

**The Essex County Council (Cherrydown West, Basildon) (Prohibition of Right Hand Turn)
Order 20***

**The Essex County Council (Station Way Carpark Service Road, Basildon) (One Way) Order
20****

The Essex County Council (Southernhay, Basildon) (Bus Gate & Bus Lane) Order 20**

**The Essex County Council (Basildon Borough) (Prohibition of Waiting, Loading and
Stopping) and (On-Street Parking Places) (Civil Enforcement Area) (Amendment No.9)
Order 20****

STATEMENT OF REASONS:

In 2012, Basildon Borough Council adopted a Masterplan for the Town Centre, which sets out the Council's vision for the area, and the highway improvement proposals are a key part of delivering this vision. The highway improvements represent £6.2m of investment into the Town Centre

These proposals have been through a traffic modelling process to consider the impact on the Town Centre and wider highway network. This has identified some measures on the highway network that need to be implemented to aid the distribution of traffic. The improvements include:

- Formation of a "Transit Mall" along Southernhay between the Rail Station and Bus Station area.
- Transit Mall area to become accessible only for Buses, Motorcyclists, Taxis, Cyclists and Pedestrians. General traffic is to be re-routed via Cherrydown East. This will be enforced with the installation of a bus gate on the approach to the Bus Station next to Market Pavement and at Clay Hill Road.
- Changes to the road layout outside the Bus and Rail Stations to enable the formation of a sustainable transport hub. This includes removal of the subway outside the Rail Station, replaced with improved surface crossings and connections between the Rail station and the town centre, creating an attractive gateway to the town centre.
- Change of traffic flow on Cherrydown East, Station Way and Clay Hill Road from one-way traffic flow to two-way traffic flow for all vehicles. This will allow vehicles to travel west to east and east to west without conflicting with the transport hub.
- Improvements to the street scene around the taxi rank outside the Bus Station.
- New taxi rank and rail replacement bus/coach stops on the southern side of Southernhay to serve the Rail Station.
- Upgrade of existing 'puffin' crossings to 'toucan' crossings, to provide suitable crossing points for cyclists and pedestrians and to operate with two-way traffic to facilitate future cycle way improvements around the town centre including north-south links to the Enterprise Corridor.
- Improvements to the taxi and bus laybys outside Asda on Southernhay. It is proposed to relocate the bus stop onto the nearside lane and move the taxi rank into the current bus layby. This will improve safety for taxi users and enable buses to merge into the traffic flow more efficiently.

These changes will enable the formation of a new sustainable transport hub / transit mall to make the area more attractive and accessible and deter unnecessary traffic from the town centre and will have a positive impact on the town centre. A previous consultation exercise was undertaken by the Council and the feedback was positive, this process therefore seeks to make the changes permanent enforceable restrictions.