

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>
1) Objection, Thames Valley Police	<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.

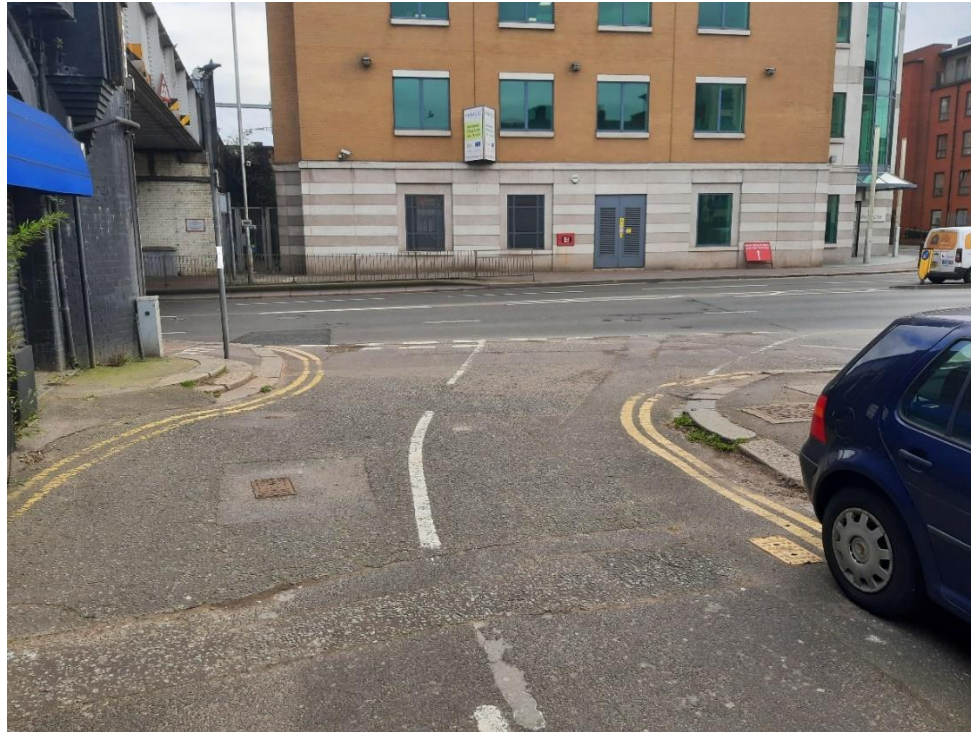


Figure 1 - Abattoirs Road - view east towards Caversham Road.

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.