



DARLINGTON
Borough Council

SERVICES GROUP

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23rd August 2021

Our ref: Duke Street revised plan

Your ref:

Please ask for: Andy Casey

Document Name:

Dear resident/business owner

Re: Proposed plans for Duke Street and Outram Street

Last year we contacted you about proposed changes to Woodland Road, Outram Street and Duke Street to create improved pedestrian and cycling facilities, as well as making the one-way system and 20mph zone on Duke Street permanent.

Many of the issues raised by residents, statutory consultees and businesses have been resolved through discussion and some amendments to the design. The proposals for Woodland Road and Outram Street have now been through the legal process and construction will start later in the Autumn.

However a number of the businesses on Duke Street raised objections or concerns and so we notified them that we would pause the process to consider their issues around loading and safety. We have subsequently had further discussions with a number of the businesses to understand their issues in more detail and have reviewed the design to address their concerns. The main changes are:

- To relocate the parking and loading to the south side of Duke Street between Stanhope Road and Larchfield Street – this provides improved unloading facilities for those businesses that have daily deliveries, and additional parking bays for customers. It is proposed that the loading bays would revert to parking bays after 10:00am, increasing the amount of short stay parking even further;
- To close the southern access to Outram Street to vehicle traffic, but retain access for pedestrians and cyclists. Access to Outram Street would be retained via Larchfield Street for vehicles. Outram Street, Eskdale Street, Napier Street and Wycombe Street are residential streets and therefore access is mainly for residents rather than businesses;

- A raised table would be constructed at the Outram Street junction to create an additional traffic calming feature to reinforce compliance with the 20mph speed limit. This would also create a safer place to cross Duke Street for both pedestrians and cyclists; and
- Larchfield Street will be a raised table to create a traffic calming feature and will be built in a contrasting colour. These measures will ensure that the junction is visible to drivers and will physically slow traffic. Guard railing will be retained as additional protection for pedestrians.

We have consulted key stakeholders such as the Police and Darlington Association on Disability. We would like to hear from you as a resident or business owner if you have any comments or concerns, before we progress the scheme to the next stage which is the advertising of legal orders.

You can phone or email your comments to Andy Casey 01325 406701 or andrew.casey@darlington.gov.uk by Monday 6th September.

If you would prefer you can speak to officers at a drop-in session which we have arranged at the Dolphin Centre. You can arrive at any time, there is no need to book. We will be able to explain the scheme in more detail, answer your questions and listen to any concerns that you may have with this revised proposal.

Date : Wednesday 1st September
Time : 3pm-6pm
Location : Central Hall, Dolphin Centre

Yours sincerely



Dave Winstanley
Group Director of Services