ABERDEEN CITY COUNCIL

ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984

THE ABERDEEN CITY COUNCIL (UNION STREET / BACK WYND, ABERDEEN) (TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT) ORDER 202_

STATEMENT OF REASONS

Aberdeen City Council proposes to make the above-named order to regulate waiting and loading by vehicles on the length of Union Street between its junctions with Bridge Street / Union Terrace and Market Street, having regard to the new streetscape being established. The order will also provide for a nighttime taxi stance and amend the motor vehicle access exemption on Back Wynd.

The order will restate the existing prohibition of vehicles waiting at any time throughout this section of Union Street, subject to the exemptions set out in the order.

The proposed waiting and loading controls are intended to complement existing access arrangements by reducing obstruction and delay and supporting the safe and efficient movement of public transport. In the central section, outside the zig-zag-marked area of the signal-controlled pedestrian crossing (near Belmont Street), loading will be prohibited from 8am to 9.30am, 12.30pm to 2.30pm and 4.30pm to 6pm.

The extent of the crossing's zig-zag-marked area will be revised to accommodate the new streetscape, with 'no stopping' restrictions always applying throughout that area. In the western and eastern sections, where there are bus stops and signal-controlled junctions, loading will be prohibited at all times to keep these areas clear of loading activity.

The controls are also intended to minimise potential conflict between vehicles and pedestrians and support safe and convenient pedestrian movement. They are also intended to reduce potential conflict between people cycling and loading activities alongside the dedicated cycle facility.

The order will also establish a nighttime taxi stance on the north side of Union Street, west of its junction with Market Street, operating from midnight to 5am on any day. The proposed location represents a slight adjustment to the position of the previous stance to accommodate the new streetscape. The previous stance served the nighttime hospitality and entertainment economy.

Vehicles carrying a disabled person and displaying a Blue Badge associated with that person will be able to access central Union Street via Back Wynd at any time of day. The intended benefit is to allow that person to alight from the vehicle. The order will achieve this by adding an exemption to the daily 11am to 4.30pm motor vehicle restriction on Back Wynd between Gaelic Lane and Union Street; access is already available outside those hours. Applicable waiting and loading restrictions will continue to apply, and existing exemptions for taxis and authorised private hire cars will remain unchanged.