

## ITEM No ...8.....

**REPORT TO:** CITY DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE – 10 MAY 2021  
**REPORT ON:** UNION STREET (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) ORDER 2021  
**REPORT BY:** EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF CITY DEVELOPMENT  
**REPORT NO:** 142-2021

### **1 PURPOSE OF REPORT**

- 1.1 This report considers the restriction of vehicular access and parking within Union Street, except for loading only during the hours of 11.00 pm and 11.00 am, utilising the powers of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984.

### **2 RECOMMENDATION**

- 2.1 It is recommended that the Committee:
- a approve the preparation of the Prohibition of Driving Order which will vary the existing Tayside Regional Council (City of Dundee) (Traffic Management Scheme (Review) Order 1994; and
  - b approve the revocation of all of the existing parking restrictions within the prohibited area which will be replaced with an “At Any Time” restriction covering the same prohibited area. This will vary the Dundee City Council (Central Area, Dundee) (Controlled Parking Zone) Order 2010, Dundee City Council (Disabled Persons Parking Places) (On-street) Order 2011 and the Tayside Regional Council (City of Dundee) (Traffic Management Scheme (Review) Order 1994.

### **3 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

- 3.1 The cost of implementing the Traffic Regulation Order including the installation of traffic signs and road markings will be met from the Spaces for People Grant previously awarded to Dundee City Council in 2020.
- 3.2 Using the Sustainable Transport and Infrastructure Capital budget as match, Council Officers will pursue external funding opportunities such as the Places for Everyone programme managed by Sustrans to fund the permanent transition of Union Street.

### **4 BACKGROUND**

- 4.1 In July 2020, as part of the Scottish Government's Spaces for People programme, Union Street was closed to vehicular traffic, with access limited to loading vehicles only. The closure was managed through a Temporary Traffic Regulation Order with a maximum duration of 18 months. The road closure allowed for a number of environmental improvements to be provided including planters and street art. In addition, many of the hospitality businesses took the opportunity to create outside seating areas. The Union Street changes were well received by the majority of traders and residents of Union Street and a post implementation consultation survey undertaken in Autumn 2020 identified there was a desire that the positive changes in Union Street should be made permanent. This view was further supported in the responses received to the City Centre Strategic Investment Plan consultation which noted that 82% of respondents agree, or strongly agree, that the temporary pedestrianisation should be made permanent.
- 4.2 With the spring reopening of the hospitality sector, the Union Street businesses have been able to reoccupy the street space once more and following consultation with the community group the hours of the vehicle prohibition have been extended to 1100 to 2300. Due to the potential

dangers posed by traffic and pedestrian conflict in pedestrianised areas, the Council is satisfied that it is requisite to restrict vehicular access for more than 8 hours in a 24 hour period and that Section 3(1) of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 should not apply. This is a staging point on a longer term project and Council officers will seek to identify external funding resources that will allow for the permanent transition of Union Street into a high quality public realm space for people. This new streetscape will be co-designed with the local community and will replace the temporary interventions that have been trialled as part of Spaces for People project. The design team will be encouraged to think creatively - embrace bold colours, deploy innovative street lighting and introduce playful street art and interactive street furniture.

- 4.3 Drawings detailing the restriction extents can be viewed at the following webpage and at Appendix 1:

[https://www.dundee.gov.uk/sites/default/files/publications/for\\_upload\\_2.pdf](https://www.dundee.gov.uk/sites/default/files/publications/for_upload_2.pdf).

## **5 POLICY IMPLICATIONS**

- 5.1 This report has been subject to an assessment of any impacts on Equality and Diversity, Fairness and Poverty, Environment and Corporate Risk. There are no major issues.

## **6 CONSULTATIONS**

- 6.1 The Council Management Team have been consulted in the preparation of this report and are in agreement with its content.
- 6.2 If the preparation of the Order is approved by the Committee, public notices will be advertised and members of the public will have opportunity to make representation on the proposed order.

## **7 BACKGROUND PAPERS**

- 7.1 None.

Ewan Macnaughton  
Head of Roads and Transportation

Author: Stewart Spain

Robin Presswood  
Executive Director of City Development

Dundee City Council  
Dundee House  
Dundee

EM/SS/KM

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APPENDIX 1



