

FALKIRK COUNCIL

**Subject: THE FALKIRK COUNCIL (LIDO LANE,
STENHOUSEMUIR)(PROHIBITION OF LEFT TURN) ORDER 2012**
Meeting: PLANNING COMMITTEE
Date: 1 MAY 2013
Author: DIRECTOR OF DEVELOPMENT SERVICES

Ward: Carse, Kinnaird and Tryst

**Local Members: Councillor Stephen Bird
Councillor Steven Carleschi
Councillor Charles MacDonald
Councillor Craig Martin**

Community Council: Larbert, Stenhousemuir and Torwood Community Council

Council Officer: Russell Steedman - Network Co-ordinator

1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 This report seeks a decision on The Falkirk Council (Lido Lane, Stenhousemuir)(Prohibition of Left Turn) Order 2012, the purpose of which is to prohibit the left turn manoeuvre from Lido Lane into James Street, Stenhousemuir to safeguard residential amenity from through traffic. In terms of the Council's Scheme of Delegation, this decision requires to be made by Committee as unresolved objections have been received to the making of the Order. In terms of the relevant legislation, the authority requires to consider all objections made and not withdrawn before making the Order.
- 1.2 Members should be aware that it is available to them to call for a hearing on the Order should they find themselves unable to determine whether the Order should be made or not at this stage. Such a hearing would be conducted by an independent party appointed by the Council from a list of persons compiled by the Scottish Ministers for that purpose. Members would then need to consider the report and recommendation of the Reporter before making a determination.

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1 Following implementation of the Falkirk Council (Lido Lane, Stenhousemuir)(One-Way Traffic and Restricted Access) Order 2012, complaints have been received regarding taxis using the residential area of James Street, Stenhousemuir as a through route to avoid traffic signals on Main Street, Stenhousemuir. The proposed Traffic Regulation Order (TRO) prohibits the left turning manoeuvre from Lido Lane, Stenhousemuir into James Street, Stenhousemuir to address these concerns.

- 2.2 The location of the proposed prohibition is shown on the drawing numbered TRO/12/038 attached.
- 2.3 Planning consent was granted by Members of the Planning Committee on 27 July 2006 for the redevelopment of Stenhousemuir town centre. Lido Lane was constructed as a “one way bus link” to facilitate the introduction of a local bus service whilst safeguarding the adjacent residential communities as part of this redevelopment.
- 2.4 The decision to make The Falkirk Council (Lido Lane, Stenhousemuir)(One-Way Traffic and Restricted Access) Order 2012 and to permit taxi’s to use Lido Lane was made by Planning Committee at its meeting of 19 September 2012.

3. CONSULTATION

- 3.1 Forty five objections, dated 24 December 2012, were received to the proposed order by way of signatures on a pre-prepared objection letter.
- 3.2 The 45 signature objection, prepared by a local taxi company, bases its objection on two points. These are:
- a) Increased congestion along Park Drive towards the traffic signalised junction between Main Street, Stenhousemuir and King Street, Stenhousemuir.
 - b) Increased cost.
- 3.3 Development Services responded to objectors on 5 February 2012 explaining:-
- a) The volume of permitted vehicles (buses, taxis and cycles) using Lido Lane is low. As such, prohibiting the left turn manoeuvre at the junction between Lido Lane and James Street, would not cause significant congestion issues on Park Drive, Main Street, or at the junction between Main Street and King Street.
 - b) For destinations west of the junction between Main Street and McLachlan Street (McLachlan Street being the next street to access Main Street), prohibiting left turning vehicles adds approximately 40 metres (43 yards) to the total distance travelled which is unlikely to add significant cost to fares.
 - c) Development Services’ proposals to implement such restrictions are considered necessary to safeguard the local residential community from rat running vehicles. An increase in vehicle numbers within residential areas can pose safety concerns.
- 3.4 Objectors were asked, should they be minded to do so, to formally withdraw their objections.
- 3.5 To date, one objection has been withdrawn.
- 3.6 Central Scotland Police have advised that they have no additional comments to make in relation to the proposals.

4.0 CONCLUSION

- 4.1 The purpose of The Falkirk Council (Lido Lane, Stenhousemuir)(Prohibition of Left Turn) Order 2012 is to safeguard the adjacent residential streets from an increase in vehicular traffic caused by taxis using residential streets. An increase in vehicle numbers within residential areas can pose road safety concerns. Prohibiting left turning manoeuvres from Lido Lane to would minimise the potential of road safety issues caused by taxis in the James Street area.

5.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 5.1 **Members are asked to consider the terms of the report including the objections and determine whether the Order should be made.**

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Director of Development Services

Date: 26 March 2013

Contact Officer: Russell Steedman, Network Co-ordinator Tel: Ext 4830

LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS

1. The Falkirk Council (Lido Lane, Stenhousemuir)(Prohibition of Left Turn) Order 2012
2. The Falkirk Council (Lido Lane, Stenhousemuir)(One-Way Traffic and Restricted Access) Order 2012
3. Consultation responses
4. Letters of objection and correspondence.