Statement of Reason

The Proposed Permanent Closure of Hillsboro Place South Car Park, Porthcawl.

The site of the existing Hillsboro Place South Car Park has been earmarked as a site of public realm (external publicly accessible space) and therefore it is proposed to permanently close this Car Park and remove it from the Bridgend County Borough Council (Off-Street Parking Places) (Consolidation) Order 2024.

The area of car park that is proposed to be closed is shown shaded red on drawing reference CJ-26-01.

Hillsboro South Public Realm sits within the Porthcawl Waterfront Regeneration Programme. Following the completion of the Metrolink facility, the delivery of a proposed public realm area represents the next part of the wider project. Following work completed under the Town Centre Placemaking Strategy in 2024, a funding bid was made to Welsh Government Transforming Towns Programme to support the design work for the scheme.

In deciding whether or not to make an Order to formally close Hillsboro South Car park and remove from the Bridgend County Borough Council (Off-Street Parking Places) (Consolidation) Order 2024. The Council is required to have regard to the matters set out in section 122 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984. 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 in s122 (2) are:-
1. The desirability of securing and maintaining reasonable access to premises;
2. 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;
3. The national air quality strategy prepared under section 80 of the Environmental Protection Act 1995;
4. 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;
5. Any other matters appearing to the Council to be relevant.

After consideration of the S122 duty, it is considered that it is appropriate to formally close Hillsboro South car park.

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Cabinet were notified at the meeting of Cabinet in November 2025, that the Hillsboro Place South Car Park would need to be closed to facilitate the public realm scheme.

The scheme is being funded by Regeneration Services.