

Report for consideration by the Planning and Development Control Committee

**OBJECTION TO KEYTHORPE STREET AREA PROPOSED ONE-WAY STREET  
RESTRICTIONS WITH AN EXEMPTION FOR PEDAL CYCLES**

**Report of the Director of Planning, Development and Transportation**

**1. Purpose of Report**

- 1.1 To enable the Committee to give their views to the Director of Planning, Development and Transportation to take into account when considering the recommendations set out in Section 3 of this report.

**2. Summary**

- 2.1 The City Council has received complaints from residents and local Councillors, regarding safety and traffic movements within the Keythorpe Street area, this consists of Keythorpe St, Maynard Rd and Wilson St within the City of Leicester. It is proposed to introduce a one-way traffic restriction on the whole length of these three streets. These are narrow terraced streets, which also accommodate parking on both sides of the street, both day and night. This area also has existing traffic calming features. However, due to the carriageway being available to two-way traffic this has led to issues related to driver conflict and vehicular damage when there is insufficient room for vehicles to pass each other. As these side roads do not link to other major distributor roads, there is little rat running on these streets. However, as the Masjid al Falah (Keythorpe Street Mosque) and the nearby Islamic Dawah Academy are located within the area, this leads to an increase in traffic during certain times of the day. The introduction of a one-way street restrictions on the affected roads would look to improve safety and help maintain free flow of traffic in this area.
- 2.2 During advertisement of the Traffic Regulation Order (TRO), the Council received three emails of support for the proposals. However, also received were twelve objections against the proposals. The main objections raised were linked to the direction of travel of the proposed one-way that could have the potential for causing congestion within the area. One person felt there was no requirement for this type of restriction. The project officer has spoken to both some supporters and objectors, before talking to both the Ward Councillors and the City Highways Director. It was agreed with the Councillors and the Director that a Modification to the original proposals should be sent out changing the direction of travel on the proposed one-way. It was seen that the request was not unreasonable and that it would not lead to an increase in road safety issues.
- 2.3 On the 2<sup>nd</sup> April 2021 the Council sent out a Modification letter (APPENDIX 'A') along with an updated modified plan to all affected properties within this area, in addition to the twelve objectors. This showed the revised changes to the direction of travel

compared to the original proposals. In response to this modification, the Council has tried to resolve the issues raised by the objectors. Following the written communication six of the objections have been withdrawn. Therefore, six unresolved objections remain.

- 2.4 The proposals showing the one-way street restrictions for the Keythorpe Street area can be seen on the attached OBJECTORS REPORT PLAN APPENDIX 'B' –

- Original Proposal - LCC/KS/2944/03/090/002 REV 'A'.
- Modified Proposal - LCC/KS/2944/03/090/02 REV 'B'.

### **3. Recommendations**

- 3.1 It is recommended that:

The members of the Committee give their views for the Director of Planning, Development and Transportation to consider, alongside remaining objections to the scheme, before reaching a final decision.

### **4. Background**

- 4.1 The City Council has proposed one way restrictions on Keythorpe St, Maynard Rd and Wilson St. Complaints had been received from residents and local Councillors regarding driver conflict and damage to vehicles.

- 4.2 The Keythorpe St area is part of a residential area with some light industrial units and local corner shops. The housing stock on these roads subject to the proposal is predominantly terraced housing. Vehicles park on both sides of the roads. This results in the carriageways being narrowed and two-way traffic flow is affected. Whilst the majority of drivers try and give way to each other, for larger/wider vehicles (4x4, vans and HGVs) this has not always been possible. This leads to the problems raised by the complainants as drivers who fail to give way to each other cause stand off and congestion. This can escalate resulting in incident of driver conflict. In certain cases, vehicles, including parked vehicles, are damage when drivers try to squeeze past each other.

- 4.3 To facilitate the safer movement of vehicles along these roads and reduce both driver conflict and vehicular damage, the City Council has proposed one-way traffic flow restrictions on Keythorpe St, Maynard Rd and Wilson St.

### **5. Report**

- 5.1 The Keythorpe Street area proposals for one-way restrictions were identified for consideration and prioritised following concerns raised by the local community and Councillors. Consultations and public advertisement of the proposals for the TRO have been undertaken. The area is already traffic calmed and the existing features are deemed sufficient for managing speed if the one-way restrictions are introduced.

- 5.2 Following the first consultation and advertisement, a total of twelve objections were received about the proposed one-way restrictions for the Keythorpe St area. After discussion with both councillors and the City Highways Director, it was agreed to modify the original proposals. A second consultation in the form of a Modification letter and revised plan was sent out. Objectors were contacted about the modification to the proposals. In addition, written communication had also sent to the objectors to try and resolves their concerns. The project officer also spoke with one of the objectors to discuss the proposals. Six of the objectors have now withdrawn their written objections, however, six remain unresolved and require consideration.

- 5.3 Details of the remaining objections (received by e-mail) and the officer response to it, are provided in APPENDIX 'C', OBJECTIONS RECEIVED BY E-MAIL.

## **6. Conclusion**

- 6.1 The one-way street proposals for the Keythorpe St area were identified as one of the higher priorities following a report looking at local ward requests for one-way streets under the annual Local Environmental Works (LEW) Programme.
- 6.2 The purpose of the proposed TRO is to improve traffic movements and road safety by removing two-way traffic flows (except cycles) on these narrow sections of residential streets, reducing vehicle damage and conflict between drivers. These roads will have alternating one-way traffic flow, thus providing a gyratory system in this area. Congestion is reduced as the pinch point effect of two-way traffic on a narrow street is eliminated.
- 6.3 Another concerning issue is that driver disputes that end up with drivers not giving way to each other. This leads to standoffs and, in some cases, physical interactions between drivers. These incidents cause congestion in the area affecting Berners St and can also affect traffic movements on Melbourne Rd. It is considered that the proposals will reduce this anti-social conflict.
- 6.4 Objectors 'A' and 'F', have not withdrawn their objections and as a result, there remains six unresolved objections about the one-way street proposal.
- 6.5 Officers recommend that the remaining objections be overruled, and the proposals should now be implemented. The overall benefits to the local community with regards to the reduction of both vehicular damage and conflict between drivers of motor vehicles, should outweigh the Objector's concerns and this should not lead to congestion on those Streets (a plan showing the one-way street proposals is shown in Appendix A). It should be noted that five of the original objectors were about the direction of travel, this was changed as part of the modification. However, the objectors have failed to respond back to the Council.

## **7. Financial Implications**

- 7.1 The total estimated cost of the proposed scheme with the making and final advertising the TRO, in addition to the signing, lining and remedial works is estimated at £15.000 and is funded from the LEW Programme.

## **8. Legal Implications**

- 8.1 The Council has the power to implement the proposed Traffic Regulation Order on roads within the City. The procedure to be used by the Council in making such an order is contained in The Local Authorities' Traffic Orders (Procedure) (England and Wales) Regulations 1996.

## **9. Powers of the Director**

- 9.1 Under the constitution of Leicester City Council, delegated powers have been given to the Director of Planning, Development and Transportation to approve Traffic Orders having considered any objections that have been received and taken due regard of comments made by the Planning and Development Control Committee. The legislation that confers authority on Leicester City Council to make these amendments is covered by the 1984 Road Traffic Regulation Act and the Local Authorities' Traffic Orders (Procedures) (England and Wales) Regulations 1996.

**10. Decision Making**

- 10.1 The power to make a Traffic Regulation Order is delegated to the Director planning, Development and Transportation having regard to comments made by the Planning Development and Control Committee.

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## APPENDIX 'A'

### **MODIFICATION LETTER SENT BY POST AND EMAIL TO OBJECTORS 'A and G'**

Dear Occupier

#### **Keythorpe Street Area, Leicester, One-way Streets – Modification to Traffic Regulation Order**

Consultation and public advertisement took place on the 29<sup>th</sup> January to the 26<sup>th</sup> February 2021, regarding the proposed One-way Street Traffic Regulation Order (TRO) for the Keythorpe Street area. During the advertisement period, concerns were raised by local residents, regarding the direction of travel for the proposed One way restrictions on Keythorpe Street, Maynard Road and Wilson Street. There was a request by several members of the community that the proposed one-ways should be reversed.

Following an internal meeting with both Officers and Ward councillors, the concerns by residents were discussed along with potential options, these were given due consideration. Through the discussion it was agreed that there is support for one-way street restrictions on these three roads. As an option, it has not been deemed unreasonable if the direction of travel was to be reversed on these roads. Looking at the existing traffic movements on Maidstone Road leading to Upper Charnwood Street, these proposed changes should not affect traffic flows on the existing one-way movements on these two streets.

As part of the consultation and advert process for the proposed TRO, residents also raised other concerns and asked for addition restrictions. Requests were put forward for parking restrictions, additional streets to be considered for one-way street status, and finally the re-opening of two closed junctions. Whilst we cannot consider these requests for this proposed Order. We will be adding these requests to our contenders list for future scheme. These will be considered at a later time if future funding become available.

We are therefore proposing that one-way will be reversed and no further modifications are being proposed as part of the One-way Street TRO. The Modified TRO for One-way Street restrictions will only affect the proposed direction of travel of those streets listed on the reverse side of this letter. The formal objection period for these three streets has closed. However, we are asking for your view on the modified TRO and will give due consideration to any further comments.

#### **LEICESTER CITY COUNCIL (KEYTHORPE AREA, GWENDOLEN ROAD, NANSEN ROAD, ROWSLEY AREA, LEICESTER) (CONSOLIDATION ORDER 2006 – AMENDMENT NO.304) (ONE-WAY STREET RESTRICTIONS WITH EXEMPTION FOR PEDAL CYCLES) TRAFFIC REGULATION ORDER 2020 (TMP2944 Modification)**

The modified TRO includes the following roads:

- **Keythorpe Street** from its junction with Berners Street heading in a north-easterly direction to Melbourne Street:
- **Maynard Street** from its junction with Melbourne Street heading in a south-westerly direction to Berners Street: and finally,
- **Wilson Street** from its junction with Melbourne Street Road heading in a south-westerly direction to Berners Street.

The modified One-way Street proposals are also shown on the drawing; **LCC/KS/2944/03/090/002 Rev 'B'**.

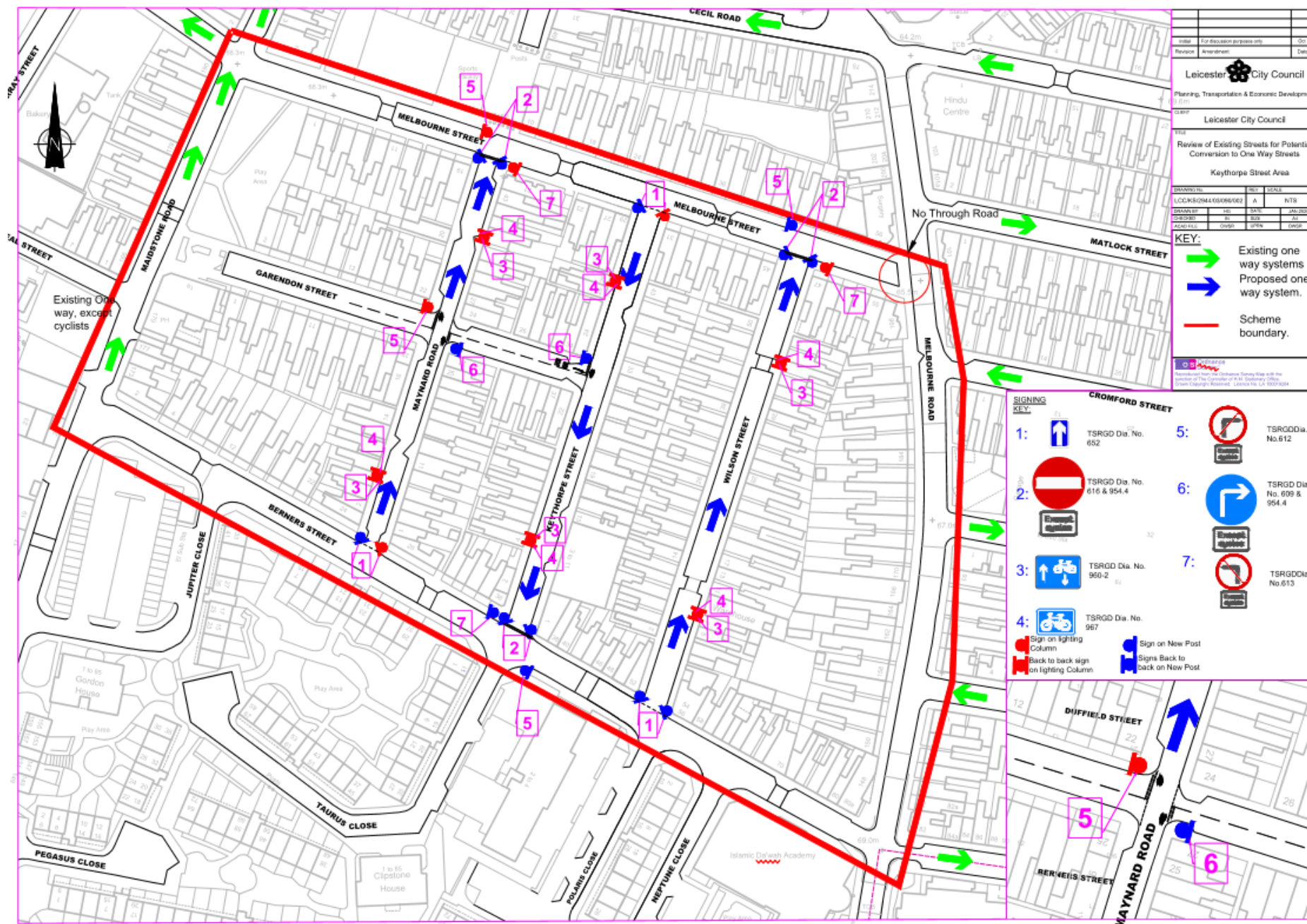
Before proceeding further with these proposals and in accordance with statutory procedures and policies, I now wish to consider any representation regarding this modification. Any comments related to the modified TRO, should be received in writing at the address on the footer or by email to ..... by 24<sup>th</sup> April 2021. All comments will be considered by Assistant City Mayor, ..... and the Highways Department, prior to making any decisions on a scheme.

## **APPENDIX 'B'**

**Keythorpe Street Area – Original Consultation Plan – LCC/KS/2944/03/090/002 - REV 'A'**

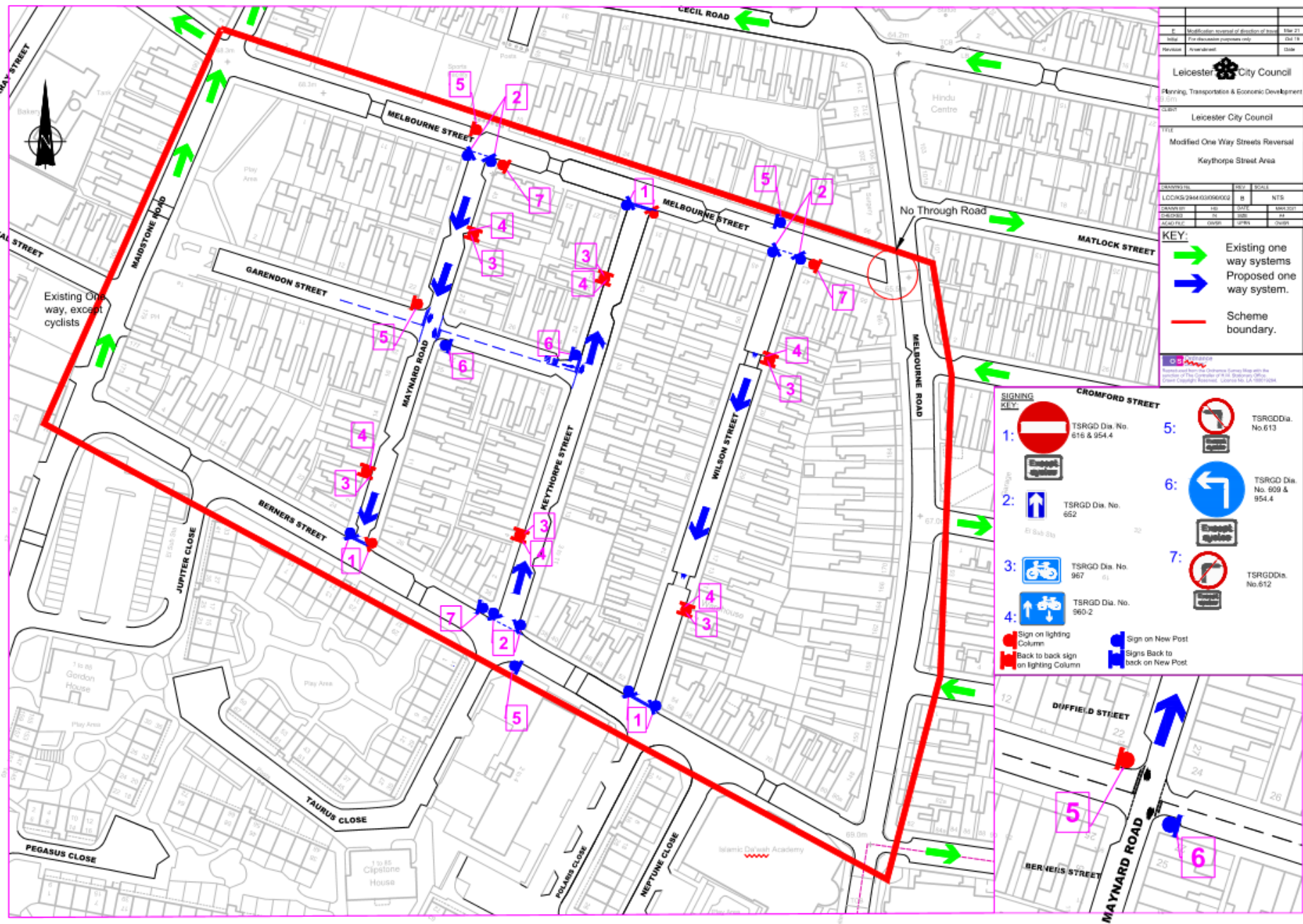
**Keythorpe Street Area – Modified Consultation Plan – LCC/KS/2944/03/090/002 - REV 'B'**

# Original Plan – LCC/KS/2944/03/090/002 - REV 'A'





Modified Plan - LCC/KS/2944/03/090/002 - REV 'B'





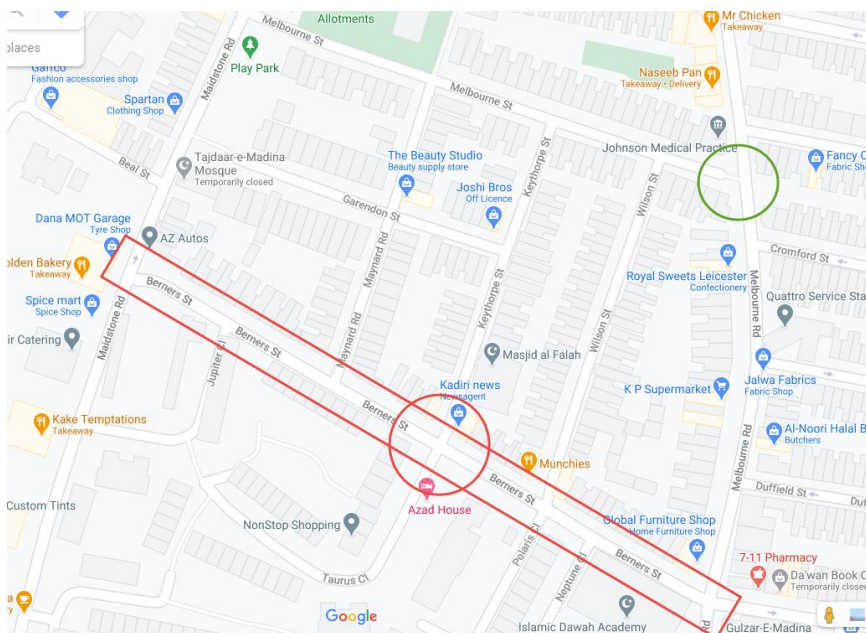
## APPENDIX 'C'

### OBJECTION RECEIVED BY E-MAIL FROM OBJECTORS 'A and F'

1. The objections and officers' responses are as follows: -

#### 1.1 Objector 'A' comments:

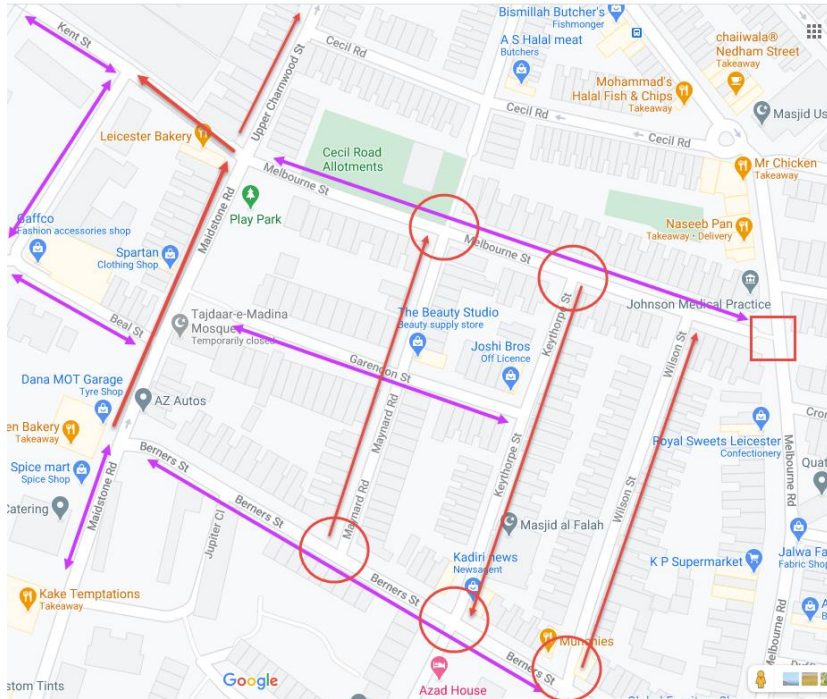
- Thank you for your letter on Consultation for the proposal of Applying a One Way System to the following streets.
  - Wilson Street - North-East Bound
  - Keythorpe Street - South-West Bound
  - Maynard Road - North-East Bound
- In the letter I have received i have looked at your plan ... and with the utmost respect I would have to tell you the proposal with NOT Work. On a 24hr period or even if you look key times
  - School Run 8:00 to 9:00 and 2:45 to 3:45
  - Commuter Times 7:30 to 8:30
  - Lunch Time Rush - 11:30 to 13:30 - to be honest I'm only adding this time just to paint a possible picture to cover all possibilities -
- Even from the times listed above your probably looking at people being inconvenienced for a max of 5 minutes. When there's an issue on a motorway during peak time you don't look at changing the road system otherwise you would be forever rebuilding our motorways. Below is the area in a red rectangle where I'm sure people are complaining about. The red Circle is generally where we get a bottle neck for about 5 minutes and then the it clears.



- Below is the current road layout purple arrows are 2 way traffic Red arrows across Beal Street and the Top of Kent Street are currently one way. With your proposal of a one way along Maynard Road, Keythorpe Street and Wilson Street. You would be creating Bottle Necks throughout the day. In terms of traffic footflow - Maynard and Keythorpe would have the most Traffic between the 3

streets Wilson will have some but bit as much as the other 2. Currently people travel through Keythorpe and Maynard in order to go into town and also reach the main roads i.e. A47.

- Also, the proposed new road layouts i believe would cause an issue for the Bin Collectors as they often have move up and down the streets on both directions. The square on the corner of Melbourne Street and Melbourne Road is a dead end. If you want to resolve the traffic issue that crops up once maybe twice a day for 5 minutes my suggestion would be to re-open the dead-end and now people have 2 routes to reach the A47 at the bottom of the Kent Street



- If you want to look at this in more detail might a suggest you put on a couple of traffic monitoring cameras along Berners Street and I'm sure you will see for yourself. Also with the current Covid-19 situation and now people working from home etc. Everything can change, if it's not Broken Why Try To Fix-It. The amount of disruption you're going to cause for the sake of 5 minutes its mental. You Do Not Have My Vote On This and I Vote Against The Proposal

## **Second email**

- Yes please I would very much like to have a team meeting to discuss this. I know its the local residents who have requested the one way system. I am local resident I live in Garendon Street. So I am well aware of the traffic issues. My concern is people are complaining for an issue that last about 10 minutes majority of the councillors who supported the change are doing so with good intentions. However they do not live in the area they may pass by or through it, but live in the area.
- If you want to make traffic less congested then I suggest you look at reopening the dead end at the end of Melbourne Street...this would resolve the issue and allow for traffic to flow into town as thats the majority of traffic. But your free to do as you like...but I know it won't be long before residents complain and you will have to set the streets back to how they were.

## **1.2 Officer comments:**

- Thank you for your email, I recognise that you are objecting to the proposals for Keythorpe Street area. I am more than happy to discuss this with you. I would just like to confirm that the request for a one-way scheme, has come from residents who live on the affected streets

and is also supported by local councillors. For the three streets, we are looking managing the flow of traffic to try and reduce driver conflict and damage to parked vehicles.

### **Second Email**

- Thank you for your email, clearly you are disappointed that Berners Street was not within the modified proposals for reversing the proposed one-ways. I would just like to make it clear, that we were receiving responses from residents who were not happy with the direction not travel for the one-ways. In addition, like yourself, they did ask for other restrictions to be included. The concerns and objections were discussed with the Ward Councillors and Highway Director. It was agreed to go back out to residents with the proposed modification. However, there is no additional funding to include any other proposals. As such, I have added the request for additional restrictions to a contenders list for your area. This includes Berners Street request for a one-way status. Therefore, in the future, this can be investigated and subject to funding, resources, and support for councillors, could go through the Traffic Regulation Order process.
- I hope that this clarifies that your comments have not be dismissed but have been put up for future consideration when funding is available. It is regrettable that they cannot be included within these proposals. But without additional funding, and the fact that no consultation about Berners Street has been put to the emergency services (*Police, Fire & Ambulance*) asking for their comments, concerns, or objections. We are not able to include other proposals to introduce other one-way streets, parking restrictions (*Residents Parking Scheme*) or to reopen two closed junctions.
- It is appreciated that you have been participating in the Order process, and your views are important along with all the others who have looked to engage with the council. Unfortunately, we cannot include all comments and suggestions, but we have taken steps to record requests for future proposals to be considered.

#### **2.1 Objector 'B' comments:**

- I email you in regard to the one way system you are due to be implementing in the Wilson/Keythorpe /Maynard Road area. You have currently stated that the one way system will have Wilson Street and Maynard Road going down towards Melbourne Street and Keythorpe Street going up towards Berners Street. As a resident of Wilson Street, I believe this current plan will be detrimental to the residents of these streets and will affect all road users who regularly use these streets.
- This will cause bottlenecks at both Berners Street and Melbourne Street and what's more concerning is the way in which drivers would have to be diverted all the way around to Needham Street should there be a blockage of some sort on Keythorpe. As a driver, I feel that this will add a considerable amount of time to our journeys to and from work especially at peak times.
- I urge you to rethink your solution to an already congested area. A two down two up system which creates an 's' flow in the area will ease the traffic for both Berners and Melbourne Street. I sincerely hope you consider this revision to your plan as I believe your current plan would seriously hamper the use of the roads for all residents causing very unhappy residents.

### **Second Email: -**

- Thank you for your email and yes I am objecting to the proposal.

#### **2.2 Officer comments:**

- Thank you for your email, I would just like to confirm before sending a formal response to your comments, that are you objecting to the proposals. I appreciate you have not said the word 'Objection' but the nature of your comments can be classed as an objection. Therefore, I want to make sure that is your intention.

### 3.1 **Objector 'C'** comments:

- I object to current the current proposal for the new one-way system in the Keythorpe Street area. I feel that having three streets facing in one direction (Maidstone Road, Maynard Road and Wilson Street) and only one in the other direction (Keythorpe Street) will have a negative impact on the one-way system and create more issues.
- I would prefer to have an even number of streets in each direction:
  - Maidstone Road (already going towards Melbourne Street) and Keythorpe Street in one direction (also towards Melbourne Street); and
  - Wilson Street and Maynard Road in the opposite direction (towards Berners Street)
- I feel that this would make a traffic flow better and more evenly.

### 3.2 **Officer comments:**

- Thank you for your email, I record that you are objecting to the current proposals. You would prefer an even number of one-way traffic flows on the affected roads in this area. I will be discussion all concerns and objections with senior management and councillors. Following that meeting in March, I will be in a better position to formally respond to you, about the steps we are looking to take.

### 4.1 **Objector 'D'** comments:

- I am writing this letter in concern and objection to the new proposed traffic regulation orders for the Keythorpe Street Area. After looking at the proposed order, I think is going to create more traffic mayhem then to ease better flow of traffic. In within the red box highlighted in the street map you have three street going north east bound Maidstone Road, Maynard Road and Wilson Street, and only one street Keythorpe Street south west bound, so all the traffic from these three street Maidstone Road, Maynard Road and Wilson Street to get on to Berners Street have to travel through Keythorpe Street south west bound, including traffic from Garendon Street and Melbourne Street. So as Keythorpe Street is the only Street where you can have excess out to Berners Street their is going to be heavy traffic in this street. My propose would be even number of streets in each direction as you would have better flow of traffic. We could have Maidstone Road and Keythorpe Street traffic flowing north east bound and Maynard Road and Wilson Street traffic flowing south west bound which would make even flow of traffic for all residents in this area. I also suggest that the existed road humps on Wilson Street be removed or the metal bollards be removed or simplified so we can get extra four spaces where residents can park their cars.

### 4.2 **Officer comments:**

- Thank you for your email, I record that you are objecting to the current proposals. You believe that it will cause more traffic issues that resolve, and that it would be better to have an even number linked to the direction of travel on one-way streets. You also want traffic calming to be remove along with some bollards. I will be discussion all concerns and objections with senior management and councillors. Following that meeting in March, I will be in a better position to formally respond to you, about the steps we are looking to take.

### 5.1 **Objector 'E'** comments:

- Would like to leave it the way it was. However, I would like to put my view that I think the one-way system, regarding Keythorpe street, Maynard and Maidstone will have a negative impact. This is because of the one-way system and would create many problems such as traffic.



- Take out ramps in Wilson Street which will give four parking spots for the residents that live there. Therefore, I would like to have an even number of streets in each of the following directions: - Maidstone Road and Keythorpe street in one direction likewise, Wilson street and Maynard road for a better and consecutive flow of the traffic for everyone.

## 5.2 Officer comments:

- Thank you for your email, I have noted that you have not said you are objecting to the current proposals. You believe the proposal may cause more traffic issues and that it would be better to have an even number streets with the same direction. You also want traffic calming to be remove along with some bollards. Therefore, I am assuming that you would like your comments to be an objection to the current proposals. I will be discussing all concerns and objections with senior management and councillors. Following that meeting in March, I will be in a better position to formally respond to you, about the steps we are looking to take.

## 6.1 Objector 'F' comments:

- Letter sent in by objector.

I object to the current proposal for the new one-way system in the Keythorpe Street area. I feel that have three streets facing in one direction (Maidstone Road, Maynard Road and Wilson Street) and only one in the other direction (Keythorpe Street) will have a negative impact on the one-way system and create more issues.

I would prefer to have an even number of streets in each direction:

- Maidstone Road and Keythorpe Street in one direction; and
- Wilson Street and Maynard Road in the opposite direction.

I feel that this would make traffic flow better and more evenly.

## 6.2 Officer comments:

- On Friday, the 2nd of April, you should have received a modification letter and updated plan (see attachments), show the amendments to the One-way street proposals for the Keythorpe Street area. During the original consultation, you raised an objection to those proposals. The modification now looks to reverse the direction of travel. Other comments and requests for additional restrictions, could not be included within these proposals, as there is not the funding. However, we have added the requests by residents to a contenders list for potential future schemes.
- With the above being said, I am looking to see if you are happy to withdraw your objection to the One-way Street proposal. As the modified proposals may satisfy your concerns of affecting the traffic flow on an even number of streets compared to the original proposals, if they had been introduced. If you are happy to withdraw your objection, could you let me know in writing within 14 days of this letter. If I do not hear from you, I will assume you want your objection to stand against the One-way regardless of the direction of travel.