

Traffic Regulation Order (TRO) Statement of Reasons

Bath and North East Somerset Council

(26-045) (AUDLEY GROVE, KINGSMEAD, BATH)
(ZONE 26 AUTHORISED AND DESIGNATED PARKING PLACES) (PROHIBITION OF
PARKING AT ANY TIME) ORDER 202-

STATEMENT OF REASONS

Proposal

To implement No Parking At Any Time and Permit Holders Only parking bays.

The proposals are shown in **Appendix 1** attached to this report.

Reasons

In 2025, Bath & North East Somerset Council's Traffic Management Team developed a preliminary design to extend the existing Residents' Parking Zone (RPZ) no. 26 into the Audley Grove area, including all of Edward Street.

It was developed with the support of local ward councillors and supports the council's Low Traffic Neighbourhood Strategy and Residents' Parking Schemes policy (July 2020) which aim to improve the parking situation for residents and create healthier, safer streets.

We regularly review on-street parking across Bath to ensure it meets the needs of residents and local communities. When we first proposed zone 26 - which covers the St John's, St Michael's and Hungerford Road area - in 2022, it was felt that including Audley Grove and all Edward Street was not necessary. Lately, however, local ward councillors have received reports of increasing pressure on parking on these streets from commuters and more inconsiderate parking in the area.

RPZs prioritise on-street parking for residents and provide accessible parking near amenities, such as shops, services and community hubs. They also deter parking by non-

residents who can use the area to park before walking into the city or to nearby amenities where parking is limited, restricted or charged for.

It was considered that extending zone 26 into the area would help to manage the growing pressure on on-street parking and improve traffic flow. A preliminary design for the proposed extension of Zone 26 into Audley Grove and all of Edward Street was therefore produced and shared with the public during a 28-day public consultation between the 14 November to 12 December 2025.

The design and more general information about RPZs were hosted on the project web page at www.bathnes.gov.uk/audleygroveRPZ and letters were sent to residents in the area inviting them to take part in a consultation survey. We also held a drop-in event at Weston Methodist Church on Monday 24 November 2025 between 3pm and 7pm. This was held jointly with residents from the Locksbrook Road area - a larger RPZ being proposed and consulted on at the same time.

During the informal consultation, the council received 84 responses to the survey on the proposed extension of zone 26 into the Audley Grove and Edward Street area. 76 of those responding live in or near to the proposed zone extension and seven regularly visit in or near the proposed extension. 56% of respondents said they objected to the proposals and 42% said they supported them.

Having carefully considered the outcomes of the informal consultation, officers and the local ward councillors are of the opinion that there is good support for a residents' parking zone covering the Audley Grove area and that significant vehicle displacement onto neighbouring streets would be unlikely.

However, they are mindful of the lower levels of support from residents living on Edward Street and are therefore proposing that Edward Street is excluded from the proposed design which will be taken forward to formal public consultation.

The Council has considered article 8 within Schedule 1 to the Human Rights Act (Right to respect for private and family life, home and correspondence) and Protocol 1 Article 1 (Peaceful enjoyment of possessions). Both of these rights are qualified rights, and the Council does not consider that the measures proposed under the TRO amount to a deprivation of possessions as the right to access property has not been extinguished. The proposals are considered to have a minimal impact on human rights. However, the Council is entitled to affect these rights where it is in accordance with the law, necessary (such as in the interests of public safety or economic well-being, to prevent disorder and crime, to protect health, or to protect the rights and freedoms of others), in pursuit of a legitimate aim and proportionate to do so. The proposals within this report are considered to be in accordance with the law, necessary, in pursuit of a legitimate aim and proportionate.

The Council has had due regard to the needs set out in section 149(1) of the Equality Act 2010. It considers that the proposed Order is consistent with the section 149 public sector equality duty, which it has discharged.

Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984

This proposal is made in accordance with the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, which under Section 1 provides, generally, for Orders to be made for the following reasons, and in the case of this Order specifically for the reason(s) shown and marked below:

(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	X
(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	X
(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,	
(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	X
(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)	

In making this proposal the Council has discharged its duty under section 122 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984.

The Council is under a duty pursuant to section 122(1) of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 (as amended) to exercise its duties under the Act (so far as practicable having regard to the subsection (2) matters), to secure the expeditious, convenient and safe movement of vehicular and other traffic (including pedestrians).

As for the subsection 122(2) matters:

- a) the desirability of securing and maintaining reasonable access to premises.

Comment: the proposals would not impact on access to premises in the area. The proposed parking restrictions across driveway entrances may improve access to those premises.

- b) the effect on the amenities of any locality affected and (without prejudice to the generality of this paragraph) the importance of regulating and restricting the use of roads by heavy commercial vehicles, so as to preserve or improve the amenities of the areas through which the roads run.

Comment: it is not considered that the proposals would have a detrimental impact on amenities in the area.

- bb) The strategy prepared under section 80 of the Environment Act 1995 (national air quality strategy)

Comment: the proposals would provide designated parking for residents and their visitors in Audley Grove, which would deter commuters from looking for parking in the area, thus helping to reduce CO2 emissions.

- c) the importance of facilitating the passage of public service vehicles and of securing the safety and convenience of persons using or desiring to use such vehicles.

Comment: There are no scheduled public bus services using the roads where measures are being proposed.

d) Any other matters appearing to the local authority to be relevant.

Comment: n/a

Having balanced the various matters and considerations, the Council has concluded that it is appropriate to progress the proposed Order.

The Council has also discharged its duty under section 16 of the Traffic Management Act 2004. It has concluded that the proposed Order is consistent with that duty, given its other policies and objectives.

Neither section 16 nor section 122 of the 1984 Act precludes the making of the proposed Order.

Date: 02/06/2026