

THE HIGHLAND COUNCIL (U3810 BACK BRIDGE STREET, WICK) (STOPPING UP) ORDER 2025

Statement of Reasons

The Highland Council has been awarded funding to make improvements to Wick High Street and Bridge Street. The aim of the project is to create:

- Warm, welcoming and more attractive public spaces
- A comfortable and safe environment to walk, wheel and cycle
- Better travel experience through Wick town centre particularly when accessing local facilities and
- A sense of identity for the town centre in Wick, drawing on local culture and heritage.

The detailed design includes measures to reduce the number of vehicles accessing the pedestrian zone in the High Street.

The wider improvement scheme involves widening footways on the Bridge Street/High Street corner, with improvements made to the crossings. The footway widening is proposed to begin prior to the access to Back Bridge Street, which currently allows one way access to the High Street. To allow these pedestrian improvements to be made the stopping up of vehicular access to Back Bridge Street is required.

Removing vehicles from Back Bridge Street will increase pedestrian safety, reduce vehicle numbers on the High Street which will make the centre of the town a more attractive and safer place for people to spend time in.

The alternative roads are specified in Part II of the Schedule and are already open to traffic.