

ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984

EAST LOTHIAN COUNCIL

**(OFF-STREET COASTAL PARKING PLACES) (ONE WAY) CONSOLIDATION ORDER 2017
Variation Order 3**

TO 117/25

Statement of Reasons

It is proposed to introduce a Permanent Traffic Regulation Order as a follow on to the Experimental Traffic Regulation Order TO – 071/23 that was introduced to combat the very high levels of irresponsible camping that our coastal sites have been suffering from over the past few years. The coastal sites managed by the Countryside Ranger Service are not formal camp sites. They include designations such as RAMSAR and Special Site of Scientific Interest which require active management to preserve and protect them. The volume of tents and related issues, for example, toileting in the bushes and in front of others, leaving high volumes of waste, including human waste, fires leaving burnt patches in the ground and loud music being played are issues which cause conflict with other users, cause significant damage to the environment and require appropriate management.

The Experimental Order banned Overnight Parking between the hours of 10pm to 6am however after feedback from the public it is proposed that the Overnight Parking ban shall be between the hours of 11pm and 4am which shall allow late evening walks and early risers such as dog walkers to visit during daylight hours.

Access to beaches remain open to the public at all times, only vehicular access to the car parks that has been restricted at the times specified. Under the Land Reform (Scotland) Act and the Scottish Outdoor Access Code people have the right to **non-motorised** responsible access and we have not restricted genuine wild camping. Further information can be found here:

https://www.eastlothian.gov.uk/homepage/10487/wild_camping

Annual passes do not qualify for exemption.