

**GATESHEAD COUNCIL
COMMUNITIES & ENVIRONMENT**

**Askew Road and Surrounding Area
Traffic Regulation Order 2022**

Statement of Reasons

The Borough Council of Gateshead ('Council') introduced an experimental traffic regulation order to create a safe environment for pedestrians and cyclists during the Covid-19 pandemic.

Following the Council's consultation process in respect of the proposals, it was determined that in order to promote safe and sustainable modes of transport around Gateshead Town Centre the traffic regulation order should be made permanent. This Traffic Order also supports the North East Local Transport Plan 2021-2035 and the Council's approach to encourage greater use of local bus services. Although Social Distancing measures are currently relaxed, there is still a desire to ensure that public transport links run efficiently, and sustainable transport infrastructure is convenient, practical and is accessible to all.

Gateshead Council as Highway Authority have made the above order in discharge of its duty under Section 122 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, "to secure the expeditious, convenient and safe movement of vehicular and other traffic (including pedestrians)", in accordance with the provisions of Section 1(1) of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 namely:-

- (a) for avoiding danger to persons or other traffic using the road or any other road or for preventing the likelihood of any such danger arising, or
- (b) for preventing damage to the road or to any building on or near the road, or
- (c) for facilitating the passage on the road or any other road of any class of traffic (including pedestrians), or
- (d) for preventing the use of the road by vehicular traffic of a kind which, or its use by vehicular traffic in a manner which, is unsuitable having regard to the existing character of the road or adjoining property, or
- (e) (without prejudice to the generality of paragraph(d) above) for preserving the character of the road in a case where it is specially suitable for use by persons on horseback or on foot, or
- (f) for preserving or improving the amenities of the area through which the road runs; or
- (g) for any of the purposes specified in paragraphs (a) to (c) of subsection (1) of section 87 of the Environment Act 1995 (air quality).

OR

in accordance with the provisions of Section 32 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 namely:-

- h. Where for the purpose of relieving or preventing congestion of traffic it appears to a local authority to be necessary to provide within their area suitable parking places for vehicles.