

Equality Impact Assessment (EqIA)

Introduction

This EqIA is for:

A proposed Traffic Regulation Order (7182) on:
Breck Hill Road, Thackerays Lane Roundabout and Woodthorpe Drive, Woodthorpe (Prohibition of Waiting and Loading) and Woodthorpe Drive, Woodthorpe (Parking Places)

Details are set out:

Breck Hill Road, Thackerays Lane Roundabout and Woodthorpe Drive, Woodthorpe (Prohibition of Waiting and Loading) and Woodthorpe Drive, Woodthorpe (Parking Places) Traffic Regulation Order 2016 (7182)

Officers undertaking the assessment:

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Kendra Hourd – District Manager Highways (Gedling, Rushcliffe & Mansfield)

Assessment approved by:

Gary Wood, Group Manager Environment and Highways

Date: 3/10/16

The Public Sector Equality Duty which is set out in the Equality Act 2010 requires public authorities to have due regard to the need to: Eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation; Advance equality of opportunity between people who share a protected characteristic and those who do not; Foster good relations between people who share a protected characteristic and those who do not.

The purpose of carrying out an Equality Impact Assessment is to assess the impact of a change to services or policy on people with protected characteristics and to demonstrate that the Council has considered the aims of the Equality Duty.

Part A: Impact, consultation and proposed mitigation

1 What are the potential impacts of proposal? *Has any initial consultation informed the identification of impacts?*

Parking restrictions and parking bays are proposed on Breck Hill Road, Thackerays Lane roundabout and Woodthorpe Drive. The proposed restrictions are as follows

Breck Hill Road

- Introduce a no waiting restriction on Monday to Saturday between 8am and 6pm on the south-western side of the road, from the end of the existing double yellow lines (outside numbers 144/146) to a point 10 metres south-east of Greengates Avenue;
- Introduce double yellow lines (no waiting at any time) restrictions from a point 10 metres south-east of Greengates Avenue to a point 7.5 metres north-west of the same junction.

The proposed parking restrictions on Breck Hill Road are being introduced to allow buses and other large vehicles enough room to pass each other as they approach the brow of the hill. The restrictions will result in no parking during the day on both sides of the road. The double yellow lines to either side of Greengates Avenue will keep the junction clear at all times to allow vehicles turning in or out a clearer view of approaching traffic.

Thackerays Lane Roundabout

- Introduce double yellow lines (no waiting at any time) restrictions to the outside perimeter of the roundabout;
- Introduce double yellow lines to all the roads off the roundabout – Arno Vale Road, Breck Hill Road, Thackerays Lane, Wensley Road and Worcester Road;
- Arno Vale Road – make the existing bus stop clearways enforceable (by the addition of a regulatory sign) for all days and for all hours.

The double yellow lines on the Thackeray's Lane roundabout are to ensure that the pedestrian crossing points are kept clear of parked vehicles and that buses can turn onto and off the roundabout without having to negotiate parked vehicles.

Woodthorpe Drive (Northern Arm)

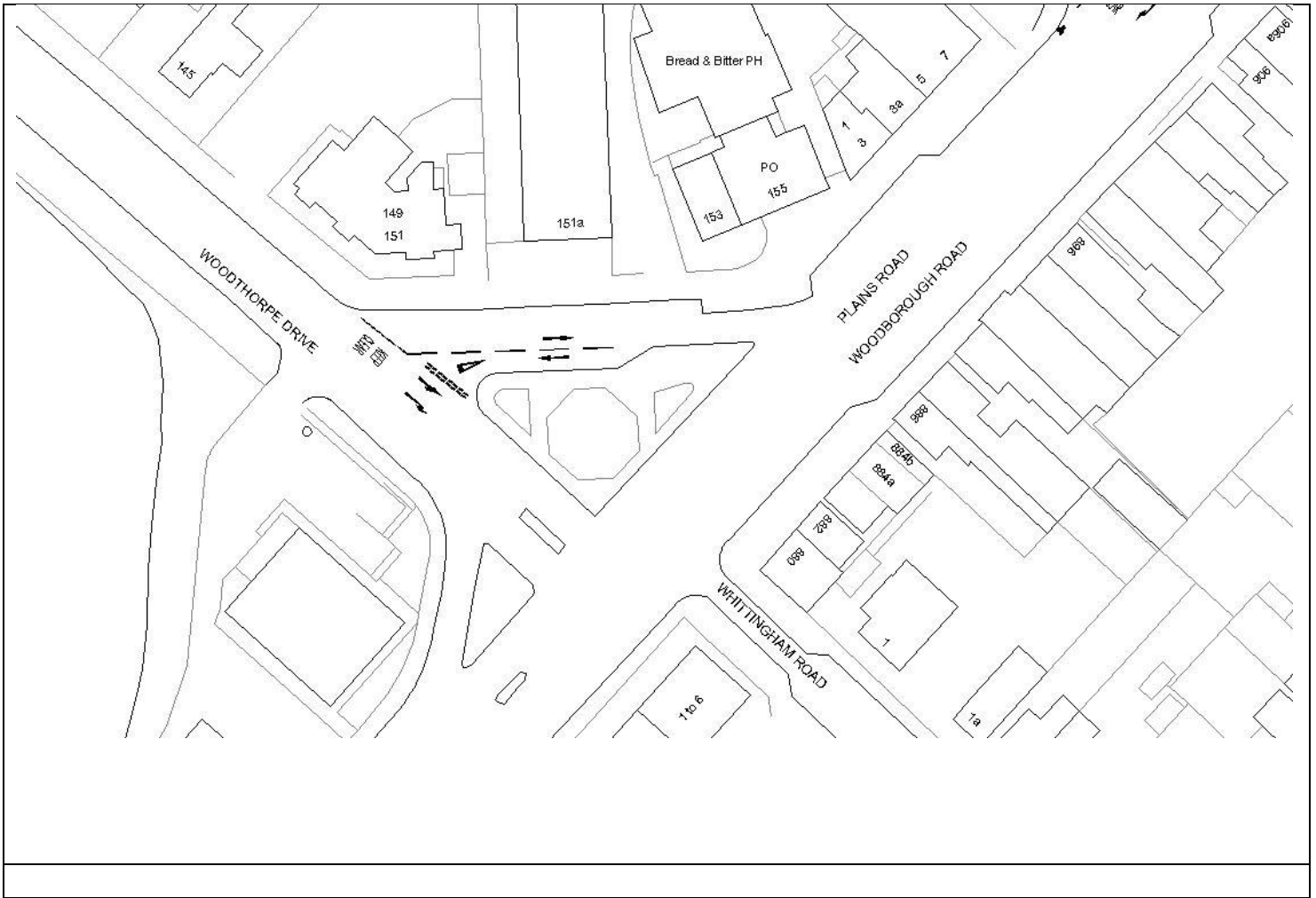
- Introduce a no loading / unloading at any time restriction to the south side of the road between Woodthorpe Drive and Plains Road;
- Introduce a no loading / unloading at any time restriction to the north side of the road between Woodthorpe Drive and the end of the existing parking bay;
- Change the existing parking bay is Monday to Saturday, 8am – 6pm, parking for 30 minutes and taxis only between 6pm and 8am by splitting the bay to create a space for a disabled person's vehicle (at all times) and the rest of the bay for loading only between 8am and 6pm and for taxis only between 6pm and 8am;
- Install direction sign outside number 141 Woodthorpe Drive.

On the northern arm of Woodthorpe Drive the no waiting and no loading restrictions are to keep the road clear of all vehicles to allow buses room to turn off Woodthorpe Drive and to allow vehicles to head in a westerly direction towards Woodthorpe Drive.

At the junction of Woodthorpe Drive and the B684 Plains Road in Mapperley, disabled drivers are parking on double yellow lines, which is obstructing the free-flow of vehicles around this junction and particularly the movement of buses.

NCT Services 46 & 47 buses travelling south on B684 Plains Rd make a clockwise turning movement as this junction, to enable them to make their return journey. This consists of turning right into Woodthorpe Drive, then right again onto the northern arm of Woodthorpe Drive and finally, left at the lights to return northwards on Plains Rd. Parking by Blue Badge holders on the right side adjacent the Memorial/triangular splitter island goes all the way from the start of this lane around the junction curve and obstructs the path of buses trying to turn right onto the northern arm of Woodthorpe Drive.

In addition, vehicles emerging from a private car park on this northern arm of Woodthorpe Drive have the opportunity to turn right to proceed in a westerly direction towards the main part of Woodthorpe Drive, however the presence of parked vehicles along this stretch effectively reduces the carriageway to one lane and impedes their ability to make this manoeuvre.



2 Protected Characteristics: Is there a potential positive or negative impact based on:

Age	<input type="checkbox"/> Positive	<input type="checkbox"/> Negative	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Neutral Impact
Disability	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Positive	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Negative	<input type="checkbox"/> Neutral Impact
Gender reassignment	<input type="checkbox"/> Positive	<input type="checkbox"/> Negative	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Neutral Impact
Pregnancy & maternity	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Positive	<input type="checkbox"/> Negative	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Neutral Impact
Race including origin, colour or nationality	<input type="checkbox"/> Positive	<input type="checkbox"/> Negative	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Neutral Impact
Religion	<input type="checkbox"/> Positive	<input type="checkbox"/> Negative	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Neutral Impact
Gender	<input type="checkbox"/> Positive	<input type="checkbox"/> Negative	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Neutral Impact
Sexual orientation including gay, lesbian or bisexual	<input type="checkbox"/> Positive	<input type="checkbox"/> Negative	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Neutral Impact

3 Where there are potential negative impacts for protected characteristics these should be detailed including consideration of the equality duty, proposals for how they could be mitigated (where possible) and meaningfully consulted on:

<p>How do the potential impacts affect people with protected characteristics <i>What is the scale of the impact?</i></p>	<p>How might negative impact be mitigated or explain why it is not possible</p>	<p>How will we consult</p>
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<p>The introduction of a loading ban will prevent disabled badge holders from parking on double yellow lines along the northern arm of Woodthorpe Drive; which they can currently do legally.</p> <p>A loading bay will be provided for daytime deliveries.</p>	<p>The introduction of a disabled parking bay, in force at all times, will provide a single designated parking space for blue badge holders.</p> <p>The retention of a taxi rank in the other part of the bay (evenings only) ensures the availability of accessible public transport and therefore provides further access opportunities for disabled users.</p> <p>The removal of localised network congestion as a result of blue badge parking will facilitate the punctual and reliable running of the accessible public transport network (local bus service).</p> <p>A public car park is available on the south-eastern side of Plains Road, with 3 designated blue-badge holder car parking spaces. A signalised pedestrian crossing is in place to assist movements from this side of the road to the northern arm of Woodthorpe Drive.</p> <p>Disabled spaces are available in the private car parks belonging to businesses on this stretch of Woodthorpe Drive.</p>	<p>All affected frontages, and statutory consultees were written to. The proposals were in the newspaper, local library, notices on site and also publicised on NCC's website.</p>
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Part B: Feedback and further mitigation

4 Summary of consultation feedback and further amendments to proposal / mitigation

Eleven responses to the proposals were received to the consultation as a whole; six of which were supportive and/or were purely comments on the proposals, whilst five are considered to be outstanding objections. Of these two objections relate to the loss of on-street parking on Breck Hill Road and does not affect people with protected characteristics. Three objections related directly to the proposals for Woodthorpe Drive, which affects people with protected characteristics.

Breck Hill Road proposals:

Two objectors request that on-street parking bays are created for parking as their households have no off-street parking.

There is insufficient highway width to accommodate the requested parking bays, the parked vehicles would still obstruct on-coming traffic causing it to cross the centre line and potentially bring it into conflict with traffic travelling in the opposite direction.

Woodthorpe Drive proposals:

Two objections were on the basis that the taxi rank should not be reduced in length and that the disabled bay should be relocated away from the northern arm of Woodthorpe Drive. The other objector stated that the taxi rank should not be reduced in length to accommodate a blue badge holder bay. The respondent also felt that the loading ban should not apply 'at all times' and that this adversely affects business viability. The objector does not think people should have to cross the road to access a taxi or car park.

It is not proposed to amend the proposals as a result of these objections. It is considered reasonable to provide disabled parking at this location, to mitigate against the parking opportunity lost to blue badge holders as a result of the loading ban. The bus service operates on all days so it is necessary to maintain the loading ban 'at all times' to maintain unobstructed traffic movements on the highway. The taxi rank facility is retained and continues to provide accessible transport options for both disabled and abled bodied users. A loading bay, tailored to the needs of businesses on this road, is provided to ensure business viability is not affected by the loading ban. It is not possible to provide unlimited parking to meet all demand directly outside the pubs and restaurants on Woodthorpe Drive. A public car park is available on the south-eastern side of Plains Road, with 3 designated blue-badge holder car parking spaces. A signalised pedestrian crossing is in place to assist the safe movement of pedestrians from this side of the road to the northern arm of Woodthorpe Drive.

Completed EqIAs should be sent to equalities@nottsc.gov.uk and will be published on the Council's website.