

**OBJECTIONS TO PROPOSED INTRODUCTION OF WAITING RESTRICTIONS  
ON GORSE ROAD AND ASHMORE STREET****1.0 PURPOSE OF REPORT**

1.1 The purpose of the report is to inform the Planning & Highways Committee of objections received to the proposed introduction of waiting restrictions on Gorse Road and Ashmore Street, Ashbrooke, Sunderland

**2.0 BACKGROUND**

2.1 Concerns have been raised by Northumbria Police, Local Ward Members and local residents about access problems caused by high levels of on-street parking on Gorse Road and Ashmore Street. The parking is generally attributed to commuters working in the City Centre.

2.2 In particular the concern is that on-street parking could impede access by emergency vehicles.

2.3 In November 2008, officers of the Traffic and Road Safety Section met with Members, representatives of the Police and Fire Service, and the Residents Association to agree the extent of 'no waiting at any time' restrictions that should be introduced on Gorse Road and Ashmore Street to facilitate access by emergency vehicles. The extents of the waiting restrictions agreed at the meeting are shown on the attached drawing, no. 09/TM/1484/01.

2.4 In March 2009 Delegated approval was given for the proposed waiting restrictions, and the City Solicitor was requested to make the requisite Traffic Regulation Order (TRO).

**3.0 THE OBJECTIONS**

3.1 Two objections to the proposed waiting restrictions have been received, from local residents, in response to the statutory consultation process for the TRO. The objections are considered in Appendix 1.

3.2 The objections are not considered to be of sufficient weight to prevent the making of the TRO required for the proposed waiting restrictions.

**4.0 HUMAN RIGHTS IMPLICATIONS**

4.1 It is considered that the proposals do not contravene the provisions of the Human Rights' Act 1998.

**5.0 RECOMMENDATIONS**

5.1 It is therefore RECOMMENDED that: -

- (i) the formal objections received during the statutory consultation process, from local residents opposed to the introduction of the waiting restrictions, be not upheld.

## Appendix 1 – Consideration of objections received to statutory consultation

Issue	Consideration of Issue
<p><i>“At the site meeting which took place on Wednesday 12 November 2008 the Fire Brigade representative was of the opinion that double yellow lines were also required on the south side of Gorse Road opposite the end of the Carlyon Street East Back Lane. This would also ensure that fire engines would also have access and egress as required. This is not evident in the order or on the map.”</i></p> <p><i>All emergency service representatives, but especially the Police, were insistent that all corners within the area should have double yellow lines. The corner adjacent to 15 Ashmore Street is not marked on the proposed map. This is essential for access to Carlyon Street for large vehicles, such as fire engines, as Ashmore Street is narrow. The corner adjacent to 8 Ashmore Street will also require double yellow lines for the same reason i.e. access to the north end of Lorne Terrace for large emergency vehicles”</i></p> <p><i>“I, myself, was present at the site meeting and can vouch for the accuracy of these statements, as can the Police and Fire Services representatives themselves”.</i></p>	<p>The extent of the waiting restrictions shown on drawing no 09/TM/1484/01 reflects what was agreed on site between all parties on 12 November 2008. The drawing has been subject to a preliminary, and to a statutory consultation, and neither the Police nor the Fire Service have offered any objection to the proposed waiting restrictions at either stage. The proposed waiting restrictions were considered by the emergency services to be sufficient to allow access by large vehicles to all of the streets, front and back, in the area of Gorse Road and Ashmore Street.</p>
<p><i>The waiting restrictions will do nothing to alleviate the parking and access problems experienced by residents in the area. They will increase pressure on the streets which have no restrictions and will encourage parking in back lanes, causing even more</i></p>	<p>The proposed waiting restrictions are intended as a short-term solution to access problems caused by high levels of on-street parking. They are designed to facilitate access, particularly for emergency vehicles, by keeping clear of parked cars those sections of road required for turning by large vehicles such as fire appliances.</p>

*problems for residents by obstructing yard and garage access.*

*In order to relieve the pressure on access for residents and improve the quality of life in the area a much more comprehensive management strategy is needed. Without such an approach, the mere painting of yellow lines will only exacerbate the existing problems.*

This area of Ashbrooke is one of the five areas originally considered for residents parking controls. Two of the five areas –the Royal Hospital and the Stadium- are currently being considered for the introduction of pilot Parking Management Schemes (PMSs) to alleviate problems caused by high levels of on-street parking. The pilot proposals will be used to formulate a policy, which will be considered in respect of all future requests for the introduction of residents parking in other areas such as Ashbrooke.

**TRAFFIC SCHEMES**

**Column A**  
Ref No. \_\_\_\_\_

**Column E**  
Scheme Name Proposed waiting restrictions on  
Gorse Road and Ashmore Street, Ashbrooke

**Column J**  
Is the scheme any of the following? (Yes/No)

Indicate 'x' for type of works included in scheme and '0' in others

<b>Code</b>	<b>Column L</b> <b>Type of Works</b>	
(a)	permanent stopping up or diversion	0
(b)	waiting or loading restrictions	X
(c)	one way driving	0
(d)	prohibition of driving	0
(e)	pedestrianisation	0
(f)	vehicle width or height restriction	0
(g)	traffic calming works e.g. road humps	0
(h)	residents parking controls	0
(i)	minor road widening or improvement	0
(j)	pedestrian crossings	0
(k)	cycle tracks	0
(l)	bridge construction	0

**Engineer**

