

EAST SUSSEX COUNTY COUNCIL

ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984

**Statement of Reasons – Bus Lane Order**

The section of Terminus Road between the Ashford Road/Gildredge Road junction and Cornfield Road is currently the location for the main bus stops within the Town Centre. It is currently laid out as a conventional carriageway with footways and a number of bus stops and shelters on either side of the road.

Terminus Road has relatively narrow footways for a town centre location, especially adjacent to the bus shelters which leads to pedestrian congestion on the footways creating a crowded, noisy unwelcoming environment which is further emphasised by parked buses on both sides of the carriageway.

Eastbourne Borough Council and East Sussex County Council have been working together to identify a package of improvements to provide a high quality public realm environment along Terminus Road and its immediate environs. This has resulted in the Eastbourne Town Centre Improvement Scheme (ETCIS), which will see Terminus Road transformed into a modern town centre high street, with a welcoming pedestrian environment, offering spaces to relax, shop and socialise, encouraging greater footfall and supporting Eastbourne's commercial economy. Cornfield Road and Gildredge Road will also be enhanced, with an extensive repaving scheme.

To support public transport access in the town centre the following changes are being proposed:

- Terminus Road at its junction with Ashford Road, will become accessible for buses only one way eastwards. Westbound buses will travel along South Street. This will minimise vehicular traffic through Terminus Road, creating a much more pedestrian friendly environment. Taxis will be permitted 00:00-05:00 providing a better public service to Eastbourne's night time economy.

- Existing bus stops will be removed from Terminus Road and relocated. Eastbound buses will stop in Cornfield Road and westbound buses will stop in Gildredge Road. An additional westbound bus stop will be placed in South Street and in Terminus Road opposite the station. The relocation of the bus stops enables the footpath in Terminus Road to be almost doubled in width and creates an opportunity for a new dynamic pedestrian orientated urban environment to be created. The new location for the buses keeps these valuable services as close as possible to Eastbourne's centre.
- The introduction of a bus lane in Gildredge Road will enable efficient bus services to operate and cater for the expected growth in services. The bus lane will also segregate buses from other road users helping to mitigate any negative impact on other road users.
- To accommodate the bus lane/bus stands in Gildredge Road and bus stands in Cornfield Road it will be necessary to make changes to the parking arrangements in these areas. Parking bays in Gildredge Road will be relocated to the eastern side of the road where possible. In Cornfield Road parking spaces will be relocated where possible to the western side of the road.