

CUMBERLAND COUNCIL

(VARIOUS ROADS, CARLISLE URBAN AND RURAL AREA) (CONSOLIDATION AND
PROVISION OF TRAFFIC REGULATIONS) ORDER 20><

STATEMENT OF REASONS

Cumberland Council considers it expedient to propose to make the above Order for one of more of the following reasons specified in Section 1(1) of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984: -

(a) for avoiding danger to persons or other traffic using the roads or any other roads or for preventing the likelihood of any such danger arising, or

(c) for facilitating the passage on the roads or any other roads of any class of traffic (including pedestrians), or

(f) for preserving or improving the amenities of the area through which the roads runs; or

A summary of the proposals and the reasoning behind them, is as follows: -

Carlisle Station Gateway (Borderlands Funding)

Carlisle Station Gateway project represents a pivotal regeneration proposal within the Borderlands Inclusive Growth Deal, aiming to strengthen Carlisle's strategic position within the national rail network and adopt urban revitalisation. The project comprises improvements to the Northern and Southern Gateways, internal station modifications, and supporting infrastructure improvements, which are crucial for improving accessibility and city centre connectivity supporting both local and regional development.

Carlisle serves as a central hub for connectivity within the Borderlands region, linking Cumbria with the rest of the UK known as the gateway. The station's redevelopment is expected to significantly boost Carlisle's footfall and profile on the national rail map, facilitating improved access and connectivity, not only to Carlisle but also to the wider Borderlands region. The improvement is strategic as it supports regional economic growth, encourages rail travel, and contributes to broader environmental and decarbonisation goals by reducing reliance on vehicular traffic.

Main Components: The Carlisle Station Gateway project encompasses several key components:

Northern Gateway Court Square: The redevelopment focuses on pedestrianising the area around the existing station entrance to reduce vehicular traffic and enhance the aesthetic appeal and functionality of the station's northern access.

Southern Gateway George Square: The creation of a new public car park and improved access points, including better drop-off facilities and taxi ranks, will shift the vehicular traffic from the north to the south of the station, easing congestion and improving the flow around the station area.

Station Building and Interior: Upgrades within the station itself aim to improve passenger experience through enhanced facilities, better accessibility, and a more welcoming environment for travellers.

Enabling Streets and Junctions: The transformation of the Citadel Junction into Cumberland's first CYCLOPS junction will significantly enhance cyclist and pedestrian safety, providing an intuitive and segregated crossover that maximises efficiency for all users. Concurrently, improvements at the Water Street Junction, which has transitioned from a mini-roundabout to a traffic signal-controlled crossing, have increased operational capacity and improved accessibility for pedestrians and cyclists, aligning with the George Square development.

Approved by Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG) previously known as Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities (DLUCH) in 2019 with a budget allocation of £20 million, the project has seen adjustments in its funding structure due to strategic realignments and additional contributions. In December 2020, the Cabinet agreed

to a Grant Funding Agreement with Northumberland County Council, entrusting the delivery of the Carlisle Station Gateway Project. A significant development has been the revised funding strategy, where Network Rail and strategic land sales contribute towards the increased project budget, now at £28 million.

The redevelopment is expected to catalyse economic growth by enhancing commercial opportunities at and around the station. This project aims to improve the functionality and capacity of the station and seeks to enrich the urban fabric of Carlisle by integrating the station more seamlessly with the city centre. By enhancing the station's infrastructure, the project supports the growth of tourism, local commerce, and provides a stimulus for further investments in the city and surrounding areas.

The Carlisle Station Gateway project aligns with multiple strategic objectives of regional and national significance. It supports sustainable transportation goals, fosters economic development, and enhances the quality of life for residents and visitors alike. This redevelopment is not just a transport infrastructure project; it is a transformative programme that will redefine Carlisle's role within the Borderlands and beyond, promoting a vibrant, accessible, and dynamic urban centre.

The proposals, in summary are to: -

- i) Introduce a “one-way” traffic restriction on Court Square and Collier Lane, Carlisle, from the junction with Court Square Brow, extending in a south-easterly direction for a distance of 81 metres (to the exit of Carlisle Railway Station car park);
- ii) Introduce a “Loading Only – All Day, Every Day” bay on the east side of Court Square Brow, Carlisle;
- iii) Amend the extents of the “No Waiting At Any Time” restrictions on Court Square Brow and The Crescent, Carlisle, to accommodate the changes in the road layout;
- iv) Remove the “Disc Parking, 8.30 am – 6 pm Monday to Saturday inclusive – Residents of Zone C Exempt” in the cul-de-sac on Court Square (outside The Griffin PH) - (NB: This is dependent upon the approval of the Secretary of State);
- v) Alter the extent of the “Prohibition of Driving, Friday, Saturday and day prior to Bank/Public Holidays, 9pm – midnight and midnight – 5 am” restriction, (to accommodate changes in the road layout and the re-positioning of the barriers).