

Cabinet Member Decision

Report Title:	King Street & Market Street, Southport – Temporary Road Closure
Date of Issue:	29 November 2024
Date of Decision:	9 December 2024
Report to:	Cabinet Member Housing & Highways
Report of:	Assistant Director– Highways & Public Protection
Portfolio:	Housing & Highways
Wards affected:	Dukes
Is this a key decision:	No
Included in Forward Plan:	No
Exempt/confidential report:	No

Summary:

To seek Cabinet Member approval to temporarily close:

- King Street, Southport between the junctions of Eastbank Street and Market Street
- Market Street, Southport between the junctions of King Street and the Market Hall yard entrance (west of Queen Anne Street)

Also, to temporarily revoke the existing one-way order of Market Street, Southport between King Street and Princess Street.

The proposed closure and revocation will commence on the 6th January 2025 and be in place until 30th September 2025.

The closures are necessary to enable works on both Market Street and King Street to be undertaken as part of the Les Transformation De Southport scheme, relating to improved public realm and will allow the works to be completed in an efficient and safe manner whilst maintaining access for businesses.

During the closure it is expected that collaborative working will be undertaken to allow necessary diversion for utility apparatus.

Recommendation(s):

That the Cabinet Member Approves:

- The implementation of the temporary road closures of King Street and Market Street, Southport.
- The temporary revocation of the one-way traffic order which applies to Market Street, Southport.
- The necessary legal procedures, including those of public consultation and advertising the Councils intention to implement the order

1. The Rationale and Evidence for the Recommendations

- 1.1 This element of the Le Transformations De Southport scheme is expected to commence on site on the 6th of January 2025 with works expected to last until the Autumn 2025.
- 1.2 For the new public realm works both the carriageways and the footways on King Street and Market will be upgraded with new paving material and soft landscaping to create a new streetscape scene. Several permanent Traffic Regulation Orders(TRO's) will come into effect on the completion of the new layouts.



- 1.3 Due to the complex nature of the works being delivered, including extensive footway and carriageway excavations and to enable them to be completed in a safe and timely manner, it will be necessary to implement a temporary road closure for both roads. The expected utility diversions will be completed in collaboration under the same closure.
- 1.4 The closure will allow both the Contractor and the Utility companies to utilise the available carriageway space more efficiently without the need to accommodate traffic. It will also provide a higher level of safety with a more self-contained site for both the public and the workforce not having to manage the interface with vehicles. This additional space will allow the Contractor to maximise the width that can be provided for pedestrians using

each street and create a more inviting space around the works for customers of the local businesses on each road which will continue to operate during the construction works.

- 1.5 The King Street closure will take place between the junctions of Eastbank Street and Market Street, whilst the Market Street closure will be between the junctions of King Street and the Market Hall yard by Queen Anne Street.
- 1.6 The proposed closure will start **6th January 2025 and be in place until 30th September 2025**.
- 1.7 Local diversions will be set up around the closures.
- 1.8 Once the closures are in place access to the Market Hall yard, Queen Anne Street, Residents parking and local businesses will need to be maintained. This will be done by revoking the existing one-way order to allow 2-way traffic between the Market Hall yard and Princess Street – see google image below. To facilitate this the existing parking bay on the south side of Market Street will be removed.



- 1.9 Officers are conscious that the business environment of Southport has been difficult during the latter half of 2024 and are acutely aware that a public realm scheme does by nature cause some disruption, especially to pedestrian movements. The road closures will allow easier temporary pedestrian routes through and around the works creating a more inviting space for customers of the local businesses without the need to accommodate vehicles. During the closures pedestrian access to all business and properties will be maintained as will refuse collections and deliveries. Works on Market Street will be prioritised to allow the outdoor seating area of the market to be available for when the busier Spring / Summer period picks up.
- 1.10 It is worth noting that a permanent TRO for Market Street has already been approved and will come into effect on completion of the works. This includes a 'Prohibition of Driving Order', which will apply between King Street and the Market Hall yard by Queen Anne Street, This will prohibit all vehicles from entering that section of Market Street except for delivery vehicles between the hours of 6 p.m. and 10 a.m. In addition, the same TRO permanently revokes the existing 1-way order between the Market Hall yard by Queen Anne Street and Princess Street to allow 2-way traffic,

There is also a permanent TRO for King Street to introduce one way traffic between Eastbank Street and Market Street.

2. Financial Implications

The scheme will be funded from the £5.265m allocation in the 2024/5 Transportation Capital Programme for delivery of the Phase 1 Public Realm works comprising CRSTS and Levelling Up funding.

3. Legal Implications

The Council has the power to make temporary Traffic Regulation Orders under (Section 14 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984).

4. Corporate Risk Implications

The risk implications without the closure would be extended works duration and possible increase in project costs.

5 Staffing HR Implications

The scheme will be managed by staff in the Transportation, Planning and Highways Development team who will manage the contract with WSP commissioned to complete the supervision of the works and contract administration. The costs are within the budget.

6 Conclusion

To approve the recommendations for this closure.

Alternative Options Considered and Rejected

Retaining traffic movements during the works was considered but was discounted on safety grounds and because it would put additional constrictions on the amount of space that could be left available for pedestrian movements.

Equality Implications:
There are no equality implications.
Impact on Children and Young People:
The public realm works will not have a direct impact on children and young people
Climate Emergency Implications:
The recommendations within this report will have a Neutral impact.

What consultations have taken place on the proposals and when?

(A) Internal Consultations

The Executive Director of Corporate Services & Commercial (FD.7875/24.....) and the Chief Legal and Democratic Officer (LD.5975/24.....) have been consulted and any comments have been incorporated into the report.

(B) External Consultations

An advanced start letter has been sent to residents / businesses in November on Eastbank Street, Market Street and King Street.

A Ward Member Briefing Note has also been issued providing scheme details and dates for the scheme, including proposed road closures.

Implementation Date for the Decision :

Following the expiry of the “call-in” period for the Cabinet Member decision.

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Appendices:

There are no appendices to this report

Background Papers:

There are no background papers to this report