

STATEMENT OF REASONS

THE COUNCIL OF THE BOROUGH OF MILTON KEYNES (VARIOUS ROADS, MILTON KEYNES) (PEDESTRIAN ZONES) EXPERIMENTAL ORDER 2022

Milton Keynes Council intends to make the above-named traffic regulation Order on an experimental basis for a period of 18 months.

The general effect of the experimental Order will be to introduce two prohibition of motor vehicle restrictions along the following lengths of road: -

Monday to Friday, between 8:15am and 8:55am, between 2:45pm and 3:30pm:

- St Georges Road, Bletchley - Between its junctions with St Clements Drive and St Patricks Way

Monday to Friday, between 8:20am and 8:55am, between 2:45pm and 3:30pm:

- Highland Close, Bletchley - Its entire length from its junction with Kincardine Close

The Council is satisfied that the experimental restrictions are necessary to trial Pedestrian Zones (School Streets) outside two schools during drop off and pick up times.

The restrictions will apply to all motor vehicles. However, access and loading will be permitted for local residents, deliveries, essential services and emergency services during the restricted times.

The Council will monitor the trial during the experimental period to understand the benefits and challenges of Pedestrian Zones.

Aims of School Streets:

- To reduce the traffic and parking pressures outside schools during drop off and pick up times;
- To discourage car journeys to school and encourage walking and cycling;
- To create a safer environment for pedestrians and cyclists outside schools during drop off and pick up times;
- To improve air quality and create a more pleasant environment for everyone.

The experimental restrictions will be introduced under Sections 9 and 10(2) of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, allowing Highway Authority to implement measures to 'facilitate' the passage on the road and to 'avoid danger to persons or other traffic using the road or any other road or for preventing the likelihood of any such danger arising'.

The Council has a duty under section 122 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 when making TROs to consider the expeditious, convenient and safe movement of traffic.

The Council considers it expedient to introduce the prohibition of motor vehicles restrictions:

- to facilitate the expeditious, convenient and safe movement of traffic along St Georges Road, and Highland Close in Bletchley;
- for avoiding danger to persons using those parts of St Georges Road, and Highland Close in Bletchley or for preventing the likelihood of any such danger arising.

The Council will install traffic signs for the above experimental restrictions, in accordance with the Traffic Signs Regulations & General Directions 2016.

Graham Cox

Head of Highways

Milton Keynes Council