**DUNBAR TRO – Frequently asked questions.**

Q1. Why is the Council asking people to get involved?

Answer.

There is a statutory duty to consult with ‘Consultees’ on the making of any Traffic Regulation Order, which is likely to affect traffic on a road the Local Authority has responsibility for and/or where emergency vehicles or public transport have access over. The Council also considers communities involvement and contribution to be invaluable in setting restrictions that are beneficial to the community as a whole and meets user needs.

Q2. What may change as a result of the new Order?

Answer.

Lengths of waiting, loading and unloading restrictions have been altered to reflect current driving practises, parking and safety concerns. Loading and unloading bay are proposed and changes to permissible waiting times. (Reference should be made to the existing and proposed Traffic Regulation Order plans)

Q3. What, if anything **cannot** be changed and why?

Answer.

The Council cannot impose a restriction, which is not covered under the general provisions of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 namely; an Order can only be introduced to: avoid danger to persons or other traffic using the road; prevent damage to the road; help the passage of traffic on the road including pedestrians; prevent the use of unsuitable traffic for the road or surroundings; preserving the character of the road; or preserving or improving the amenities within the area.

Q4. Who will be involved and why have they been chosen?

Answer.

The Council is obliged to consult with specific user groups subject to the case for making the Order. However, the Council generally consults with all stakeholders, which has an interest in the area and will post on-line for wider community involvement.

Q5. When will final decisions be made and who will make them?

Answer.

Information gathered as part of the consultation process will be used to finalise the drafting of the Order. The Order will then be published in the local press, on-line on the ‘Tell me Scotland’ website and the Councils website.

Q6. How will the results of the consultation be publicised?

Answer.

Information gathered will be published during the stage of advertising the Order. This information will be summarised reflecting the comments received.

Q7. How do I complain about the proposals or the **process**?

Answer.

The Consultation process of making or amending the Order is only available to seek comment from stakeholders. Once the Order has been advertised, members of the public or interested parties may object (in writing) to the making of the Order. Parties must clearly describe why they object to making of the Order.

Q8. Will there be any change to the number of short-stay / long-stay number of parking spaces on the High Street and Town centre?

Answer.

There are no proposals to provide additional spaces within the scope of the Order. The length of time of stay for designated spaces (current 45 degree parking) within the High Street is being proposed to increase to 90minutes.

Q9. Are there any proposals to charge for parking on the High Street?

Answer.

The option to change the angular parking on the High Street to 90o or 45O (drive in to bay in direction of flow) may be considered.

Q10. Are there any proposals to introduce a residents parking permit scheme in the town centre ?

Answer.

There are no proposals to introduce a residents parking scheme within the town centre.

Q11. Why don’t you enforce the existing parking restrictions effectively?

Answer.

The enforcement of traffic restricts are currently undertaken by Lothian and Borders Police –Traffic Warden Service. East Lothian Council has no powers to enforce parking restrictions.

Q12. I own a business on the High Street – what are the Council doing to provide parking for my customers and enable deliveries without the delivery driver having to double park on the High Street?

Answer.

Designated parking bays are available on the High Street for use by shoppers, visitors, tourists and members of the public. The proposal recommends a 90 min no return, which is considered sufficient time for user to carry out their business within the High Street. Two loading bays are proposed within the Order.

Q13. What will be done to increase awareness of parking opportunities or direct people to the most appropriate place to park ? Will there be more or better signage?

Answer.

In parallel with making the Order a review of the Town centre signage will be undertaken to advise visitors of the most appropriate places to park.

Q14. The Council commissioned Colin Buchanan consultancy to recommend improvements to the operation of town centre parking – have their proposals been accepted?

Answer.

The Report by Colin Buchanan and Partners was reported to Cabinet on 29th March 2011 starting the Statutory procedure and listed the recommendation to make to Traffic regulation Order and included information short term improvements.