

THE BOROUGH COUNCIL OF CALDERDALE
(STAFFORD ROAD) (HALIFAX) EXPERIMENTAL TRAFFIC REGULATION ORDER 2023
STATEMENT OF REASONS

Background

The Borough Council of Calderdale proposes to make The Borough Council of Calderdale (Stafford Road) Experimental Traffic Regulation Order 2023 to promote a safer residential environment.

Stafford Road is essentially a residential road that has increasingly been observed used as a “rat run” to avoid busier roads. Most of the road is two-way, but the extreme eastern end is one way only (from Huddersfield Road). There is currently a No Right Turn in place on Huddersfield Road, preventing access from the southbound carriageway.

Several complaints have been received from residents that compliance by drivers of the right turn ban from Huddersfield Road into Stafford Road is poor, creating a risk to pedestrians and increasing through traffic. It has also been observed that occasionally, drivers are ignoring the one-way section of Stafford Road and using it as access onto Huddersfield Road.

The primary aim of the scheme is to make an improvement to road safety from the perspective of pedestrians, cyclists, and drivers. It is proposed to restrict all vehicular traffic access to Stafford Road from Huddersfield Road (cyclists and pedestrians will still have access) by providing a point closure at the junction. The road closure will be in place 24 hours per day and 7 days per week.

Proposed Scheme

The proposed scheme is to create a road closure under an Experimental Traffic Regulation Order (ETRO). Relevant signing and temporary barriers will be placed in the highways, specifically at the closure point, to ensure that the scheme is achieved as intended.

The Council considers an experimental order to be appropriate because the implications for the surrounding road network are uncertain. As such, the impact of the experiment will be regularly reviewed, monitored, and assessed whilst the order is in operation; the ETRO will allow the Council to react more quickly if circumstances require the measures to be modified or removed.

The ETRO will last for a maximum of 18 months. During the first six months of the experiment, there will be an opportunity for people to contribute their views and anyone who is opposed to the restrictions continuing on a permanent basis to submit an objection. Such representations will be considered carefully – they may lead to the revisions to the scheme to achieve improved results – and will help to determine whether a permanent order should be made, either modified or in like terms to the ETRO.

Following the closure of the consultation period and before the end of the ETRO period a decision will then be made on whether to introduce the scheme on the road permanently

Reasons

The Council considers it expedient to make the Order: -

- i. 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,
- ii. For facilitating the passage on the roads of any class of traffic (including pedestrians);
- iii. For preserving or improving the amenities of the area through which the road runs; and
- iv. For management of the quality of air pursuant to paragraphs (a) to (c) of sub section (1) of Section 87 of the Environmental Act 1995 (air quality).