

The Essex County Council (Epping Forest District) (Prohibition of Waiting, Loading and Stopping) and (On-Street Parking Places) Civil Enforcement Area) (Amendment No.59) Order 202*

Statement of Reasons

Connaught Avenue and Connaught Hill, located in Buckhurst Hill and Loughton South electoral division, form a short section of the local residential network situated just north of Loughton A121 High Road. The roads primarily serve residential properties and act as access routes connecting the surrounding neighbourhood to the High Road and nearby community facilities. Although no bus services operate directly along either road, they sit within close walking distance of public transport on the High Road, as well as key amenities such as shops, cafes and services, access points into Epping Forest and Staples Road primary school. The area experiences typical local traffic activity associated with school movements and commuter travel.

This proposal has been requested by the Epping Local Highways Panel following ongoing concerns regarding safety issues at the junction of Connaught Avenue and Connaught Hill. Regular reports have been received in respect of drivers failing to give way and restricted visibility at the bend, leading to several near miss/non-injury incidents over recent years. A recent reported incident resulted in a six foot brick wall being demolished as a result of vehicle impact.

Currently parking is permitted on one side of Connaught Avenue, which forces vehicles travelling uphill to move onto the opposing carriageway and into the path of oncoming traffic. This proposal involves removing the existing No Waiting 9.30am-6.30pm (single yellow line) restrictions at the junction of Connaught Avenue and Connaught Hill and replacing them with No Waiting at Any Time (double yellow line) restrictions. Furthermore, there will be additional signage installed, along with refreshed and newly applied road markings. This change is intended to provide enhanced junction protection by deterring vehicles from parking too close to the junction, improving visibility for all road users and reducing the likelihood of obstructive or hazardous parking that currently contributes to safety concerns in the area.

The scheme is being funded through the Epping Local Highway Panel and is supported by its members. Further information about the Highways Panel and the way they operate can be found here: <https://www.essexhighways.org/Transport-and-Roads/Highway-Schemes-and-Developments/Local-Highway-Panels.aspx>