

THE HIGHLAND COUNCIL

The Highland Council (Academy Street Project) (Movement) Order 2024 (DRAFT)

Statement of reasons

The Council proposes to make the Order above in exercise of its powers under Sections 1(1), 2(1) and (2) and Section 3 and Part IV of Schedule 9 to the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 as amended.

This Traffic Order is required to deliver changes to vehicle movements from Queensgate to Academy Street and Church Street (eastbound) to Queensgate, Inverness as part of the Places for Everyone Project delivery.

The effect of the proposed Order is to:

1. Ban the left turn by all vehicles from Queensgate to Academy Street.
2. Restrict access for motorised vehicles between Church Street West and Queensgate (eastbound) between 8am and 6pm. Only authorised vehicle engaged in the provision of commercial deliveries to properties, buses, taxis, motorcycle and pedal cycle will be permitted access during restricted hours.

The proposed measures are intended to reduce the flow of vehicles on Academy Street via Church Street (west) and Queensgate. If this Order is made, the reduced traffic flow from Queensgate onto Academy Street will help to improve the environment, accessibility and safety for walking and wheeling within Academy Street.

The Academy Street Project, funded by Transport Scotland's Places for Everyone fund as part of the wider Places for Everyone Project, has been in development for over 8 years, through successive Council administrations, public and stakeholder consultation, and design iterations.

The objectives of the project are to:

- provide a seamless connection of the East to West City Active Travel Corridor (walking, wheeling & Cycling), through a coherent city centre link.
- improve the public realm, making Academy Street a more attractive place to spend time in, whilst being respectful of the architectural history, identity, and importance of Academy Street within Inverness city.
- make Academy Street safer and more accessible for Active Travel users.
- Ensure strong links with active and sustainable transport projects, where wider improvements to the urban realm and sustainable transport connectivity across the city and region encourages active and sustainable transport as an attractive and realistic choice for more people in Inverness and the Highland region for more of their everyday journeys.; and
- inspire and support stakeholders and the wider community by involving them in the redesign of their streets and neighbourhood and ensuring current and future needs are a key driver for change.

- seek to promote sustainable transport by providing regulated Bus Lanes as scheduled within the Order and to allow the reduction of vehicles on Academy Street by restricting the carriageway use at certain locations to Buses, Taxis & Cycles.

The Highland Council as part of their plans to improve the environment within the city centre intend to provide high quality paving, seating, and planting within Academy Street. The scheme seeks to manage traffic within the city centre whilst maintaining access for all. The Council set out their vision at the Inverness City Committee on 28 August 2023. The Council have engaged with stakeholders throughout 2023 and 2024 to inform them of the plans and to shape the design. A Traffic Regulation Order (TRO) to introduce movement restrictions from Church St west to Queensgate (eastbound) and from Queensgate left to Academy Street is a necessary part of the proposed traffic management scheme.

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The Highland Council in exercise of their powers under Sections 1(1), 2(1), 2(2) of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 as amended (which Act as so amended is hereinafter referred to as "the 1984 Act"), and of all other enabling powers and after consultation with the Chief Constable in accordance with Part III of Schedule 9 to the 1984 Act hereby propose to make the following order:-

1. This Order may be cited as **The Highland Council (Academy Street Project) (Movement) Order 2024** and shall come into operation on the First day of xxxx 2024

In this Order the following phrases have the meanings hereby assigned to them:-

" Article" means an Article of this Order;

"Schedule" means the schedule to this Order

" Chief Constable" means the Chief Constable of the Police Service of Scotland;

" Principal Traffic Officer" means the Principal Officer of the Traffic and Parking section of the Infrastructure, Environment & Economy Service of The Highland Council;

"the Council" means The Highland Council;

" parking enforcement officer" has the same meaning as parking attendant in Section 63A of the 1984 Act;

" pedal cycle" shall have the meaning assigned to that phrase by Section 151 of the Roads (Scotland) Act 1984;

"motor cycle" shall have the meaning assigned to that phrase by Section 136 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984

" public service vehicle" shall have the meaning assigned to that phrase by Section 1 of the Public Passenger Vehicles Act 1981;

"local bus" means a public service vehicle being used in the provision of a local service not being an excursion or tour;

"local service" has the same meaning as in Section 2 of the Transport Act 1985;

"authorised vehicle" means a vehicle carrying out a commercially operated delivery or collection service and authorised by The Highland Council to execute the manoeuvre that is otherwise prohibited by Article 4;

" road" has the same meaning as in Section 151 of the Roads (Scotland) Act 1984 and includes part of a road;

"taxi" means a taxi as defined in Section 23 of the Civic Government (Scotland) Act 1982;

2. The restrictions imposed by this Order shall be in addition to and not in derogation of any restriction or requirement imposed by any regulations made under the 1984 Act or by or under any other enactment.
3. All provisions contained in any Order in so far as the same repeat or are inconsistent with the provisions of this Order and the true intent and meaning hereof shall cease to have effect and are hereby revoked.
4. Save as provided in Article 5 no person shall drive or permit to be driven any vehicle other than a local bus, taxi, pedal cycle or motor cycle so as to take access from the road specified in Column 1 of Part 1 of the Schedule to the road specified in Column 2 of Part 1 of the Schedule;
5. Nothing in Article 4 shall prevent any person from driving or causing or permitting to be driven so as to execute the manoeuvre prohibited by Article 4:
 - (i) any vehicle on any day from 1800 hours until 0800 hours;
 - (ii) a vehicle being used for fire and rescue service, ambulance service or police purposes that is either clearly marked as such or carrying a flashing beacon;
 - (iii) a vehicle being used in the service of the Council in pursuance of statutory powers and duties;
 - (iv) an authorised vehicle.
6. No person shall drive or cause or permit to be driven any vehicle from the road specified in Column 1 of Part 2 of the Schedule so as to make the turn specified in Column 2 of Part 2 of the Schedule.

Sealed with the Common Seal of The Highland Council and subscribed for them and on their behalf in terms of the Local Government (Scotland) act 1994 by.....Solicitor and Proper Officer aton [enter date].

DRAFT

This is the Schedule referred to in the foregoing The Highland Council) (Academy Street Project) (Movement Order) 2024

Part 1

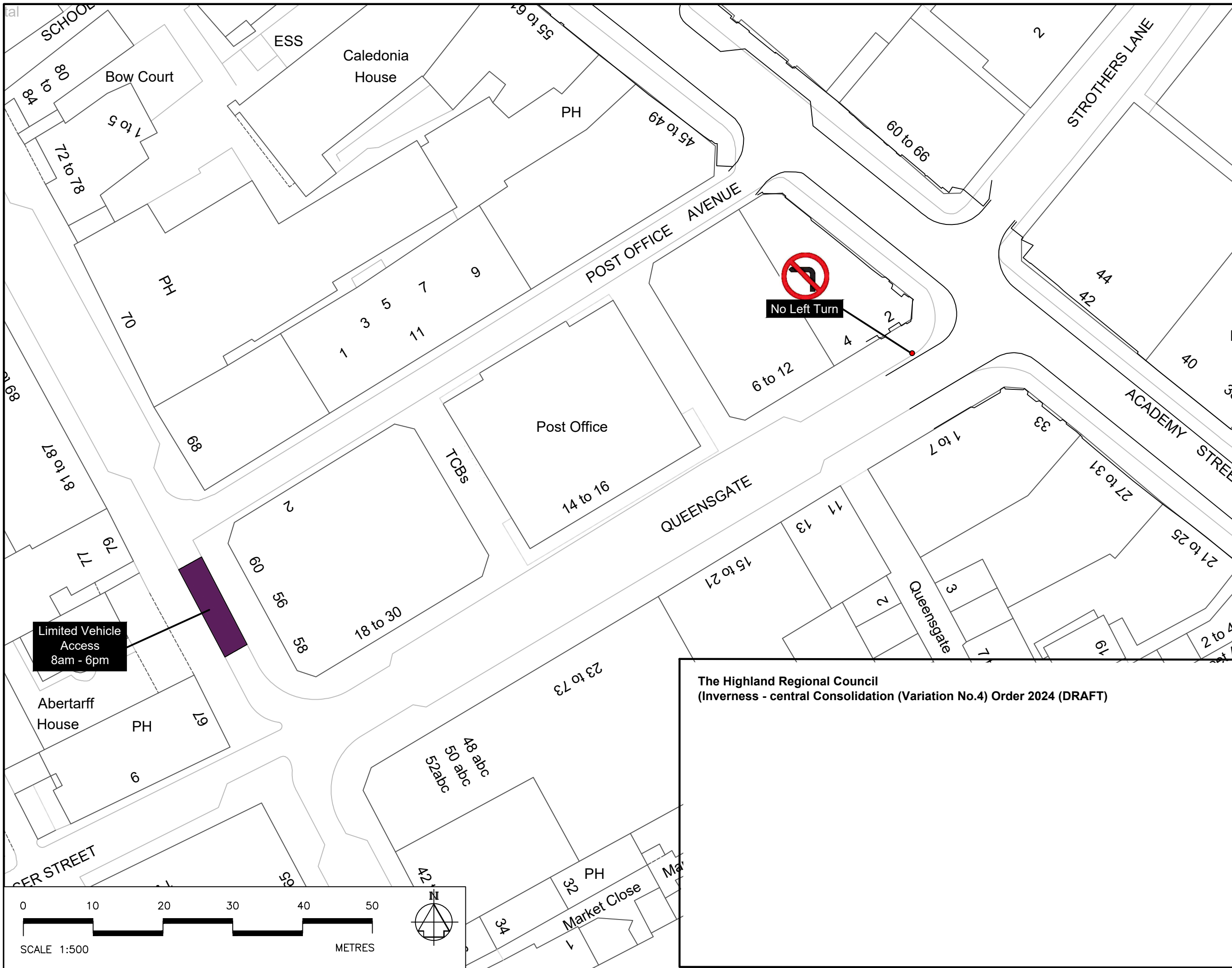
Prohibition of Vehicles between 08:00 and 18:00 except those authorised for the purpose of deliveries, Local Buses, Taxis, Pedal Cyclists and Motorcycles.

COLUMN 1	COLUMN 2
Church Street West	Queensgate

Part 2

Prohibition of Left Turn

COLUMN 1	COLUMN 2
Queensgate	Left turn to Academy Street



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 The Highland Council 2014 100023369

KEY
 Miscellaneous Restrictions

The Highland Regional Council
(Inverness - central Consolidation (Variation No.4) Order 2024 (DRAFT))

The Highland Council
Comhairle na Gàidhealtachd

The Highland Council
 Headquarters
 Glenurquhart Road
 Inverness
 IV3 5NX

Scale: 1:500 (@ A3)

Project Name: Academy St, Inverness TRO

Drawing No: **TRO 03** Date: April 24