



ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984

SOUTH GLOUCESTERSHIRE COUNCIL (HIGH STREET, THORNBURY) (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) ORDER 202(-)

STATEMENT OF REASONS

Background

As a result of the COVID-19 crisis, restrictions on motor vehicles in Thornbury High Street were trialled as part of the council's network management duty and guidance announced by the Secretary of State for Transport, Grant Shapps on 9th May 2020.

With the reopening of shops and public houses the proposed measures were introduced to help keep essential workers and goods moving, provide safe access to shops and other high street businesses, and provide people space for social distancing. The proposed layout changes aimed to reduce danger to the public in connection with Covid-19, by encouraging active travel and by helping people to stay 2 metres apart for social distancing purposes when outdoors.

On the 7 June 2021, cabinet agreed a future vision for the High Street, seeking investment to provide one way access through the high street that supports the economic activity and includes loading and unloading, disabled bays and drop off points

Purpose of Scheme

The High Street vision supports the town centre regeneration and anchors the High Street at the heart of a thriving community supporting the town's recovery from the pandemic. A space that meets the needs of all residents and visitors both in safety, access and experience. Providing a range of retail from High Street brands to independent shops, selling both essential and non-essential goods. A welcoming space for all ages to meet and spend time together in a range of hospitality and cultural experiences. That supports and embodies the future hybrid working expected from more home working and less commuting.

This vision will embrace and encourage active travel, through improved safe cycling and walking routes to the High Street and secure parking for cycles including those adapted. Enabling all to enjoy the reduction in traffic and noise when using the High Street.

Proposed Scheme

The proposals in the High Street include:-

- Prohibition of driving except for access between the junction with Castle Court and The Close.
- One Way except for cycles
- Disabled badge holder only bays
- Loading only bays
- Limited waiting bays
- Restricted parking zone except in marked bays
- Shared use (limited waiting or residents permit holders) bays