The Essex County Council (Braintree District) (Prohibition of Waiting, Loading and Stopping) and (On-Street Parking Places) (Civil Enforcement Area) (Amendment No.57) Order 202*

Statement Of Reasons

The proposal to introduce 'No Waiting at Any Time' restrictions in the vicinity of the junctions of Church Street and Maldon Road, Kelvedon, forms part of a developer funded scheme associated with planning application reference 24/02384/REM. The location includes upgraded pedestrian crossing points and experiences regular vehicle turning movements, resulting in potential conflict between vehicles and non-motorised users.

A Road Safety Audit undertaken as part of the scheme identified concerns regarding safety and visibility at the junctions, particularly for pedestrians using the improved crossing facilities. Parked vehicles in close proximity to the junctions were noted to restrict forward visibility for both drivers and pedestrians, increasing the risk of conflict during vehicle entry and exit movements. Alternative options, such as retaining existing parking arrangements or using advisory measures like warning signs were considered. However, these were discounted as they would not provide a consistent or enforceable means of preventing parking in locations that obstruct junction sight lines. As a result, the introduction of waiting restrictions was recommended as the most effective solution to address the identified safety concerns.

The proposed 'No Waiting at Any Time' restrictions will prevent parking in critical areas near the junctions, ensuring clear visibility is maintained at all times. This will improve safety for non-motorised users, reduce the likelihood of obstruction at junctions, and support the safe operation of the upgraded crossing points. The proposal will also assist in reducing vehicle manoeuvres related to parking close to the junctions, helping to improve traffic flow and reduce congestion at peak times. While the removal of limited on street parking is acknowledged, the benefits in terms of improved junction visibility, pedestrian safety and overall highway efficiency are considered to outweigh any inconvenience. The proposal represents a proportionate and effective measure to address the issues identified through the Road Safety Audit.

The North Essex Parking Partnership has been consulted on the proposed arrangements. The scheme is fully developer funded and aligns with the Highway Authority's duty to improve road safety and provide safer environments for vulnerable road users.