

**Proposed Decision to be taken by the
Portfolio Holder for Transport and Planning
on or after 20 September 2013**

**The Warwickshire County Council
(Oswald Road, Leamington Spa) (One Way Traffic) Order 2013**

Recommendations

That the Portfolio Holder for Transport and Planning approves that the Warwickshire County Council (Oswald Road, Leamington Spa) (One Way Traffic) Order 2013 is made as advertised.

1.0 Key Issues

- 1.1 Proposals for changes to make Oswald Road subject to a one way traffic flow in a south-easterly direction between its junctions with the A445 Rugby Road and the B4099 Warwick Place were advertised on 14 March 2013.
- 1.2 Oswald Road between the A445 Rugby Road and the B4099 Warwick Place is a narrow residential road; the existing carriageway width is further restricted by parked vehicles.
- 1.3 Through discussions with residents and with the support of the Local County Councillor, a scheme was put forward to introduce a One Way system on Oswald Road.
- 1.4 The comment and objection that has been received is discussed below together with the reasons for the proposals. The number of objections received is shown in brackets [].
- 1.5 The statutory criteria for decisions on making Traffic Regulation Orders / Parking Orders are included as **Appendix A**.

2.0 Objections

- 2.1 Proposed Oswald Road, Leamington Spa, One Way Traffic Order.
- 2.2 The following objection has been received:

Objection [1]

There is no provision for cyclists to travel northwards from Warwick Place to Rugby Road. The reason you are making this One Way is traffic volume, up to 800 vehicles /day. It is theoretically true that a one way system could reduce

this by half, if existing road users have to use an alternative route for the northwards journey. From my own experience, walking or cycling in Oswald Road at many different times of the day throughout the year, I would say that the road is generally extremely quiet, and even when there is congestion, car drivers are remarkably considerate.

The proposals show an increase in street signs, which would be detrimental to the attractiveness of the area.

Response

Pedal cyclists have an alternative route travelling north. They are able to use the B4099 Warwick Place which is much wider than Oswald Road and Guys Cliffe Road. Traffic does use Oswald Road as a rat run both in the mornings and evenings. Vehicles who would normally travel north on Oswald Road would have the main B4099 Warwick Road and the A445 Rugby Road to use as alternatives.

The road width in Oswald Road is 5 metres wide, with parking on the east side of Oswald Road from its junction with the A445 Rugby Road to its junction with Cross Road and then again to the B4099 Warwick Place. This doesn't allow free passage for two opposing vehicles, and compromise the safety for pedal cyclists.

The level of street signs on Oswald Road is needed to comply with the Traffic Signs and General Directions 2002; we have tried to keep the signing to the minimum allowed.

2.3 Recommendation

That the Portfolio Holder for Transport and Planning approves the making of The Warwickshire County Council (Oswald Road, Leamington Spa) (One Way Traffic) Order 2013 as advertised. These recommendations can be implemented from within 2013/14 budget provisions.

3.0 Associated Timescales

- 3.1 The aim will be for the One Way proposals for Oswald Road to be implemented within 10-12 weeks of the decision.

4.0 Background Papers

- 4.1 One letter of objection, Plan No TP/8849/002A

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APPENDIX A

The Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 enables the Council to implement Traffic Regulation Orders (TROs) for one or more of the following purposes:-

- a) avoiding danger to persons or traffic;
- b) preventing damage to the road or to buildings nearby;
- c) facilitating the passage of traffic;
- d) preventing use by unsuitable traffic ;
- e) preserving the character of a road especially suitable for walking and horseriding;
- f) preserving or improving amenities of the area through which the road runs;
- g) for any of the purposes specified in section 87(1)(a) to (c) of the Environment Act 1995 in relation to air quality.

TROs are designed to regulate, restrict or prohibit the use of a road or any part of the width of a road by vehicular traffic or pedestrians. Permanent TROs remain in force until superseded or revoked.

TROs must not have the effect of preventing pedestrian access at any time or preventing vehicular access for more than 8 hours in 24 to premises on or adjacent to the road. This restriction does not apply if the Council states in the order that it requires vehicular access to be limited for more than 8 hours in 24.

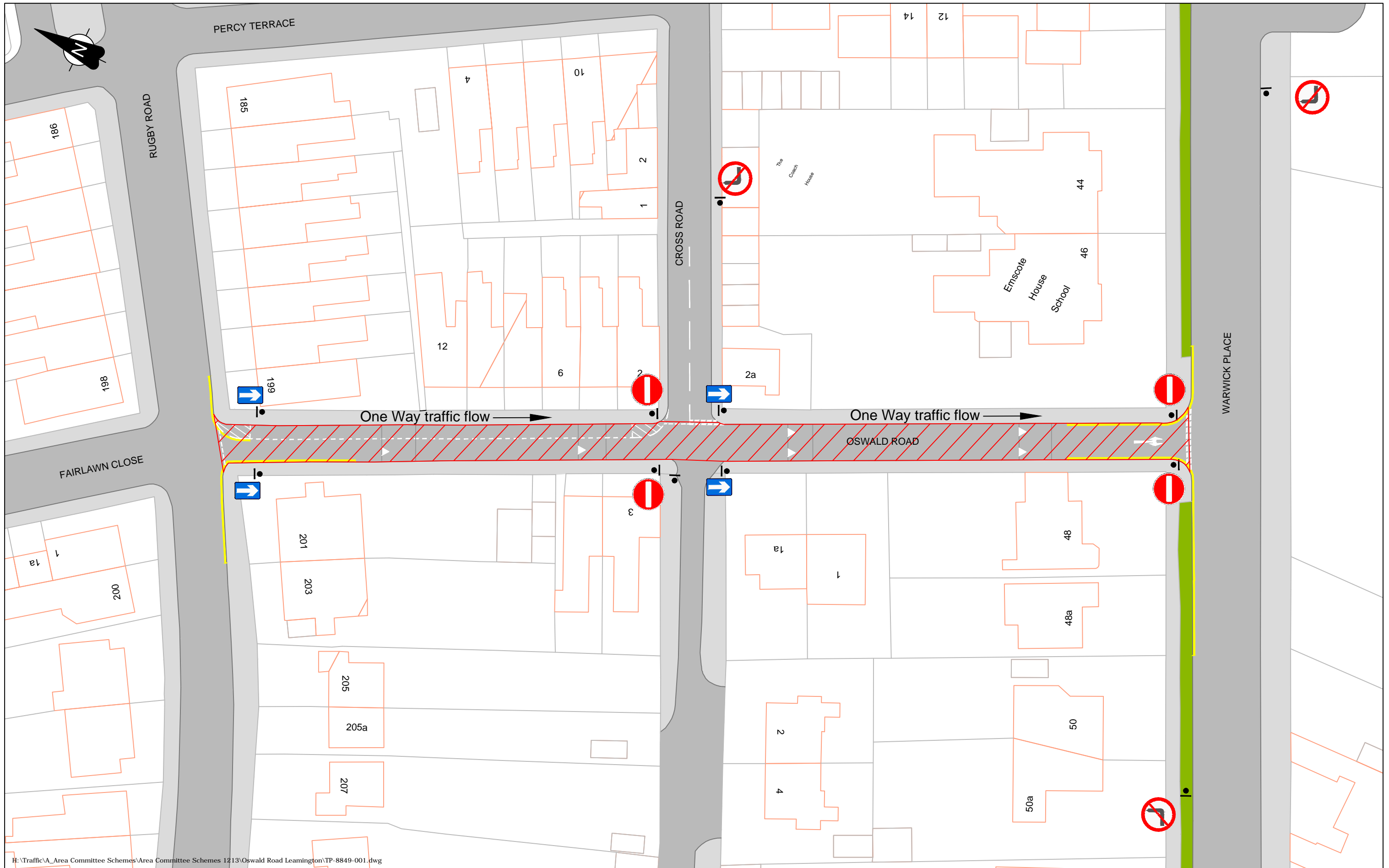
In deciding whether or not to make a TRO, the Council is required to have regard to the matters set out in section 122 of the 1984 Act. Section 122(1) requires the Council to exercise the functions conferred on it by the 1984 Act as (so far as practicable having regard to the matters specified in section 122(2)) to secure the expeditious, convenient and safe movement of vehicular and other traffic (including pedestrians), and the provision of suitable and adequate parking facilities on and off the highway.

The matters to which the Council must have regard are:-

- the desirability of securing and maintaining reasonable access to premises
- the effect on the amenities of any locality affected and the importance of regulating and restricting the use of roads by heavy commercial vehicles so as to preserve or improve the amenities of the areas through which the roads run
- the national air quality strategy prepared under section 80 of the Environmental Protection Act 1995

- the importance of facilitating the passage of public service vehicles and of securing the safety and convenience of persons using or desiring to use such vehicles
- and any other matters appearing to the Council to be relevant

Therefore whilst the overall objective of the Council must be to secure the expeditious convenient and safe movement of vehicular traffic this will sometimes need to give way to the objectives in section 122(2) and a balance has to be achieved between the overall objective and the matters set out in section 122(2).



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NOTES

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 Warwickshire County Council.

REV	DATE	BY	CHK	AMENDMENT
1	21/02/13	PM	GVS	FW build out changed to hatching
2	30/07/13	PM	GVS	Lane markings removed @ Warwick PI
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-	--/--	-	-	-
-	--/--	-	-	-

Drawing title
**One-Way Traffic
 Oswald Road
 Leamington Spa**

Project title
Oswald Road - One Way

Drawn by PM	Checked by GVS
Date 18 February 2013	
Scale 1:500 @ A3_L	
Drawing number TP/8849/002A	