CONNAUGHT AVENUE, COLLEGE AVENUE, MANNAMEAD ROAD, MUTLEY PLAIN AND TORR LANE

1. INTRODUCTION

This report seeks delegated authority to implement amendments to The City of Plymouth (Traffic Regulation and Street Parking Places) (Consolidation) Order 2004 in association with The CONNAUGHT AVENUE, COLLEGE AVENUE, MANNAMEAD ROAD, MUTLEY PLAIN AND TORR LANE Traffic Regulation Order.

2. TRAFFIC REGULATION ORDERS REQUIRED

2.1 The elements that need a Traffic Regulation Order are as follows:

To Add:

No Waiting at Any Time

College Avenue

• the south side from its junction with Mannamead Road for a distance of 14 metres in an easterly direction

Connaught Avenue

• the north side from the junction with Mutley Plain for a distance of 6 metres in an easterly direction

Mannamead Road

- the south-east side form a point 11 metres south-west of its junction with Western College Road for a distance of 44 metres in a south-westerly direction
- the south-east side from a point 9 metres south-west of its junction with College Avenue for a distance of 35 metres in a south-westerly direction

Mutley Plain

 the east side from a point 69 metres south of its junction with Connaught Avenue to the junction with Alexandra Road

No Waiting Mon-Sat 8am-9.15am and 4.30pm-6pm

College Avenue

• the south side from a point 14 metres east of its junction with Mannamead Road for a distance of 25 metres in an easterly direction

<u>Limited Waiting To 1 Hour No Return For 3 Hours 8am-8pm</u>

Connaught Avenue

• the north side from a point 6 metres east of its junction with Mutley Plain for a distance of 24 metres in an easterly direction

Mutley Plain

• the east side from a point 17 metres south of its junction with Connaught Avenue for a distance of 28 metres in a southerly direction

Limited Waiting To 1 Hour No Return For 3 Hours Mon-Sat 9.15am-4.30pm

College Avenue

• the south side from a point 14 metres east of its junction with Mannamead Road for a distance of 25 metres in an easterly direction

No Loading/Unloading At Any Time

College Avenue

 the south side from its junction with Mannamead Road for a distance of 14 metres in an easterly direction

Connaught Avenue

• the north side from the junction with Mutley Plain for a distance of 6 metres in an easterly direction

No Loading/Unloading Mon-Sat 8am-9.15am

Mannamead Road

• the east side from a point 7 metres south of the junction with College Avenue to a point 15 metres south of the junction with College Avenue

No Loading/Unloading Mon-Sat 8am-9.15am and 3.45pm-6pm

Mutley Plain

- the east side from its junction with Mannamead Road to a point 17 metres south of the junction with Connaught Avenue
- the east side from a point 69 metres south of its junction with Connaught Avenue to its junction with Belgrave Road

No Loading/Unloading Mon-Sat 8am-9.15am and 4.30pm-6pm

College Avenue

• the south side from a point 14 metres east of its junction with Mannamead Road for a distance of 25 metres in an easterly direction

To Remove:

No Waiting At Any Time

College Avenue

• the south side from the junction with Mannamead Road for a distance of 39 metres

Connaught Avenue

• the north side from the junction with Mutley Plain for a distance of 7 metres

Mutley Plain

• the east side from a point 42 metres south of the junction with Connaught Avenue to the junction with Alexandra Road

<u>Limited Waiting To 2 Hours No Return For 2 Hours Mon-Sat 9.15am-5pm</u>

Mannamead Road

• the east side from a point 11 metres south of the junction with Western College Road for a distance of 44 metres in a southerly direction

<u>Limited Waiting To 1 Hour No Return For 3 Hours Mon-Sat 9.15am-5pm</u>

Mannamead Road

• the east side from a point 9 metres south of its junction with College Avenue for a distance of 35 metres in a southerly direction

Limited Waiting To 1 Hour No Return For 3 Hours Mon-Sat 9.15am-3.45pm

Mutley Plain

• the east side from a point 17 metres south of its junction with Connaught Avenue for a distance of 24 metres in a southerly direction

Goods Loading Bays Mon-Sat 8am-6pm

Connaught Avenue

• the north side from a point 7 metres east of the junction with Mutley Plain for a distance of 23 metres in an easterly direction

No Loading/Unloading At Any Time

College Avenue

the south side from the junction with Mannamead Road for a distance of 20 metres

Connaught Avenue

• the north side from the junction with Mannamead Road for a distance of 12 metres

No Loading/Unloading Mon-Sat 8am-9.15am and 3.45pm-6pm

Mutley Plain

- the east side from a point 28 metres south of the junction with Connaught Avenue to the junction with Hyde Park Road
- the east side from a point 28 metres south of the junction with Connaught Avenue for a distance of 24 metres in a southerly direction
- the east side from the junction with Belgrave Road to a point 52 metres south of the junction with Connaught Road

No Waiting Mon-Sat 8am-9.15am

Mannamead Road

- the east side from a point 11 metres south of the junction with Western College Road for a distance of 44 metres in a southerly direction
- the east side from a point 9 metres south of its junction with College Avenue for a distance of 35 metres in a southerly direction

3. STATUTORY CONSULTATION

Proposals

The proposals were advertised on street, in the Herald and on the Plymouth City Council website on 21/08/2018. It was sent to the Councillors representing the affected ward and statutory consultees on 20/08/2018.

There have been 16 representations relating to the Traffic Regulation Order proposals. 11 of these were from businesses (estate agents and financial services businesses) and the remainder were from members of the public.

TRO Comment

I am writing to you to object the removal of the thirteen parking spaces you wish to remove between Western College Road and Connaught Avenue.

We feel this would jeopardise our business hugely and would damage the Mutley Plain eco-system.

Please take this email as an objection to the spaces on Mannamead road being removed. This will drastically effect the company I work for and other businesses around the area.

I wish to object to the removal of the parking spaces between Western College Road and Connaught Avenue Plymouth, this will cause loss of business to us, these spaces are invaluable for the periods in which clients come in to sign documents, and collect keys etc. especially to the elderly

I am writing to you to object the removal of the thirteen parking spaces you wish to remove between Western College Road and Connaught Avenue. We feel quite strongly this would damage our business.

This will affect my business and business alike I object to these changes.

I am writing on behalf of my colleagues to vehemently object to the above. The limited parking availability at the front of our office is invaluable for the high volume of customers that we have on a daily basis. Plus, parking is difficult around here as it is largely "permit parking".

I feel it would be detrimental to the businesses, community and traffic flow if you were to eliminate the 13 spaces outside the solicitors and estate agents.

As it is, all members off staff and clients have to park in Seymore Avenue in the morning as the 13 spaces have restricted (no parking) until 9:15am even from that time onwards we can only park for one hour(no return). We have had notes on our cars as it stands from residents living in the non-permit locations raising the issues of how busy it gets, and when/where we park. Unfortunately we don't have much of a choice!

Parking is extremely restricted as it stands and I feel it would be a thoughtless move, one which will effect locals severely if you were to detract those spaces.

Comment/Response

A number of similar comments were received that focussed on the impact on businesses. For brevity, a generic response is provided below and referred to throughout this table of responses.

Proposed mitigation for the potential impact on businesses / provision of alternative parking

The current on-street parking on the approach to Mutley Plain reduces the capacity of the road at the Hyde Park junction, adding to localised congestion southbound on Mannamead Road. Traffic modelling has demonstrated a significant benefit to traffic flow would result from its removal. The Mannamead Road Scheme (which the TROs enable delivery of) includes proposals to mitigate the potential impact on businesses by providing additional space for approximately eight cars to park on College Avenue and Connaught Avenue (for one hour), meaning the net loss of spaces in very close proximity will be limited to approximately only five spaces. The proposals also include a relaxation of restrictions in the parking bay on Mutley Plain near Tesco Express, allowing vehicles to park for one hour from 8am until 8pm instead of only between 9.15am and 3.45pm.

To further offset any potential impact on businesses Mutley Barracks public car park has now been made free for the public to use for one hour during the day and from 8pm until 8am the following morning. As part of the mitigation for the scheme, new signage will also be installed directing shoppers to the car park, which is very close to the existing parking spaces on Mannamead Road.

Limited waiting bays are not intended for use by staff of local businesses / commuters. The Mutley area is well-served by public transport and any businesses that require the use of a vehicle throughout the day may apply for a business parking permit. For commuters who do not need their vehicles for work purposes there are a number of pay and display spaces as well as two public off-street car parks nearby.

I write to you as a tenant of one of the offices on Mannamead Road.

Please see previous comments under heading

We are a mortgage brokerage and we deal primarily with the older generation, many of whom are unable to walk long distances. The proposed removal of the parking spaces outside our office will impact directly on those clients we are here to assist.

I understand the safety issues here and the way that the spaces impact the flow of traffic at certain times of day. However one client has made an excellent suggestion to me and that is that outside the row of shops at the lower end of Mannamead Road there is a very deep pavement area (which cyclists love to ride down at speed) which surely it would be possible to reduce the depth of that to incorporate the parking spaces so that they don't affect the flow of traffic. This way it would be possible to actually increase the n umber of parking spaces without affecting the loading bay on Connaught Road.

Mutley Plain is an area in decline and any reduction in the user's ability to park easily and cheaply will only exacerbate the rate of decline.

I would be grateful if you could consider other options rather that the blanket removal of the parking spaces.

I object to the removal of the x13 parking spaces and relocation of the parking to Connaught Avenue & College Avenue on the following basis.

- 1. Loss of custom to my Business as the vast majority of my Vendors, Landlords, Tenants, Buyers & Contractors use those spaces. If these spaces are removed the convenience of access to my Branch will be greatly affected, reducing my custom and resulting in lower revenue.
- 2. Removal of the Loading Bay will have a detrimental effect to my business plus all the other Estate/Lettings Agents and other business types along that section of Mutley Plain. The loss of the frequently used Loading Bay will mean the high volume of commercial traffic having nowhere nearby to park safely and with ease. This will force the numerous lorries and contractor vans further down nearby streets causing increased congestion as they attempt to continually park. This will create the problem of blocking roads in the process which defeats the object of improving traffic flow! A further hazard will come from these vehicles then protruding out into the narrow roads, which on a road like Connaught Avenue with parking either side would present a hazard to other road users. Currently there is no parking on the opposite side of the Loading Bay which reduces any risk to other road users.
- 3. Access turning left out of College Avenue will be made more difficult. By moving the parking closer to the junction will increase traffic tail backs as the road will be narrowed by parked vehicles. This is simply moves the traffic flow issue elsewhere.

I write to voice our concern over the proposed removal of 13 car parking spaces from Western College Road to Connaught Avenue.

We are a well-established Mortgage business on Mutley Plain and our visiting clients regularly use these car parking spaces. Facilities to park on or near Mutley Plain currently are extremely poor and I fail to see how removing the aforementioned 13 much need car parking spaces can offer any improvement!

Several premises on Mutley Plain are empty - all of the high street banks have left — what businesses that do remain need the council to consider their requirements in order to continue doing business - being able to park near to the business you intend to use is key.

'Proposed mitigation for the potential impact on businesses / provision of alternative parking'.

The potential relocation of the existing parking bays into new bays within the existing footway was explored during the feasibility design stage for the Mannamead Road Scheme. It was rejected on the basis that the large cost of relocating utilities within the existing footway would be prohibitive. Furthermore, the land to the east of the bollards is not Council-owned and has cellars underneath, prohibiting the use of the existing footway for parking.

Please see previous comments under heading 'Proposed mitigation for the potential impact on businesses / provision of alternative parking'.

There is evidence that the loading bay on Connaught Avenue is under-utilised and of vehicles using it illegally during restricted times of day. Converting it to a limited waiting bay is considered a more effective use of this space. There is a service lane at the rear of properties at the lower end of Mannamead Road and Mutley Plain which businesses can use to load goods from. The proposals also include the relaxation of loading restrictions in the bay on Mutley Plain outside Tesco Express to allow loading at any time. The proposals do not affect the loading restrictions on Mannamead Road.

Although it is accepted that the new parking bays on College Avenue will lead to a small increase in queuing traffic on College Avenue, the proposals restrict parking at the busiest times (8am – 9.15am and 4.30pm – 6pm Monday to Saturday) and the impact is therefore minimal.

Please see previous comments under heading 'Proposed mitigation for the potential impact on businesses / provision of alternative parking'.

The current on-street parking on the approach to Mutley Plain reduces the capacity of the road at the Hyde Park junction, adding to localised congestion southbound on Mannamead Road. Traffic modelling has demonstrated a significant benefit to traffic flow would result from its removal.

It is considered that any increase in traffic on College Avenue as a result of the new parking would be The increase in persons begging in particularly outside the Tesco cash point machine – do not help the delicate balance of running a business and wishing to keep the traffic flowing and keep commerce ticking over.

Whilst on the subject of a real improvement to Mutley Plain - would be the removal of the steel cabins that pass for public toilets – these need to be replaced with a more aesthetically pleasing building.

Increasing road capacity at the cost of losing the 13 car parking spaces will not significantly improve traffic - the plan to mitigate these losses by additional parking on the immediate side roads will only add to the congestion in College Avenue and remove a well-used vehicle loading spaces in Connaught Avenue.

minimal.

There is evidence that the loading bay on Connaught Avenue is under-utilised and of vehicles using it illegally during restricted times of day.

The comments on begging and public toilets are noted but considered not relevant as grounds in relation to the consultation on the proposed Traffic Regulation Order.

I am concerned about the effect of the above proposal to remove 13 parking spaces on Mannamead Road between Western College Rd and Western Ave. The consequences of those lost spaces will be severe to a business area like Mutley Plain and I am already concerned that there has been a steady decline in business in recent years in Mutley Plain.

The Plain already suffers 20 empty shops and businesses. All the high street banks have closed along with other traditional high street businesses such as butchers, pharmacies and delicatessens.

Increasing road capacity at the cost of losing the 13 spaces will not significantly improve traffic flow.

The plan to mitigate these losses by additional parking on the immediate side roads will add to congestion in College Avenue and remove a well-used vehicle loading space in Connaught Avenue.

What is needed in Mutley Plain to help traffic flow is a longer lane for vehicles wishing to turn right into Ford Park Road, sensible management of the large vehicles who unload during peak traffic times and an improvement in the signal periods at the Alexander Rd/Greenbank/North Hill junction.

The recent free parking one hour in the Barracks Car Park and £5 all day parking at the Ermington Terrace Car Park is welcome but to improve the visitor footfall more free parking on the Plain itself is required – certainly the removal what is existing and well used.

The traffic flow from Mutley Plain up towards the Seymour Road junction is fast in the outside lane and used mostly by overtaking vehicles not those intending to eventually turn right – the Improvement Scheme would be better served if road safety is studied and controlled in this section.

There is now a structured movement by Ward Councillors and local business people to turn Mutley Plain around: we want the police to deal with crime and disorder, the council to invest in projects that will make the area friendly to shoppers and visitors and for that the Plain needs good access, free parking and a better environment.

I trust these comments will be taken into account during your consultations.

Please see previous comments under heading 'Proposed mitigation for the potential impact on businesses / provision of alternative parking'.

Traffic modelling has demonstrated a significant benefit to traffic flow would result from the removal of on-street parking on Mannamead Road.

It is considered that any increase in traffic on College Avenue as a result of the new parking would be minimal.

There is evidence that the loading bay on Connaught Avenue is under-utilised and of vehicles using it illegally during restricted times of day.

The comments about Mutley Plain including those in relation to the empty shops, traffic flow / signals, vehicle unloading, Ermington Terrace Car Park, safety and crime and disorder are noted but considered not relevant as grounds in relation to the consultation on the proposed Traffic Regulation Order.

I am resident of College Avenue and I am very concerned by the prospect of the removal of the parking bays on Mannamead Road, with new proposed parking bays relocated to College Avenue and Connaught Avenue.

Like many streets, in inner city Plymouth the parking is very

Please see previous comments under heading 'Proposed mitigation for the potential impact on businesses / provision of alternative parking'. Therefore it is not anticipated that there will be a significant impact on the availability of on-street parking for residents.

pressured. Even though residents are covered up to 1000am by resident permits, at 0950 I watch a stream of car manoeuvre into available spaces, where they clog the road for the remainder of the day, making it hard for residents to park near their houses when they return from work or come and go from their resident during the day.

The majority of these cars belong to personnel who work at the estate agents/businesses at the top of the road and why would they use alternative parking facilities when there is free parking round the corner.

The removal of the parking bays on Mutley Plain/Mannamead Road is going to further compound this problem as I imagine the majority of the people using those bays are indeed visiting the businesses along that stretch, including Totem and the pub.

People already speed along College Avenue to reach the traffic lights at the end so I'm also concerned about increased volume of traffic on the road to access the proposed parking spaces.

I have recently moved from Waterloo Street Stoke to College Avenue. Students from City College parked around the surrounding area and made it very difficult for local residents. I voted in a democratic process for a resident parking scheme and the council threw it out the window in favour of protecting businesses.

Here I am again witnessing proposals that will impact on myself as a resident and businesses.

I don't think the traffic will ever flow freely along there due to the roundabout.

A radical suggestion but how about making College Avenue a no through road which could mean that the traffic lights letting traffic out of College Avenue could be removed and the traffic lights on Mannamead Road just before College Avenue could be removed. Parking could be created all along the road on both sides and the traffic would flow a lot more freely before approaching the roundabout.

Since the availability of on-street parking in the area is limited the Council must aim to strike a balance between the needs of residents, businesses, shoppers and the need to keep traffic flowing.

It is considered that any increase in traffic on College Avenue as a result of the new parking would be minimal.

Traffic modelling has demonstrated a significant benefit to traffic flow would result from the removal of on-street parking on Mannamead Road.

The comments about the resident parking scheme in Stoke and the suggestion to make College Avenue one-way are noted but considered not relevant as grounds in relation to the consultation on the proposed Traffic Regulation Order.

In regards, to the above road improvement scheme my main concern is sequencing of the traffic lights which would improve the flow of traffic in and out of the City.

There are numerous occasions when leaving the City lights at Compton Park Rd go green and immediately the lights at Eggbuckland Rd go red. Or the reverse will happen when going the other way.

This is also similar at Higher Compton Rd and Torr Lane but is far worse as it seems often that these minor roads have priority over the Tavistock Rd.

There are many cities around the world that ensure that the traffic lights on the main roads are sequenced to improve the flow of traffic. It would be appropriate if Plymouth could follow their model.

The comments are noted but considered not relevant as grounds in relation to the consultation on the proposed Traffic Regulation Order.

- 1. Clearly the removal of short term parking spaces on lower Mannamead Road will have a further detrimental effect on Mutley Plain businesses, which are in real trouble at the moment. I'd like councillors to take this into account.
- 2. It's good that a 1 hour free parking period in the Mutley Barracks car park has been implemented. But LARGE signs are needed much further up Mannamead Road to give drivers advance notice of this -

Please see previous comments under heading 'Proposed mitigation for the potential impact on businesses / provision of alternative parking'.

As part of the Mannamead Road Scheme new signage will be installed directing shoppers to the Mutley Barracks car park where the first hour's parking is now free.

and instructions about how to access the car park over the railway line

- **3.** As a resident of College Avenue I have two concerns. College Avenue has recently become a very busy rat-run and queues often build up at the traffic lights at the Mannamead Rd junction. I understand that a few more parking spaces are to be allocated at the end of College Avenue just before the lights but this will reduce the length of two-lane road for drivers to use for turning right or left. It will create an even greater queue of cars backing up along College Avenue. So I strongly object to the addition of these extra parking spaces we need plenty of two-lane space at the end of the road.
- 4. At the same junction, there are often cars queuing on Mannamead Road when the lights turn green for the College Avenue cars preventing them turning into the main road. (Some drivers ignore the yellow hatched area and block our exit too.) We need the traffic lights to be better co-ordinated so that traffic from College Avenue can actually get out onto Mannamead Road when the lights are green.

Although it is accepted that the new parking bays on College Avenue will lead to a small increase in the length of the traffic queue on College Avenue, the proposals restrict parking at the busiest times (8am – 9.15am and 4.30pm – 6pm Monday to Saturday) and the impact is therefore minimal.

The comments regarding the sequencing of traffic signals and blocking of the yellow box junction at College Avenue are noted but considered not relevant as grounds in relation to the consultation on the proposed Traffic Regulation Order.

We have a van which collects furniture and then delivers it to the shop, due to the nature of limited parking spaces on the plain, and restricted parking times, we need to use the loading bay at the top of Connaught Avenue, to drop off our furniture to the shop. Items of furniture are heavy and the bay is the closest we can get to the shop to deliver. I believe there is consideration to take away the loading bay. If the loading bay was taken away, this would leave us nowhere to park, to unload and deliver to the shop, causing us great issues.

Many companies use the loading bay, to deliver to the businesses on Mutley plain, and I fail to understand where they will be able to stop, if you remove the loading bay.

Customers also stop in the loading bay, to collect items that they have purchased from the shop, if this bay was taken away, this would affect our business badly.

I would therefore ask you to re consider taking the loading bay away.

There is evidence that the loading bay on Connaught Avenue is under-utilised and of vehicles using it illegally during restricted times of day. Converting it to a limited waiting bay is considered a more effective use of this space. There is a service lane at the rear of properties at the lower end of Mannamead Road and Mutley Plain which businesses can use to load goods from. The proposals also include the relaxation of loading restrictions in the bay on Mutley Plain outside Tesco Express to allow loading at any time. The proposals do not affect the loading restrictions on Mannamead Road.

I have looked at the proposed parking alterations. I can only see these changes being detrimental to the residents in College Avenue, with minimal gain, if at any at all, for traffic on route to town.

Parking in the road at present is horrendous when the business are open on Mutley plain, and the Hyde park school is open. To remove the spaces from Mannamead road is only going to make the problem worse. Since the Hyde Park pub has become very successful those space are always full of an evening with their visiting patrons. They also will start to park in our road after the proposed changes.

I am not trained in traffic flow management, but it seems to me that the main problem to traffic flow in the area, is caused by having two pelican crossings so close to each other. The crossing outside the old GT Motorcycle building causes a lot of disruption to the flow in heavy traffic. People using this crossing on route to the Hyde park pub then cut between the traffic across the part of the road which has no crossing at all. I would propose removing that crossing completely and only have the crossing to the north which is in alignment with the traffic flow.

My proposal to help the resident if the spaces are lost are as follows: Allow free parking in the car park to start earlier.

ope ich The

Please see previous comments under heading 'Proposed mitigation for the potential impact on businesses / provision of alternative parking'.

Traffic modelling has demonstrated a significant benefit to traffic flow would result from the removal of on-street parking on Mannamead Road.

The Mutley Barracks Car Park is now free from 8pm until 8am (as well as being free for the first hour during the daytime).

If the proposals go ahead the Parking Operations Team will monitor on-street parking in the area and determine if there is a need to review times of operation of controlled (resident) parking zones.

The comments regarding the pedestrian crossings and questioning the need to increase traffic flow are noted but considered not relevant as grounds in relation to the consultation on the proposed Traffic Regulation Order.

Introduce another time slot in the late afternoon for permit holders only.
also question why you are increasing traffic flow at all. I
, , ,
would it would have been better in encourage people to head down
Outland Road or the Embankment when entering the City?

4. RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended to proceed with the Traffic Regulation Order as advertised.

5. LEGAL CONSIDERATIONS

The lawful implications and consequences of the proposal have been considered and taken into account in the preparation of this report.

When considering whether to make a traffic order it is the Council's responsibility to ensure that all relevant legislation is complied with. This includes Section 122 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 (as amended) that sets out that it is the duty of a local authority, so far as practicable subject to certain matters, to secure the expeditious, convenient and safe movement of vehicular and other traffic (including pedestrians) and the provision of suitable and adequate parking facilities on and off the highway. It is considered that the proposals comply with Section 122 of the Act as they practically secure the safe and expeditious movement of traffic in and around Plymouth and provide for suitable and adequate associated parking facilities.