

Local Authorities' Traffic Orders (Procedure) (Scotland) Regulations 1999

**THE GLASGOW CITY COUNCIL (IBROX STADIUM) (EVENT DAY EMERGENCY
ROUTES AND PARKING ZONE) ORDER 20__**

**Pre-Hearing Meeting – 19:00 on Wednesday 11 March 2020
Exhibition Hall, Royal Concert Hall, 19 Killermont Street, Glasgow G2 3NX**

AGENDA

1. Introduction
2. Content of the Order
3. Summary of Representations
4. Format of the hearing
5. Participation in the hearing
6. Statements and documents
7. Date and venue for the hearing
8. Other matters

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Reporters

TRO-260-3

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Explanatory Note

1 Introduction

1.1 Reporters from the Scottish Government have been appointed by Glasgow City Council to hold a hearing into the above order and report to the council. The council has agreed that all objections, all letters of support for the order, and evidence from consulted organisations where appropriate, should be considered by the reporters in order to achieve an appropriate balance and obtain the best evidence for examination. When referring to all submissions, they are generically referred to as “representations”. It should be noted that the reporters are independent of the council, and that there has been no contact with any official of the council who has been involved in the preparation and promotion of the order. Nor has there been contact with any other party with an interest in the order.

1.2 The reporters’ point of contact with the council is a team of programme officers, who have been nominated to assist the reporters with the preparation for and the administration of the hearing. They will provide all the necessary advice to the parties who will be participating in the hearing. The programme officers have not been involved in the preparation and promotion of the order.

1.3 The reporters have held a meeting with the programme officers and a note of the matters agreed at and arising from this meeting sets out the approach agreed. This is available as a document on the council’s website (see below).

1.4 The order and the representations made raise complex issues which the reporters have to examine at the hearing, and subsequently in the preparation of their report to the council. The report to the council will provide conclusions on all the matters examined, and set out their recommendations to the council, which may range from making the order as it is proposed in draft form, through making the order but with modifications, to not making the order at all. It should be noted that modifications can only be proposed by the reporters where they would not extend the application of the order or increase the stringency of any prohibition or restriction contained in it.

1.5 The reporters will seek (through the hearing) to obtain the best evidence, in a completely transparent and independent manner, which will enable them to formulate their conclusions and recommendations to the council. However, the reporters will also fully take into account all of the representations which are proceeding by written submission only. It is therefore a choice and not a requirement to participate in the hearing, but everyone who has so indicated, and so wishes, will be heard.

1.6 This pre-hearing meeting is being held to determine the procedures leading up to and at the hearing. There will be no discussion about the merits or otherwise of the order. Agenda items 2, 3 and 4 are essentially to provide information, ensure accuracy and allow questions for clarification. It is important that any questions and answers are briefly addressed, so that the required discussion can take place under items 5, 6 and 7. Item 8 is simply for any matters which have not been addressed in the earlier discussion. Please note that there are only 2.5 hours available for

discussion at the pre-hearing meeting, and the reporters will have to apportion this time carefully to ensure that everything is properly addressed.

2 Content of the Order

2.1 The order introduces waiting and loading or unloading restrictions and traffic management within schedules as follows:

- 1 – No waiting and no loading or unloading at any time
- 2 – No waiting at any time
- 3 – No waiting and no loading or unloading during relevant events
- 4 – No waiting during relevant events, except permit holders
- 5 – No waiting at specific times during relevant events, except permit holders
- 6 – Bus parking places during relevant events
- 7 – Disabled vehicle parking places
- 8 – One-way operation

Note: waiting and loading or unloading restrictions allow persons to board or alight from the vehicle or to load or unload their personal luggage.

2.2 Plans 1 – 6 and an overview plan show the areas subject to the above restrictions, with a key provided. The maps also show the event day emergency routes and the location of the event day parking zone entry/exit signs.

2.3 All of the above provisions can be viewed on the council's website, where a report can be viewed which provides more details of the above provisions:

<https://www.glasgow.gov.uk/article/20479/lbrox-Stadium>

2.4 If you cannot access the website, you may view the documents contained on this website by contacting the programme officer team, the contact details for which are shown on the letter enclosing this agenda.

2.5 The reporters would summarise the key stated aims of the order as being to improve the amenity of residential areas in the vicinity of Ibrox Stadium, and to encourage people to use more sustainable methods of travel by dissuading travel by private car to the stadium.

3 Summary of Representations

3.1 The total number and a breakdown of the representations, together with an appendix containing the council's responses, is contained within the approval to pursue the order under the council's Scheme of Delegated Functions, which can be

viewed on the council's website referred to above. If you cannot access the website, you may obtain a copy of this document from the council using the contact details in the letter enclosing this agenda.

3.2 It should be noted that whilst the majority of the representations constitute objections to the order, there is expressed support (to different degrees) for the key aims of the order within some of the objections, but generally not to an extent which justifies the making of the order as proposed. There are also however letters of support for the order, generally from residents of specific areas within the zone. The provisions of all the representations will be examined as appropriate at the hearing.

3.3 The reporters have reviewed all of the representations lodged. The vast majority are objections to the principle of the order (mainly from individual football supporters and supporters' clubs, but also from residents in the area) which the reporters consider can be broadly broken down into several key issues as follows:

- management of unsafe and inconsiderate parking in residential areas
- provision for disadvantaged groups (women, children, elderly and disabled)
- nature and capacity of existing public transport alternatives to using cars
- difficulty of using public transport from long distances and at specific times
- potential and timescale for improvements to the public transport system
- potential for additional car parking (eg awaiting improved public transport)
- displacement of parking to other residential areas outwith the zone
- health and safety of people on roads, in stations and at bus stops
- economic impact of the proposed order

3.4 There are however also site-specific objections relating to the order as set out in the following paragraphs:

Objections from residents within areas outside the zone, including Kinning Park and Drumoyne, with respect to a resulting increase in parking and associated congestion within those areas. The objections include reference to private parking areas.

Objections from residents in the Dumbreck area with respect to the system of permits being introduced, and the associated monitoring and enforcement of this.

Objections from businesses, religious and community groups (various locations) to the effect of waiting and loading restrictions on their businesses, staff and customers.

Objections from supporters' bus organisers to insufficient bus parking provision within Helen Street.

3.5 There are letters of support for the restrictions within the zone, mainly in the Dumbreck area, citing existing road safety concerns, current inconsiderate parking and anti-social behaviour. However, some of these express significant concerns about the system of permits being introduced, which the reporters consider to be equivalent to the above referred to objections from residents in the Dumbreck area.

4 Format of the hearing

4.1 The hearing will be a structured discussion led by the reporters. The reporters will prepare an agenda which will be circulated shortly before the hearing. There will be an introduction by the reporters, including formal identification of those parties (and their representatives) taking part in the hearing, followed by any required clarification of the details of the order and the associated maps, and the nature of the representations lodged. The reporters will review the case and the main issues.

4.2 A structured discussion will then take place under a series of headings, which will generally be based on the content of section 3 above. However, at the beginning of the agenda, the reporters intend to provide for a strategic discussion on the council's overall policies for the management of parking in the city, as referred to in the committee reports which are on the council's website referred to above, and how the proposed orders fit into the council's overall policy.

4.3 The discussion will be led by the reporters, but there will be an opportunity for those taking part to ask questions of other parties (but only through the reporters – not to cross-examine) and comment on the submissions made. The reporters will normally ask objectors to start the discussion, but this will depend on the nature of the matter being discussed. The reporters are likely to ask extensive questions of participants in order to obtain the best evidence available, but this will be undertaken on an informal basis, and no-one should in any way feel intimidated by this process.

4.4 The code of practice applying to traffic regulation order hearings is on the council's website, and its principles will generally be followed. However, it should be noted that parts of this are out of date, and that this order is exceptionally complex, requiring longer periods for each part of the process than is generally provided for in the code of practice. In any event, the procedure remains subject to the reporters' discretion in all the circumstances that apply to this particular case.

4.5 The reporters will undertake unaccompanied site inspections before the hearing, but the need for further accompanied or unaccompanied site inspections will be discussed and agreed at the end of the hearing.

5 Participation in the hearing

5.1 The reporters will seek to identify those parties (and their representatives) who intend to take part in the hearing. Glasgow City Council and Rangers Football Club are expected to participate in the hearing. In addition, the programme officer team has contacted specific organisations who have responsibility for transport and public order management on event days, because the reporters consider that their evidence will contribute significantly towards enabling the reporters to come to conclusions on the issues raised in the representations. Further information on this will be provided in a schedule on the website (section 6 below).

5.2 The reporters will then seek to identify other parties who wish to participate. Since the reporters have reviewed all of the representations, they will particularly seek the inclusion of those parties who have raised particular matters which the

reporters intend to examine further, and have provided detailed written evidence. However, all parties who wish to participate will be able to do so.

5.3 A key process **which the reporters ask all those intending to participate in the hearings to think about before attending the pre-hearing meeting**, is the grouping together of individual objectors with a spokesperson(s) to present evidence to the hearing. The reporters will suggest this at the meeting where appropriate, but if people have thought about this beforehand, it may speed up the process. An example of groupings might be supporters' clubs, community councils or residents' associations, but it may also simply be groups of football supporters or residents who have a common issue upon which they wish to provide evidence at the hearing.

5.4 Whilst everyone who wishes to be heard will be heard, if there is a large number of individuals who wish to be heard, this can become very time consuming, and particular arrangements would need to be put in place for this. It should also be borne in mind that the reporters will seek to avoid repetition, so all parties will need to take this into account. The reporters intend to discuss all of the above arrangements further at the pre-hearing meeting.

6 Statements and Documents

6.1 Approximately 14 days before the pre-hearing meeting, the representations and all the related documents already referred to will be available to view on the council's website. Some of these documents are already available to view. In addition to the representations, and given the large number that has been lodged, a summary and associated schedule will be uploaded to provide further information on the issues raised in the representations, allocate representations into specific categories, and indicate those representations where the author has stated an intention to participate in the hearing.

6.2 This is intended to assist the overall awareness of the key issues and facilitate the ability of parties to group together in terms of section 5 above. In this context, the programme officer team will facilitate the exchange of contact information before the hearing when approached to do so and where all the parties involved agree.

6.3 Statements and documents specifically related to the hearings will be added in due course. These will not be required from all parties, most of whom will be able to rely on their original letter of representation. However, the reporters intend to make provision for additional representations to be submitted by any party by a specific date.

6.4 The reporters will seek statements from Glasgow City Council, Rangers Football Club, and any specific organisation invited to attend by the reporters. Other individual parties, and parties grouping together may also be requested to submit statements, but this will be further discussed at the pre-hearing meeting.

6.5 The reporters will explore the potential for statements on matters to be agreed between the parties, and will encourage joint working to provide survey material and impact assessments which may assist the examination of issues at the hearing.

6.6 The aim will be to circulate statements to the other parties who are submitting statements, place them on deposit, and upload them to the council's website, by a date to be agreed at the pre-hearing meeting. Any related documents should either be lodged at the same time, or by a subsequent agreed date. The actual dates for these submissions will be agreed at the meeting.

7 Date and venue for the hearing

7.1 The date and venue for the hearing will be discussed at the pre-hearing meeting, taking into account the dates for the submission of statements and documents, and the amount of time considered to be necessary for parties to prepare for the hearing.

8 Other matters

8.1 Any remaining issues can be discussed under this heading.