

Transport and Environment Committee

10am, Tuesday, 17 March 2015

Revisions to Proposed Waiting and Loading Restrictions - Cowgate

Item number	8.4
Report number	
Executive/routine	
Wards	11 – City Centre

Executive summary

The Cowgate currently has waiting restrictions in place Monday to Saturday from 0830 to 1830, as displayed on the carriageway with a single yellow line at the kerb. From 19 April 2013 to 14 May 2013, the City of Edinburgh Council advertised a proposal for 24 hour waiting restrictions along the length of the Cowgate, with loading restrictions at the junctions.

After advertisement, the proposals were amended. Proposed loading restrictions were removed at the minor junctions along the Cowgate, due to the requirement for sign poles - considered to be an obstruction on an already narrow footway.

The amended proposal will introduce 24 hour waiting restrictions. In addition, it is proposed to add 24 hour loading restrictions at the junction of Cowgate/High School Wynd/Blackfriar's Street and on the eastbound carriageway leading up to St Mary's Street.

Links

Coalition pledges	P32 , P44
Council outcomes	CO7 , CO19
Single Outcome Agreement	SO4

Revisions to Proposed Waiting, and Loading Restrictions - Cowgate

Recommendations

- 1.1 It is recommended that the Transport and Environment Committee:
 - 1.1.1 approves the implementation of the amended waiting and loading restrictions, as detailed in Appendix One.

Background

- 2.1 Due to safety concerns, local residents and the police made representations to the Neighbourhood Roads Team regarding vehicles parked at junctions and along the Cowgate itself. Road users also complained about delays to traffic due to parked vehicles. Following assessment of the sightlines and the existing parking restrictions, proposals were drawn up to introduce double yellow line waiting restrictions along the Cowgate.
- 2.2 The purpose of the traffic regulation order (TRO) is to provide safe access by preventing obstructions to sightlines at the junctions and to improve capacity for through traffic on the Cowgate.

Main report

- 3.1 The Cowgate is a main east-west route through the city centre. Princes Street and the Royal Mile have restrictions in place, reducing the number of alternative routes for vehicle traffic.
- 3.2 The carriageway of the Cowgate is six to seven metres wide between Cowgatehead and Blackfriar's Street. Parked vehicles impede traffic and obstruct sightlines at the junctions.
- 3.3 Existing footways on the Cowgate are narrow and can not be widened or relocated.
- 3.4 For these reasons, it is recommended to introduce waiting and loading restrictions on the Cowgate.

Measures of success

- 4.1 Increased road safety.
- 4.2 Improved traffic flow.
- 4.3 Reduction in complaints from the public.

Financial impact

- 5.1 Financial implications include the cost of making the order and installing the line markings and signs.
- 5.2 The cost can be met from within existing City Centre and Leith Neighbourhood revenue budget for financial year 2015/16.
- 5.3 The cost is anticipated to be in the region of £10,000.

Risk, policy, compliance and governance impact

- 6.1 There is no known risk, policy, compliance or governance impact arising from this report.

Equalities impact

- 7.1 Consideration has been given to the relevance of the Equalities Act 2010, and there is no direct positive or negative impact on these duties arising from this report.
- 7.2 The proposals, if approved, will enhance the right to a safe environment by improving road safety, although there will be a minimal negative impact on the loss of parking amenity.

Sustainability impact

- 8.1 The impacts of this report have been considered in relation to the three elements of the Climate Change (Scotland) Act 2009 Public Bodies Duties and the outcomes are summarised below:
 - a The proposals in this report are not expected to impact negatively on the reduction of carbon emissions;
 - b The proposals in this report are not expected to impact negatively on the city's resilience to climate change impacts; and
 - c The proposals in this report are not expected to impact negatively on social justice, economic well-being, or the city's environmental good stewardship.

Consultation and engagement

- 9.1 Requests were made by local residents and taken up by a local Councillor to prevent inconsiderate parking along the Cowgate, with a view to improving road safety by promoting unobstructed sightlines.
- 9.2 The Police requested the measures to assist with enforcement of the existing restriction on vehicle traffic, between the hours of 2200 to 0500.
- 9.3 The traffic regulation order was formally advertised 19 April 2013 to 14 May 2013, as TRO/12/31 'Cowgate Area'. Local elected members have been made aware of amendments to the original proposed waiting restrictions and no further concerns have been raised.
- 9.4 One objection was received which was subsequently withdrawn.

Background reading/external references

Appendix 1 – Plan of the proposed waiting and loading restrictions.

John Bury

Acting Director of Services for Communities

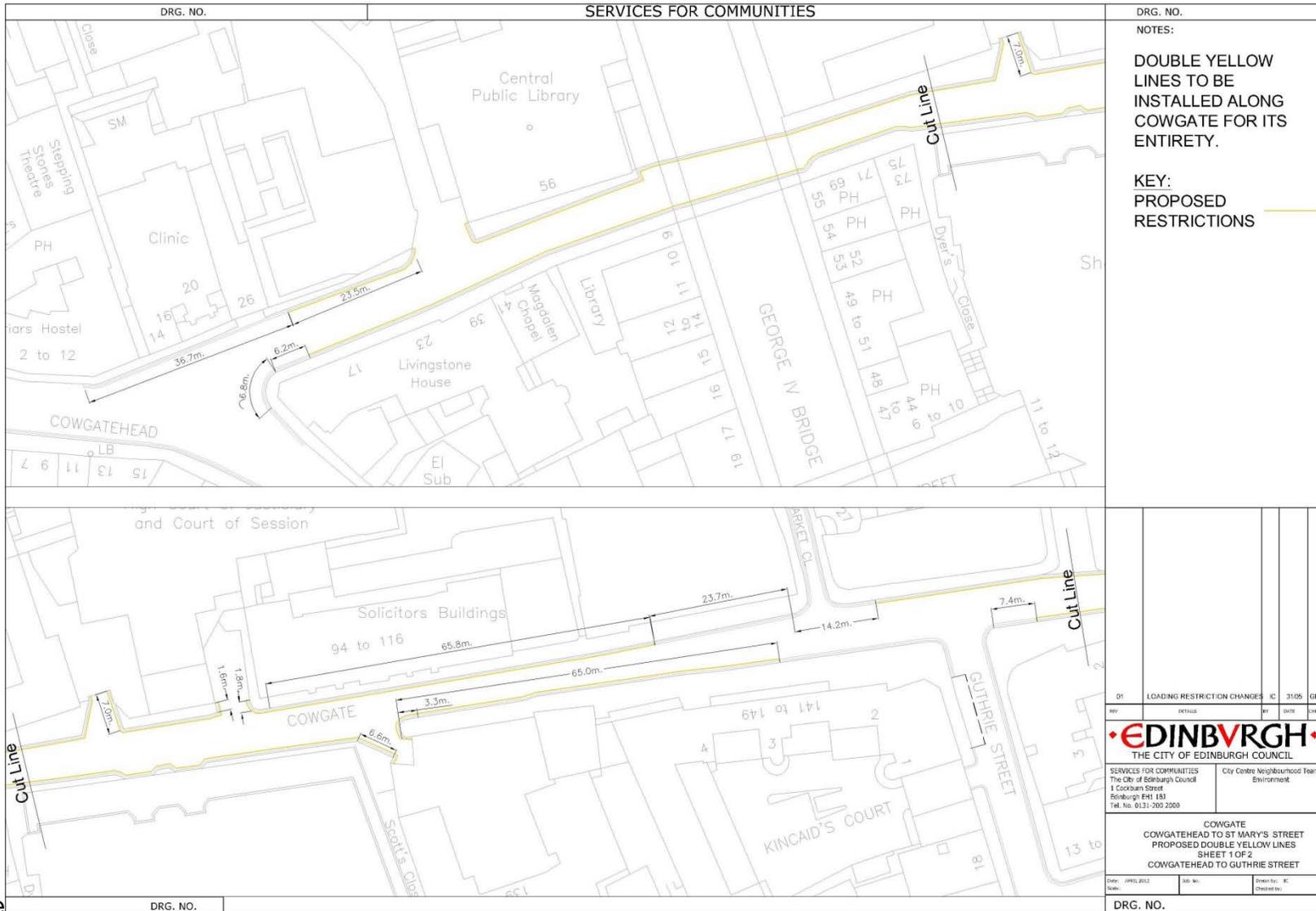
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Links

Coalition pledges	P32 – Develop and strengthen local community links with the police
	P44 – Prioritise keeping our streets clean and attractive
Council outcomes	CO7 – Edinburgh draws new investment in development and regeneration
	CO19 - Attractive Places and Well Maintained - Edinburgh remains an attractive city through the development of high quality buildings and places and the delivery of high standards.
Single Outcome Agreement	SO4 – Edinburgh's communities are safer and have improved physical and social fabric
Appendices	Appendix One – Plans for proposed waiting and loading restrictions in the Cowgate

Appendix One – Plans for proposed waiting and loading restrictions in the



DRG. NO. SERVICES FOR COMMUNITIES

DRG. NO. NOTES:

DOUBLE YELLOW LINES TO BE INSTALLED ALONG COWGATE FOR ITS ENTIRETY.

KEY: PROPOSED RESTRICTIONS

DRG. NO.	LOADING RESTRICTION CHANGES	NO.	31.05	GP
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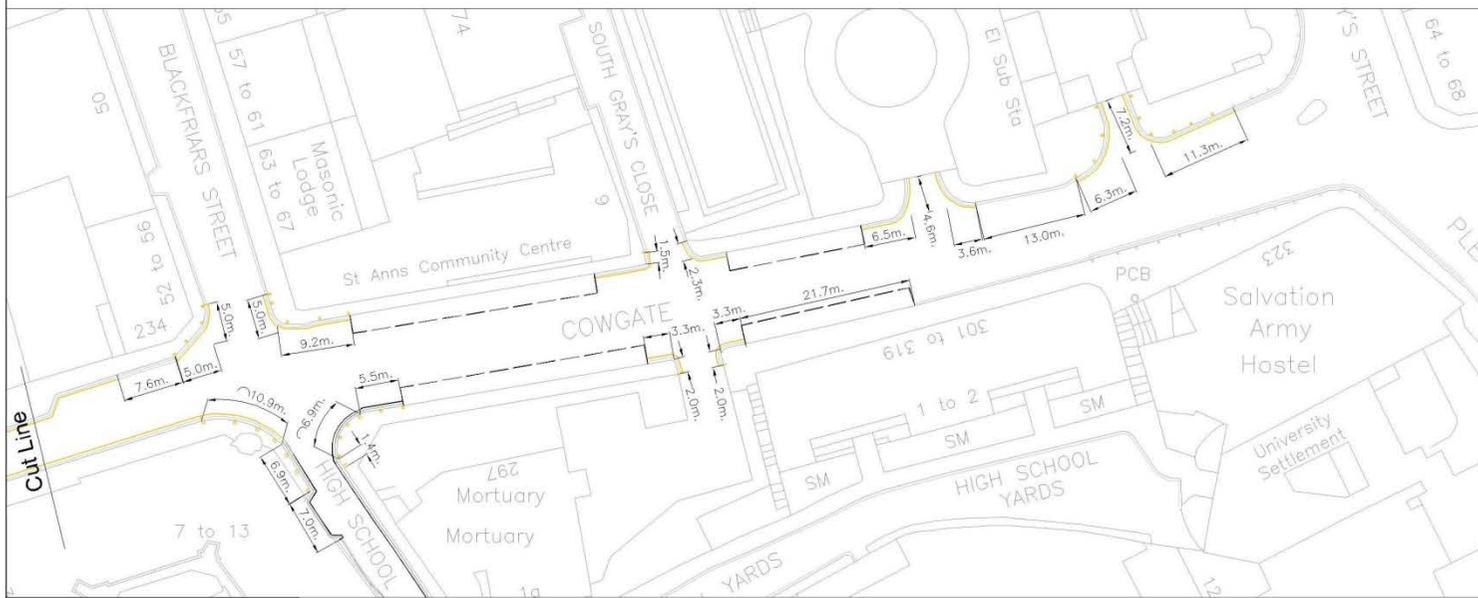
City Centre Neighbourhood Team
Environment

COWGATE
COWGATEHEAD TO ST MARY'S STREET
PROPOSED DOUBLE YELLOW LINES
SHEET 1 OF 2
COWGATEHEAD TO GUTHRIE STREET

Date: 09/01/2012	Job No.	Drawn by: EC
Scale:		Checked by:
DRG. NO.		

Cowgate

DRG. NO.



SERVICES FOR COMMUNITIES

DRG. NO.

NOTES:

DOUBLE YELLOW LINES TO BE INSTALLED ALONG COWGATE FOR ITS ENTIRETY.

DOUBLE BLIPS TO BE INSTALLED AS SHOWN ON DRAWING

KEY:
PROPOSED RESTRICTIONS

01	LOADING RESTRICTION CHANGES	IC	31/05	GP
REV	DETAILS	BY	DATE	CHECK



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City Centre Neighbourhood Team
Environment

COWGATE
COWGATEHEAD TO ST MARY'S STREET
PROPOSED DOUBLE YELLOW LINES
SHEET 2 OF 2
GUTHRIE STREET TO ST MARY'S STREET

Drawn: 10/05/2012	Sub. No.	Drawn by: IC
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DRG. NO.

DRG. NO.