

Statement of Reasons

In consequence of the relaxation of rules by the Welsh Government following the coronavirus outbreak the Council is mindful of the probable increase in pedestrian traffic and the requirement to maintain social distancing. This has the potential to conflict with vehicular traffic therefore regard must be had of the need to avoid the likelihood of danger to the public. To minimise such risk, it is proposed to introduce a temporary order pursuant to the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 which will prohibit vehicular traffic from proceeding along the north-western section of Cowell Street and the south-eastern section of Stepney Street, Llanelli between 10:00am and 4:00pm on all days and as a result there will be no access to the existing Disabled Parking between 10:00 and 4:00pm and to mitigate this it is proposed to amend existing limited waiting bays in Cowell Street and John Street to provide Disabled Parking and in turn provide Limited Waiting in Murray Street and Lloyd Street.

The two primary reasons for the introduction of this temporary Order is to mitigate risk related to the coronavirus pandemic coupled with the need to ensure the safety of the public.

It is expected that social distancing will need to be observed for many months to come. The available space on footways and shared surfaces along several of the identified streets is insufficient to allow safe passing distances. There is also additional pressure on the available space from queues outside shops, banks and other premises.

Furthermore, the County Council seeks to maintain the safety of pedestrians. Those who adhere to social distancing rules are frequently forced to step onto the road and with the expected increase in traffic volumes accessing the town centre streets there will invariably be an increased risk of road traffic collisions, therefore the pedestrianisation during the peak pedestrian hours of 10:00am - 4:00pm and the removal of access to existing parking bays will maintain safety of vulnerable road users.

Ancillary to the above the air quality has improved dramatically over the last few months and the measures now to be introduced support locking in that improvement.