

THE CITY OF SOUTHAMPTON (SCHOOL STREETS) EXPERIMENTAL ORDER 2023

Statement of Reasons

This Order is being proposed for the following reasons:

- for avoiding danger to persons or other traffic using the road or any other road or for preventing the likelihood of any such danger arising
- for facilitating the passage on the road or any other road of any class of traffic (including pedestrians)
- for preserving or improving the amenities of the area through which the road runs
- To manage and improve air quality

In response to the COVID-19 pandemic Southampton City Council introduced a number of 'School Street' schemes on a temporary basis which close road directly outside the school entrances to motor vehicles at the start and end of each school day to provide more space for social distancing and encourage active travel.

Many of these schemes have been successful in creating a safer, greener and more pleasant environment outside schools and support more families to travel sustainably on the school run. As such the Council is making an experimental traffic order to trial these schemes on a more formal basis and allow a public consultation process to be undertaken to assist in determining whether or not to keep the restrictions in force permanently.

In authorising the advertisement of these proposals the Council has given consideration to its duty under s122 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 to secure the expeditious, convenient and safe movement of vehicular and other traffic (including pedestrians) and the provision of suitable and adequate parking facilities on and off the highway (while having regard to the matters specified in s122 subsection (2) of that Act).