alter elements of the scheme as advertised.
- 2.3 That no public inquiry be held into the proposals.

### **3. POLICY CONTEXT**

- 3.1 The provision of traffic management measures including movement restrictions and associated criteria is specified within existing Traffic Management Policies and Standards.

### **4. BACKGROUND AND RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 4.1 As reported to the Sub-Committee in January 2021, with the gradual demise of off-street car parking over a number of years within the town centre area and imminent closure of the NCP Garrard Street car park the intension is to make Cattle Market car park more accessible. This entails a proposed vehicle entrance from Caversham Road via Abattoirs Road consequently there is need to manage turning movements at the junction to maintain road safety.
- 4.2 The vehicle access via Abattoirs Road with be entry only and drivers will be required to leave the car park via Great Knollys Street joining the Caversham Road via the traffic signal managed junction which allows all turning movements. Although drives are required to leave via Great Knollys Street there is still a need to ban the right turn movements at the junction particularly the right turn from Caversham Road into Abattoirs Road.
- 4.3 At the January 2021 meeting of this Sub-Committee, officers reported the designs for the banned movement proposal, which was shared with respective Ward Councillors.
- 4.4 Officers received agreement, to proceed with the necessary legal consultation that was required to enable the proposal to proceed toward delivery.

The statutory consultation process was started on 4<sup>th</sup> February 2021. Thames Valley Police have provided feedback and have objected to the proposal. Please see Appendix 2 for the full response.

As per the officer response to the objection in Appendix 2, Officers recommend implementing the scheme as advertised.

- 4.5 The Sub-Committee is asked to review the consultation feedback alongside the officer recommendation and agree whether the scheme may be implemented as advertised, or not implemented.

### **5. CONTRIBUTION TO CORPORATE PRIORITIES**

- 5.1 This proposal contributes to the Council's priorities, as set out below:

- Keeping Reading's environment clean, green and safe
- Ensuring the Council is fit for the future

### **6. ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS**

- 6.1 The Council declared a Climate Emergency at its meeting on 26th February 2019 (Minute 48 refers).

6.2 It is not expected that the decisions arising from this report will have any significant environmental implications.

## **7. COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT AND INFORMATION**

7.1 Consultation notices were erected on location in accordance with appropriate legislation and details of the proposed scheme were available on the 'Consultation Hub' section of the Council's website.

## **8. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS**

8.1 The creation of Traffic Regulation Orders require advertisement and consultation, under the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 and in accordance with the Local Authorities Traffic Orders (Procedure) (England and Wales) Regulations 1996.

## **9. EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT**

9.1 In addition to the Human Rights Act 1998 the Council is required to comply with the Equalities Act 2010. Section 149 of the Equalities Act 2010 requires the Council to have due regard to the need to:-

- eliminate discrimination, harassment, victimisation and any other conduct that is prohibited by or under this Act;
- advance equality of opportunity between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it;
- foster good relations between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it.

9.2 It is not considered that an Equality Impact Assessment is relevant as the proposals are not deemed to be discriminatory to persons with protected characteristics. A statutory consultation has been conducted, providing an opportunity for objections/support/concerns to be considered prior to a decision being made on whether to implement the proposals.

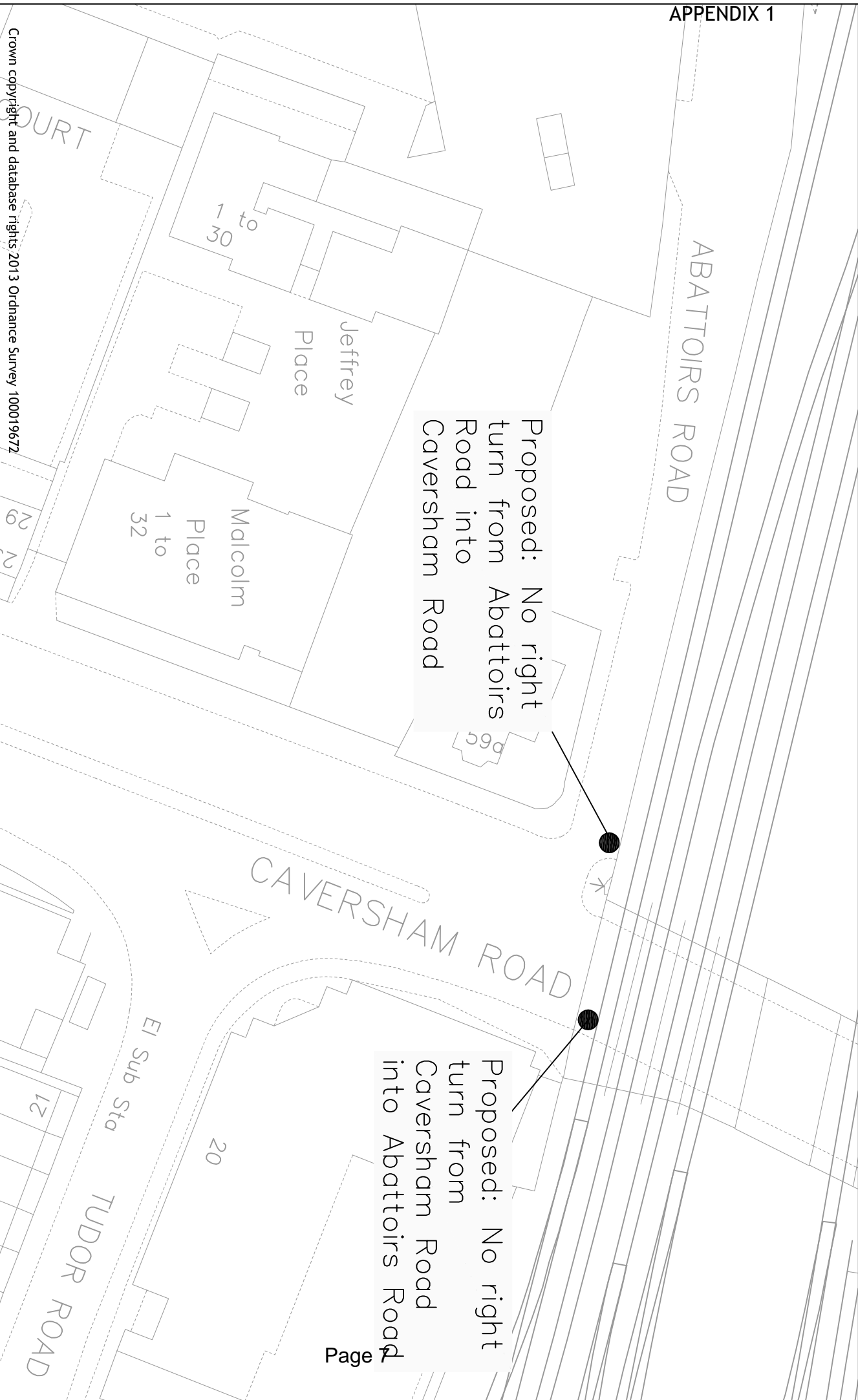
## **10. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

10.1 Funding for the implementation of agreed changes will be delivered as a part of a project to improve Cattle Market car park. These costs will be met by the Council's Capital Works budget using National Productivity Infrastructure Funding as awarded to the Council by National government.

## **11. BACKGROUND PAPERS**

11.1 Abattoirs Road junction with Caversham Road - Banned right turn movements (Traffic Management Sub-Committee, January 2021).

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RG1 2LU

Project		Scale	
No right turn proposal - Abattoirs Rd		N.T.S	
Drawing		Date	Drawn
Abattoirs Road		JAN 21	JT
		Checked	Approved
		JP	JP
		Drawing No.	
		Abattoirs rd - no right turn	

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ABATTOIRS ROAD NO RIGHT TURN RESTRICTION - OBJECTIONS TO TRAFFIC REGULATION ORDER

APPENDIX 1 - Summary of letters of support and objections received to Traffic Regulation Order

UPDATE: 25/02/2021

Please note that the feedback text contained in this document has been directly copied from the responses we have received to preserve the integrity of the feedback. Where there was any sensitive or identifiable information provided, this text has been removed and has been clearly indicated

Street	Objections/support/comments received.
Abattoirs Road/Caversham Road	<p>Summary of responses: Objections - 1, Support - 0, Comment - 0, Mixed Response - 0.</p>
<p>1) Objection, Thames Valley Police</p>	<p>Thank you for the notice of the above consultation sent to me by email on Thursday 4th February 2021. I have reviewed the plans supplied, discussed the proposal Jemma Thomas and visited the site.</p> <p>I understand that Reading Borough Council wish to increase parking capacity at Cattle Market NCP car park. A dedicated access is planned from Abattoirs Road with egress onto Great Knollys Street. There is no planned egress from the car park into Abattoirs Road. Two no right turn prohibitions are proposed, one from the southbound lane of Caversham Road into Abattoirs Road, and from Abattoirs Road onto the southbound lanes of Caversham Road. These are signed only restrictions that on Caversham Road will be on the nearside on the approach to the junction.</p> <p>I have reviewed the injury collision statistics for the last five-year period, from 1st September 2016 to 31st August 2020. I have found only one personal injury collision that was caused by a taxi driver performing an illegal U-turn manoeuvre from the northbound to the southbound lane of Caversham Road and was in collision with a car that was travelling from south to north on Caversham Road. The junction of Caversham Road and Abattoirs Road has a good safety record.</p> <p>Abattoirs Road is a dead end and has bollards across the width of the road a few metres from the junction of Caversham Road. There are two residential dwellings fronting onto Caversham Road on the south side of the junction. A small car park is present behind these dwellings which is not currently accessible as they are behind the bollards. I understand that a housing project for homeless people is proposed in the area of the car park behind the bollards which will hold a small number of dedicated parking spaces. Access to this area will also be required for services and</p>

bin lorries etc.

The current geometry of the junction with Caversham Road will not easily allow two-way traffic due to a build out of the kerb on the northern extent of the junction. Vehicles turning left onto Caversham Road are forced to the centre of the road at the junction due to the kerb buildout. This will restrict vehicles entering Abattoirs Road who may drive over the footway to gain access or have to stop and cause congestion on the Caversham Road.

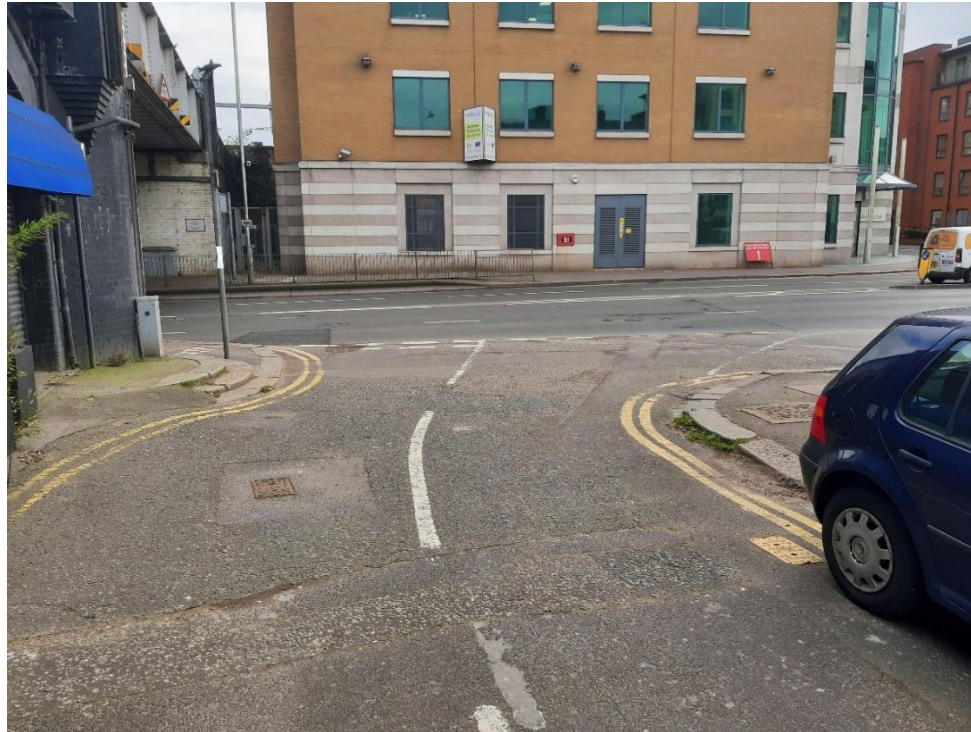


Figure 1 - Abattoirs Road - view east towards Caversham Road.

Vehicles wishing to enter the car park from the southbound lane of Caversham Road will be required to continue passed the junction, through the traffic lights at Great Knollys Street before negotiating Weldale Street roundabout, re-joining the northbound lane of Caversham Road, crossing Great Knollys Street junction again and entering Abattoirs Road. Caversham Road is the main route north/south through Reading and is heavily congested at the best of times. It

may therefore be an attractive option for motorists wishing to enter the car park from the southbound lane to ignore these restrictions.

Cattle Market car park already has access and egress from Great Knollys Street. I would invite the Highway Authority to consider ways to utilise this access for both entry and egress from the car park. If not, to provide engineering measures to prevent illegal turns in both directions. It is my view that drivers will disregard the no right turn movements and this is a safety issue that has potential to increase personal injury collisions at this junction.

Thames Valley Police will object to this proposal. Should the Highway Authority go ahead regardless of our advice enforcement of these restrictions will be a low priority for police activity.

**Officer Response:**

Should the proposals be implemented, Officers do not anticipate an increase in traffic volume at this location. There is currently no entry or exit to the car park from Abattoirs Road so there are very few motorists who currently use the route. This proposal is not expected to have a negative road safety impact and seeks to prohibit movements that could otherwise have a negative impact to road safety. If there is a significant compliance issue, Officers will consider what further physical measures could be provided. However, the highway space available, particularly with the narrowing of Caversham Road as it passes underneath the rail bridge, will likely restrict most options.

It is recommended that the restriction be implemented as advertised.

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