

STATEMENT OF REASONS
BIRMINGHAM CITY COUNCIL
(E-SCOOTER TRIAL, BIRMINGHAM)
(EXPERIMENTAL)
ORDER 2020

Birmingham City Council propose to make an experimental Order under the provisions of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, the affect of which will be to make a number of revisions across various existing traffic regulation orders to allow the effective trial of E-Scooters throughout the trial zone as shown on the attached plan "Birmingham trial zones final draft".

E-Scooters are one of the new forms of emerging transport mode, enabled by evolving technology, cost effective manufacturing and improving batteries. As with electric bikes, they are starting to be used by private owners. They are also being used in various cities across the world as part of public sharing and hire schemes. In an urban context they can help with providing easy first and last mile access to points of interest and transport interchanges. Being generally more portable they can be more easily carried on public transport and into workplaces - and so can make multi-mode journeys easier.

In a wider initiative to promote walking and cycling as part of a green and healthy recovery from COVID 19 the Secretary of State for Transport announced the acceleration of E-Scooter trials. Originally planned for 2021 these were to have been limited to the new Future Transport Zones (FTZ), of which the West Midlands is the UK pathfinder. However, in a bid to see wider engagement and take-up of trials across both rural and urban areas the call for trials is open to any interested area.

It is on this basis that the Council proposes an experimental order to process the required TRO changes in order to: -

- 'convert cycle tracks to cycle lanes' to allow E-Scooter use within the trial area as set out by DfT.
- Amendment to various 'pedestrian zones' to allow E-Scooters transit similar to peddle cycles".
- Amendment to CPZs to incorporate a 'blanket exemption' for cycle/E-Scooter parking where physical parking places are installed in accordance with the TSRGD 2016.

The formal reason(s) for proposing the new Order is (are):

- a) for any of the purposes specified in paragraphs (a) to (c) of subsection (1) of section 87 of the Environment Act 1995 (air quality)

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