

Divisions affected: *St Clements and Cowley Marsh*

## **CABINET MEMBER FOR HIGHWAYS MANAGEMENT – 21 JULY 2022**

### **OXFORD: RELIANCE WAY – PROPOSED WAITING RESTRICTIONS**

Report by Corporate Director, Environment and Place

#### **RECOMMENDATION**

1. The Cabinet Member for the Highway Management is **RECOMMENDED** to approve the proposed waiting restrictions at Reliance Way.

#### **Executive summary**

2. Following the introduction of the Cowley Marsh area Controlled Parking Zone (CPZ) in 2020, the proposal for additional 'No Waiting at Any Time' (double yellow lines) parking restrictions as shown in **Annex 1**, were identified as being desirable at Reliance Way to address issues of obstructive parking.

#### **Financial Implications**

3. Funding for consultation on the proposals and their implementation if approved has been provided from the County Councils Capital Programme and from Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) developer contributions as part of the wider Oxford City Controlled Parking Zone (CPZ) programme.

#### **Equality and Inclusion Implications**

4. No implications in respect of equalities or inclusion have been identified in respect of the proposals.

#### **Sustainability Implications**

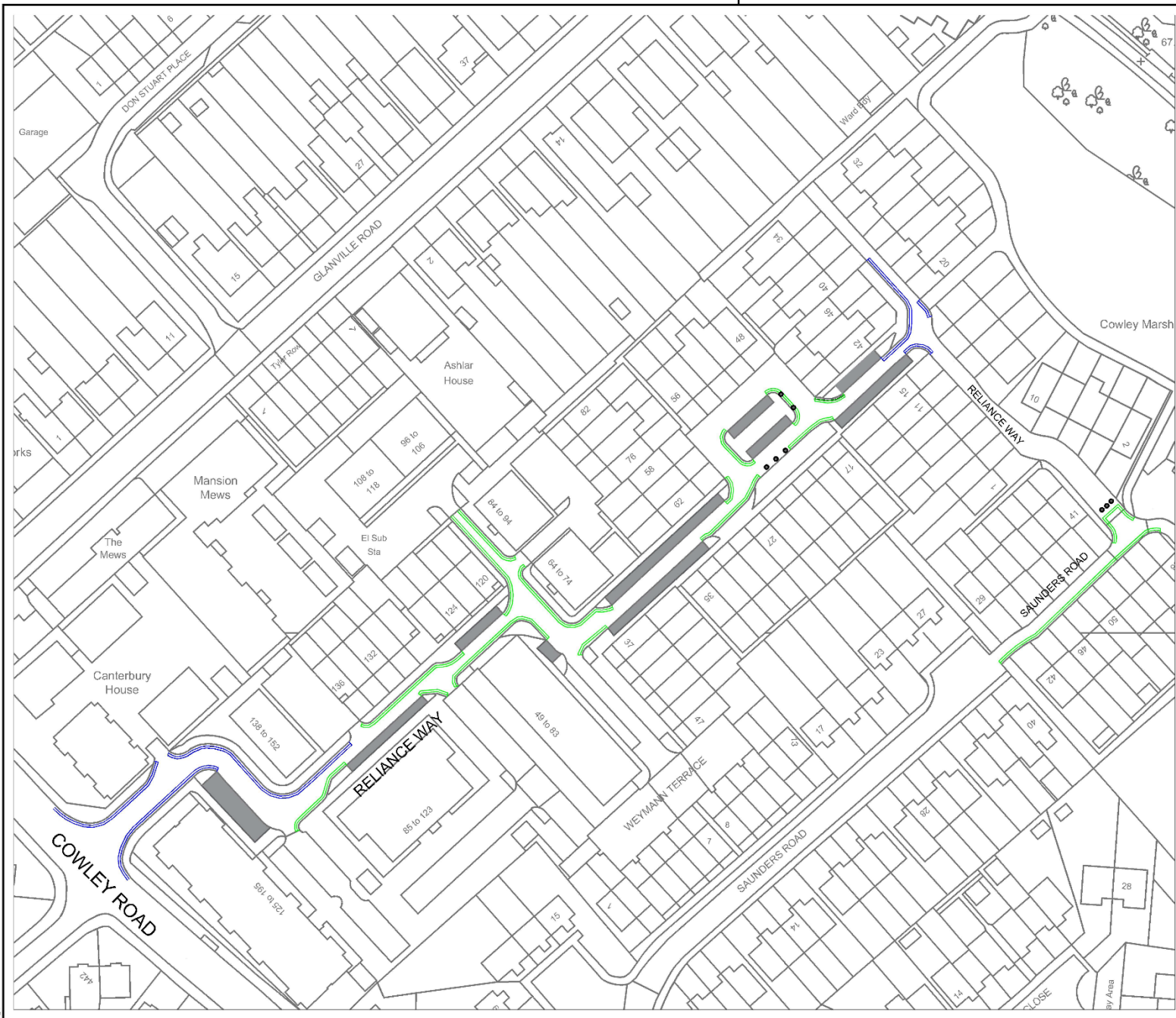
5. The proposals would help facilitate the safe movement of traffic.

#### **Consultation**

6. The Formal consultation was carried out between 26 May and 24 June 2022. A notice was published in the Oxford Times newspaper, and an email sent to statutory consultees, including Thames Valley Police, the Fire & Rescue Service, Ambulance service, local bus operators, countywide transport,



Oxfordshire Transport & Highways 4. Improvement Schemes Traffic and Road Safety/Projects/A - Oxford CPZ - 1 Cowley Marsh CPZ/RELIANCE WAY/Reliance Way parking proposal plan.dwg



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<div style="display: flex; align-items: center;"> <div style="width: 20px; height: 2px; background-color: blue; margin-right: 5px;"></div> <span>EXISTING NO WAITING AT ANYTIME (DOUBLE YELLOW LINES)</span> </div>																	
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<b>SAFETY, HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENTAL INFORMATION</b>																	
<small>IN ADDITION TO THE HAZARDS/RISKS NORMALLY ASSOCIATED WITH THE TYPES OF WORK DESCRIBED ON THIS DRAWING, NOTE THE FOLLOWING HAZARDS/RISKS</small>																	
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<b>OXFORDSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL</b> <small>Owen Jenkins Director for Infrastructure Delivery Communities Oxfordshire County Council County Hall New Road Oxford OX1 1ND Tel: 0845 310 1111</small>																	
<b>Project title</b> <div style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold; font-size: 1.2em;">COWLEY MARSH CPZ</div>																	
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RESPONDENT	COMMENTS
(1) Traffic Management Officer, (Thames Valley Police)	<b>No objection</b>
(2) Principal Officer Network Coordination, (Oxfordshire County Council)	<b>Support</b> – The restrictions near the entrance ‘bottleneck’ on Reliance Way are of particular importance for emergency vehicle access to the housing at the rear.
(3) Member of the public, (Oxford, Reliance way)	<b>Object</b> - Limited parking available. Cars parked in the proposed areas are not in the way, the proposal will only clog up side streets
(4) Member of the public, (Oxford, Reliance Way)	<b>Object</b> - There will be less space to park for residents in Cowley, and no access to the shops. Shops as well, they will receive less customers because of this, because the people will be more interested on buying online, supporting the biggest companies in the world, instead of supporting the local community.
(5) Member of the public, (Oxford, Reliance Way)	<p><b>Object</b> - As a resident of Reliance Way, I strongly object to the proposed parking restrictions. These are, in my opinion, very poorly motivated in the "statement of reasons". It is mentioned that the council "seeks to help reduce the occurrences of obstruction and improve highway safety", however no evidence or reasoning at all is presented as to why these measures are required to do this.</p> <p>My reasons for the objection are:</p> <p>O1) There is no need for these parking restrictions. It is illustrated that they "seek to help reduce occurrences of obstruction and improve highway safety". However, there is ample of space in these roads to support parking on the side of these roads. Certainly, the amount of space available for traffic is significantly larger than in most roads in Cowley where cars park on the side of the roads.</p> <p>O2) There are insufficient parking spots for visitors in Reliance Way. Although it is true that residents have allocated</p>

	<p>parking bays, the amount of visitor parking places for Reliance Way and Saunders road is extremely limited.</p> <p>O3) Cars are frequently parked next to the roads with no issues of access to the roads (given that they are parked such that they block a driveway) - supporting point O1. The reason cars are frequently parked there is the insufficient amount of parking spots for visitors - supporting point O2.</p> <p>Given these three points above, the introduction of these restrictions can have the following effects.</p> <p>S1) The value of the properties on Reliance Way can lower significantly as essentially virtually all the visitor parking spots available (e.g. visitors can park next to the road with visitor passes) are being removed. Having recently bought a flat on Reliance Way, having the possibility for visitors to park was certainly a big factor for me to purchase that flat. Thus introducing these regulations will deter buyers and as such it can lower the values of the properties.</p> <p>S2) Every property has 1 allocated parking space. There may be inhabitants who need more parking spaces than that. Currently, inhabitants can obtain a parking permit from the council and with that parking permit park next to the road in Reliance Way. Prohibiting this may mean that inhabitants can no longer park their own vehicles, which may make it necessary for them to move.</p> <p>S3) A knock-on effect from point 2 is that those residents who can no longer park, may try to park elsewhere in Cowley. However, as mentioned under O1, most streets in Cowley are significantly narrower and have parking next to the roads. Therefore, introducing these measures may make the "occurrences of obstruction" and "highway safety" significantly worse in other parts of Cowley.</p>
<p>(6) Member of the public, (Oxford, Reliance Way)</p>	<p><b>Object</b> - Thanks for the opportunity to comment. The parking is so restricted and there are so few visitor bays on Reliance Way that double yellow lines will cause real problems for delivery vehicles and visitors. Perhaps double yellows at the very start of the road, before the bend, and then leave the rest of the street clear. Since restricted parking has been introduced more widely in the surrounding streets it has been harder and harder for friends to park.</p> <p>I am someone who was in favour of the first LTNs last year and I use my bike rather than my car wherever possible but friends from far away need a parking space. They bring tourism to the city and are more likely to eat out or go to museums etc than I am on my own. I am sure the same is true of many others in the street.</p> <p>Please ditch this idea.</p>

<p>(7) Member of the public, (Oxford, Saunders Road)</p>	<p><b>Object</b> – WE Won't Have Any where To Park If they are Installed. We Paid £62 to Park out side off the House? And Now Your Doing this to eveone, I think it stupid.</p> <p>No one going to Live in Oxford because of this. Oxfordshire country council need they Head tested. Does this mean we can still park out side of the house.</p>
<p>(8) Member of the public, (Oxford, Reliance Way)</p>	<p><b>Concerns</b> - I fear that if the parking is further restricted then people will park on my drive or block my car also as some householders have more than two cars each there will never be visitor space when my kids /family visit as some householders take visitors spaces as if they own them</p>
<p>(9) Member of the public, (Oxford, Reliance Way)</p>	<p><b>Concerns</b> - Would it be possible to include double yellow lines in the areas indicated by the two red circles in the photograph [outside property Nos.49-83]. People routinely park their cars in these areas causing an obstruction and hazard to traffic including refuse collection.</p> <p><b>CM: believe this is non-publicly maintained highway.</b></p>
<p>(10) Member of the public, (Oxford , Reliance Way )</p>	<p><b>Support</b> - People are parking on corners , on stone pavement and in Reliance Way Square. Difficult for delivery, emergency vehicle, and cars to turn round in no through traffic</p>
<p>(11) Member of the public, (Oxford, Saunders Road)</p>	<p><b>Support</b> - As stated in the previous answer, I am a resident of Saunders Road. I live in the last house on the north side of the road, right next to the area where the proposed changes would occur. As you're probably aware, the area on the Saunders Road side of the bollards is always full of cars, both parked up and idling. I understand that this area was never meant for parking as the bollards are removable, meaning that emergency vehicles and waste collection vehicles could come through. I will support any proposed parking restrictions in that area and any proposed ban on idling. The main reason for this is that my mum, a mobility scooter user, is often prevented from immediately turning left once leaving the house due to the parked cars. Also, she often has to go out into the road to go around the cars if she wishes to access the Marsh Park through the alleyway located close by. In addition to the above reason, the cars waiting there on weekday afternoons to pick up school children often do so with the engine running, which isn't ideal for obvious reasons. As for the other proposed changes, I support them too.</p>

(12) Member of the public, (Oxford, Reliance Way)	<b>Support</b> - More accessible for walking/wheeling, less traffic in Reliance Way
(13) Member of the public, (Oxford, Reliance Way)	<b>Support</b> - The corners in front of and to the side of #64-74 are regularly obstructed, making these into blind turns with no passing space. Adding these restrictions will clear these areas, making this area safer. Adding these restrictions will also prevent people dumping their cars here when the new restrictions come in on Cowley Road.
(14) Member of the public, (Oxford, Reliance Way)	<b>Support</b> - My wife and I have lived here for 10 years and have seen a marked deterioration in the parking arrangements adjacent to our property. There are times when utility and emergency vehicles would not have free access because of indiscriminate parking. This estate was planned and constructed to allow designated (numbered) parking spaces for all the properties, along with passing bays and areas. These bays and areas have largely disappeared when cars have been parked upon them. The Council's proposals will restore parking to these original plans, and my wife and I thoroughly support them.
(15) Member of the public, (Oxford, Reliance Way)	<b>Support</b> - As resident on Reliance Way I have noticed a growing number of cars that are parked outside allocated parking bays, for example next to bollards or in bays that are meant to enable two-way traffic. Cars parked this way make it often difficult to navigate through the road, potentially even obstructing important vehicles such as ambulances or recycling vans.
(16) Member of the public, (Oxford, Reliance Way)	<p><b>Support</b> - I fully support this as it returns Reliance Way to the parking controls that the Highways Authority recommended at the planning and construction stage of Reliance Way 20 years ago. The relevant planning permission is 02/01523/RES and the relevant condition is the fourth: "...vehicles shall only be parked on the areas allocated for parking on the approved plan... Reason: To maintain landscaping and the character and appearance of the area and control any increase in parking that could undermine the concept of sustainable development"</p> <p>Parking is currently out of control on Reliance Way and this presents danger to vulnerable users of the road, including large numbers of children walking or cycling to or from Oxford Spire Academy. The uncontrolled parking also risks obstructing the safe passage of service vehicles including those used for delivery, refuse and recycling collection, and emergency services.</p>

	<p>The DYL addition to Saunders Road will be extremely helpful in preserving the pedestrian walkway along the frontages to 42-58 evens on Saunders Road. It is a vital safety improvement that has been needed for some time. I support the DYLS protecting the removable bollards between Saunders Road and Reliance Way as these are an emergency access route that is currently almost always blocked by parked vehicles on the Saunders Road side.</p> <p>A minor correction to the consultation plan: It omits to show the existing DYLS opposite 2-8 evens on Reliance Way, just along the pedestrian walkway on the boundary of 41 Saunders Road.</p>
(17) Member of the public, (Oxford, Reliance Way)	<p><b>Support</b> - Parking on the bend in front to Reliance Way causes cars leaving the street on to the wrong side of the road on the bend which is an accident waiting to happen with the speed some drivers are at.</p>
(18) Member of the public, (Oxford, Reliance Way)	<p><b>Support</b> – I am very pleased to support this proposal, which would return Reliance Way to the parking controls that the Highways Authority recommended at the planning and construction stage of Reliance Way 20 years ago.</p> <p>The relevant planning permission is 02/01523/RES and the relevant condition is the fourth: "...vehicles shall only be parked on the areas allocated for parking on the approved plan... Reason: To maintain landscaping and the character and appearance of the area and control any increase in parking that could undermine the concept of sustainable development"</p> <p>Parking is currently out of control on Reliance Way and this presents danger to vulnerable users of the road, including large numbers of children walking or cycling to or from Oxford Spires Academy. The uncontrolled parking also risks obstructing the safe passage of service vehicles including those used for delivery, refuse and recycling collection, and emergency services.</p> <p>The DYL addition to Saunders Road will be extremely helpful in preserving the pedestrian walkway along the frontages to 42-58 evens on Saunders Road. It is a vital safety improvement that has been needed for some time. I support the DYLS protecting the removable bollards between Saunders Road and Reliance Way as these are an emergency access route that is currently almost always blocked by parked vehicles on the Saunders Road side.</p> <p>A minor correction to the consultation plan: It omits to show the existing DYLS opposite 2-8 evens on Reliance Way, just along the pedestrian walkway on the boundary of 41 Saunders Road.</p> <p>I would also add that the updated controls need to be enforced systematically by Oxfordshire County Council and its agents. On some occasions they have refused to ticket cars parked unlawfully because they haven't understood how</p>



	the double yellow line law works - for example, on the protected corner outside 15 Reliance Way. All staff must be fully trained to make sure these vital safety protections are enforced.
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