

The Essex County Council Tendring District) (Prohibition of Waiting, Loading and Stopping) and (On-Street Parking Places) (Civil Enforcement Area) (Amendment No.61) Order 202*

The proposal to introduce a limited waiting restriction (15 minutes, no return within 30 minutes, 8am–8pm) within a new purpose-built drop-off layby on Freeland Road forms part of a developer-funded scheme required under Condition 4 of planning application 24/00188/FUL. The requirement for the layby arises from the need to provide a safe and suitable drop-off facility in proximity to Clacton and District Hospital. Freeland Road experiences regular traffic activity associated with hospital access, and the absence of a dedicated drop-off facility can lead to informal stopping on the carriageway, resulting in obstruction, congestion and potential safety concerns for all road users. Alternative approaches, including relying on the existing restrictions, were considered. However, these options would not ensure efficient vehicle movements or prevent prolonged parking, which would reduce the effectiveness of the layby as a short-stay drop-off facility and could exacerbate congestion and access issues.

The introduction of a time-limited waiting restriction will ensure that the layby operates as intended, maintaining availability for short-duration pick-up and drop-off activity throughout the day. This will help reduce instances of inappropriate stopping on the main carriageway, improve traffic flow along Freeland Road and support safer access arrangements to the hospital. The proposal will provide clear benefits in terms of improved accessibility to Clacton and District Hospital, reduced congestion from ad-hoc stopping, and a more managed and efficient use of available parking. While some restriction on longer-stay parking is introduced, this is necessary to prioritise turnover and ensure the facility remains available for its intended purpose. The North Essex Parking Partnership has been consulted on the proposed arrangements.

The scheme is fully developer funded and supports the delivery of appropriate infrastructure to mitigate the impacts of the associated development while maintaining safe and efficient operation of the local highway network.