

STATEMENT OF REASONS

THE BOROUGH OF WATFORD (HIGH STREET, WATFORD) (WAITING RESTRICTIONS) MODIFICATION TO EXPERIMENTAL ORDER 2022.

Following the introduction of the experimental order, made in July 2022, which introduced a shared use loading/taxi bay with the layby adjacent to 114 High Street, feedback from road users has been received to the Council that this area is too small to accommodate the volume of loading and taxi provision that takes place. Therefore, the order has been modified to also include the layby adjacent to 102 to 112 High Street.

This will ensure vehicles can be accommodated within the laybys and not disrupt or delay traffic flow on the main carriageway. To deter such parking, outside of the laybys the south west side of High Street will be marked with No Waiting and No Loading at Any Time restrictions, with the exception of the dedicated laybys and bus stops.

These changes are in alignment with the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 and are necessary for the following reasons:

- For preserving or improving the amenities of the area through which the road runs through improving the urban realm and management of traffic flow within the area.
- For facilitating passage on the road by vehicles, pedestrians and cyclists.
- To provide an increased presence of taxi use in the Town Centre, especially during the evening and early hours in the interests of public safety
- To eliminate indiscriminate parking outside of the existing bay markings which causes obstruction to other vehicles passing.

The order is experimental in nature to coincide with the access restrictions which facilitate vehicular access to the area at High Street (north of its junction with King Street) which is also experimental.

Objections to the order may be made within six months 4th November 2022 and a decision on whether to proceed to a more permanent restriction will be made within the following 18 months.

The Council reserves the right to produce an amended or further statement in the context of any public enquiry or judicial proceedings to these proposals

**Justin Bloomfield
Head of Parking
Town Hall,
Watford,
Herts WD17 3EX**

28th October 2022

