

Sent 5 May 2016

Dear Mr XX

Thank you for your comments dated 25 April regarding this advertised Traffic regulation order amendment.

I have asked officers to respond to your comments on the proposed restrictions to the disabled parking bays in Haddington Close. Our interpretation of your comments is that you believe that putting time limits on these parking bays could discourage disabled drivers who work in that area from going out to work and that you have questions about blue badge enforcement.

In general, our parking infrastructure team favour time-limited bays near shops and amenities as it provides a greater turnover and therefore allows more people to access the provision. If the bays are full all day with the same vehicle it greatly reduces the number of people who can visit George Street.

However, I recognise your real concern is for disabled people working in the area who need access to parking. For precisely this reason, Blue Badge holders are also entitled to use exclusive pay and display bays as well as shared bays (pay and display and permit holders) free of charge and for an unlimited period.

Sixteen such bays are being reinstated near the junction of Haddington Street and Malvern St opposite numbers 1-13. For those arriving before 8.30am each weekday, these will provide opportunities for all day parking for disabled people working in the area with a valid blue badge permit. It is true that during the school drop off period between 8.30am and 9.00 am, parking here may be more difficult, but on numerous site visits at this time, I have observed that most people arrive on foot and that this school related traffic very quickly subsides after 9am, (although there could be more demand after 9am for parking by shoppers).

Our parking enforcement team report that this area is on the regular list for Blue Badge fraud and misuse checks. On top of this, the street receives a fair amount of on foot Civil Enforcement Officer patrols. In the last month 96 visits have taken place and 16 Penalty Charge Notices have been issued to vehicles parked in contravention of the traffic regulations. If anyone is ever concerned that blue badge misuse is occurring, they can always contact our enforcement team (0845 603 5469) and it will be fully investigated.

Please let me know if this answer provides you with any reassurance and if so, whether would you consider withdrawing your objection to the Traffic Regulation Order amendment? You can do this simply by stating it in an email response.

Yours Sincerely

Matthew Thompson
Project Officer

24 May 2016

Dear Mr XX

Thank you for your response today. The bays are for residents & pay and display and as such can be used by any blue badge holder. We recognise some people will need wider areas around their doors than the doors provide however. Having taken quite a few parking places away, the council had a duty to reinstate as many bays as possible to facilitate shopper parking.

Your objection will be heard by the Environment, Transport and Sustainability committee in due course. I will let you know the date and give you instructions on what to do should you wish to make a further personal submission in writing or in person. The report on your objection will be published before the committee meets and you will be able to view it online.

Yours sincerely

Matthew Thompson
Project Officer
Road Safety Team