

Our ref: CS/GB

24 June 2014

Mr. D.E. Bond,
Director of Law and Democracy,
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STOCKTON ON TEES BC

07 JUL 2014

LAW + DEMOCRACY

Dear Mr. Bond,

Lawson Street / Leybourne Terrace, Stockton on Tees Experimental order 2014

We wish to object to the above order that currently limits the parking time at the above location to 2 hours.

Whilst we appreciate the order was put in place due to the concerns of some local businesses, we note that a number of the spaces are often empty. With the forthcoming restriction to 2 hours parking on Buchanan street (behind Wentane Motors), we feel that the provision of short-term parking will far outweigh the demand, and at the same time the reduction of long-term parking will have a detrimental effect on both our staff and our business. Particular concerns include:

- We do not have sufficient parking facilities at our premises to enable all clients to be able to reliably park on site. As clients often bring substantial volumes of records they would not be prepared to park a significant distance from our offices. As meetings often last more than 2 hours, parking close to the offices will result in clients having to leave to move their vehicles.
- Our busiest period is November to January, when staff start work early (often before 7am), and/or finish late (often after 7pm). Staff work different hours, according to the particular needs of their clients, and as such are not always in a position to arrive, or leave, at the same time. There is fear that the risk of attack will increase if staff need to walk longer distances to their cars in the dark (particularly for female staff).
- Staff often have to carry heavy cases, containing confidential information, to and from the office. There is concern that by having to transport cases further will increase the risk of attack, putting both the staff and clients confidential data at risk.
- The physical weight of the documentation makes it difficult (particularly for female staff) to carry files any significant distance.
- Whilst we understand that the provision of available long-term parking at Parliament Street was reviewed prior to the restriction at Lawson Street, the experience of our staff is that this car park is often full by 8.30am, and as such is not a parking solution.

Based on our observations of the level of parking in the short-term spaces under the current restrictions, and our understanding that the limit to be imposed on Buchanan street is to be a permanent feature, our view is that there will be no continuing requirement to limit the parking time on Lawson Street.

We consider that a continued time limit to the parking on Lawson Street / Leybourne Terrace will be detrimental to the business and staff. As such, we hope you will consider lifting the restricted time limit.

Yours sincerely
for and on behalf of
BAINES JEWITT LLP

CD

C. Dixon

K. T. Jones

Just Power

J. Evans

John

of Bentley

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