

Castletown Town Commissioners



A Public Consultation Document

**Proposals for the use of the Castletown Market Square
and the pedestrianised shopping streets of Malew Street and Arbory Street.**

This document is issued by the Castletown Town Commissioners and sets out details relating to the above proposals, along with associated matters for consultation with the businesses and residents.

The Consultation period shall be for a period of 6 weeks from the date of issue as set out below.

Written comments should be sent to:
The Town Clerk, The Town Hall, Castletown.
or
by email to: ctms@castletown.gov.im

**Written comments to be received by the Town Clerk
by 5.00pm on
Tuesday 26th August 2025**

Castletown Town Commissioners

Proposals for the restriction of vehicle access to and the use of Castletown Market Square and the pedestrianised shopping streets of Malew Street and Arbory Street.

This document is published by the Castletown Town Commissioners on 15th July 2025.

The Castletown Town Commissioners issue this Public Consultation Document setting out their proposals for the restricted use by vehicles of Castletown Market Square and the existing pedestrianised shopping streets of Arbory Street and Malew Street.

The Proposals:

The Commissioners propose the following:

1) The Visitor Season defined

The Commissioners propose to define the 'Visitor Season' as being from 08.01hrs on the first Saturday in May through to 08.00hrs on the first Monday in September, inclusive each year. During this period no vehicles (except authorised vehicles) shall be permitted into the area defined on the enclosed Plan indicated as **Area A** and **Area B**, bounded by a green line.

2) The Winter Season defined

The Commissioners propose to define the 'Winter Season' as being from 08.01hrs on the first Monday in September through to the 08.00hrs on the first Saturday in May, inclusive each year. During this period vehicles shall be permitted into the public car parking area defined on the Plans as **Area B** bounded by a gold line. This area provides 17 parking spaces, which includes 2 parking spaces for Disabled.

The parking of vehicles in Area B to be controlled by Disc parking with a maximum stay of 1 hour, with no return within 2 hours.

The 2 parking spaces in Area B designated for Blue Badge/Disabled parking to be controlled by Disc parking with a maximum stay of 2 hours, with no return within 2 hours.

3) Easter Period

It is proposed that the Market Square should be closed off to vehicles annually during the Easter weekend, being from 16.00hrs on the Thursday before Good Friday to 08.00hrs on the Tuesday following Easter Monday.

4) No access to vehicles all year defined

It is proposed that the area within the Market Square, which was designed in the original plans as a permanent pedestrianised area shall be retained as such, which is identified along with the existing pedestrianised streets of Malew Street and Arbory Street by the green boundary line on the Plan being **Area A**,

It should be noted that the existing pedestrianised areas of Arbory Street and Malew Street have, since the present system of the pedestrianisation of the two streets was implemented, legally restricted vehicle access into the streets on a 24/7 basis throughout the year, with a permit being required for any vehicle access the streets. Due to long standing ongoing issues with the automatic bollards, i.e. they have not operated effectively for many years and are now left permanently in the down position, vehicles regularly unlawfully drive through the streets. It is therefore proposed that movable barriers be placed to effectively obstruct illegal vehicle access into the pedestrianised streets throughout the year, with such barriers being placed at each end of the pedestrianised areas, being located in Arbory Street near No25, and in Malew Street being located near No14.

The barriers will be placed so as to provide unobstructed access to, for example prams and wheelchair users.

The placement of permanent movable barriers will ensure that vehicles do not enter the pedestrianised streets, which will make it safer environment for pedestrians, thereby securing a proper vehicle free area.

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This will allow businesses, if they wish, to display goods and/or set out furniture, e.g. tables and chairs for cafés as appropriate, within the streets throughout the year.

Pedestrian priority within the defined Area A shall be secured within the area defined, which is the area of the Market Square and in the existing pedestrianised streets of Arbory Street and Malew Street.

5) A Permit to access the streets in conjunction with a business or residency

The Commissioners accept that on occasions vehicle access will be required for a specific legitimate reason. It is proposed that the 'Permit Access' system now in place be effectively implemented with a Permit being issued by the Town Hall for businesses and anyone residing within Area A who requires access to the streets within Area A to access their property for a legitimate reason, e.g. for moving of heavy equipment or for the delivery of large item(s). The Commissioners will retain the right to rescind any Permit issued if there is non-compliance with the conditions of such use.

The rescinding of a Permit shall apply to any abuse of the Permit system. Such rescinding must be issued in writing and hand delivered by the Commissioners to the applicant, their 'agent' or the vehicle driver. A written rescinding notice shall take effect immediately.

6) Emergency vehicle access

Access for Emergency Vehicles into Area A shall be made available at all times in relation to an emergency, with access being gained by the moving of the movable Barriers.

Emergency Vehicles are defined as follows: Police, Ambulance, Fire & Rescue and Coastguard.

7) The indicative Plan as appended

The appended Plan showing the areas referred to above is indicative of the proposals and shows the areas and their proposed designations.

Area A = The area closed off to vehicles throughout the year, which would include part of the Market Square (as designed) and includes Arbory Street and Malew Street to the end of the existing pedestrianised area of the streets.


Area B = The car park area which it is proposed will be available from first Monday in September through to the first Saturday in May as indicated above.

It is proposed that general parking will be restricted to a maximum of 1 hour with no return within 2 hours – Monday to Saturday inclusive.

It is proposed that the 2 car parking spaces designated for Blue Badge holders parking will be limited to a maximum parking period of 2 hours, with no return within 2 hours.

8) Other: It is proposed that a 'Short-stay Loading/Unloading area' be defined within The Union Lane, with access being via Barracks Square from Farrant's Way, to accommodate large vehicle deliveries for example, by IOM Breweries deliveries to The Union Hotel.

This area shall generally be available for use by any large vehicle requiring to deliver into the closed off pedestrianised streets and area, where access into the streets is not necessary.

It is proposed that a 'Short-stay Delivery Bay' to be created within Barracks Square, located at the gable end of the Union Hotel, as identified on the Plan by  being for daily van deliveries to businesses and residencies located within the pedestrianised streets and area generally, with Disc zone restriction of a maximum stay limit of 1 hour, with no return within 2 hours.

The Barracks Square public car park to be designated a Disc Zone applying from Monday to Sunday inclusive, from 8.00am to 6.00pm with the general Disc car parking provided being for a maximum stay of 90-minutes, with no return within 2 hours. There shall be 3 spaces designated for Blue Badge/disabled with Disc parking applying for a maximum stay of 2-hours, with no return within 2 hours.

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Definitions within the Plan are:

Gold line = Area B available for car parking during 'Winter period'.

Green Line = Area A boundary of the area closed off to vehicles 24/7 all year.

Solid Red Line = No access available for vehicles 24/7 all year.

Broken Red line = No access for vehicles during 'Visitor Season' and Easter Period.

Physical Barriers – Malew Street and Arbory Street:

It is proposed that movable box planters and/or other suitable barriers will be used to replace the existing faulty auto bollards that have not been operational for a number of years to obstruct vehicle access into the pedestrianised area as identified as Area A with such in Arbory Street being located near at No25, and in Malew Street being located near No14.

Physical Barrier at The Union Lane:

It is proposed that movable box planter(s) and/or other suitable barrier(s) will be placed in the area at the end of The Union Lane where it abuts Arbory Street/The Market Square, to restrict vehicle access into the pedestrianised area, Area A.

The existing bollard in the lane will be removed.

Parking spaces adjacent to The Smelt bounding The Market Square – Post Office side:

2 car parking spaces will be designated for when the Market Square is closed off to vehicles, i.e. during the defined 'Visitor Season' and during the Easter Period.

1 space will be for Blue Badge holders/Disabled (space nearest to the Post Office) and 1 space for general Disc car parking. It is proposed that the maximum stay for both spaces will be for a period of 30 minutes with no return within 1 hour.

Closure of The Market Square to vehicles for events held outside the 'Visitor Season':

The Commissioners will undertake discussions with the Minister for Infrastructure to request that the Minister delegates to the Commissioners the ability to close off the total area of The Market Square, i.e. no access to vehicles, for special events during the period outside of the defined 'Visitor Season' and Easter Period without the need to seek a specific Road Closure Order from the Department.

The reason for requiring such a delegation, which the Minister is able to give, is that if the proposals as outlined are implemented such a closure will only impact on the designated car parking area located within The Market Square, which does not provide a through highway.

How it is proposed that the delegation will operate:

It is proposed that when an event is to be held that the Commissioners determine warrants the whole of the Market Square being closed off to vehicles that the Commissioners will give 48 hours' notice by way of displaying, in a prominent location(s), an advisory Notice within The Market Square advising the public of the proposed closure, which shall include the date(s) time(s), and duration of the closure, including the reason for the closure.

The Commissioners to only be permitted by such delegation to implement a closure that is effective for a period not exceeding 48 hours.

The Commissioners will not be permitted to extend any closure and there must be a removal of such a closure for a period of at least 48 hours before another closure can be implemented.

The Commissioners may in special circumstance with the written approval of the Minister of Infrastructure extend a closure for a further 24 hour period, for which a public notice will be displayed as soon as practical within The Market Square, being prior to such an extension being actioned. Any closure exceeding the above criteria will require a normal Road Closure Order to be applied for from the Department.

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The proposals for the use of the Castletown Market Square
and the pedestrianised shopping streets of Malew Street and Arbory Street.

The Consultation:

This Consultation document is issued on 15th July 2025 by the Castletown Town Commissioners setting out the Commissioners proposals for utilising and controlling vehicle access into the areas defined on the appended Plan and associated matters, which affect The Market Square, and the existing pedestrianised areas of Malew Street and Arbory Street.

The public consultation period is 6 weeks from the date of issue.

The public are invited to write or email the Town Clerk at The Town Hall, with any comments with such correspondence being marked:

‘Proposals for Castletown Market Square and pedestrianised shopping streets’

Email to: ctms@castletown.gov.im

**The public and businesses are invited to submit any comments to the
Town Clerk, Castletown Town Commissioners, The Town Hall, Castletown
by
5.00pm on Tuesday 26th August 2025.**

All comments submitted will be considered by the Board of Commissioners who will subsequently publish their final proposals prior to progressing the implementation of their proposals for The Market Square and the pedestrianised shopping streets.

Published by the Castletown Town Commissioners on 15th July 2025

Copies of this Public Consultation Document are available free of charge from the Town Hall and is also available on the Castletown Town Commissioners Website and the Commissioners Facebook.



Castletown Town Commissioners - Proposals for the restriction of vehicle access to and the use of Castletown Market Square and the pedestrianised shopping streets of Malew Street and Arbory Street.

July 2025/CTC

KEY:

Gold line = area available for car parking during 'Winter period'. **Green Line** = Boundary of the area closed off to vehicles 24/7 all year.

Solid Red Line = No Access for vehicles 24/7 all year. **Broken Red line** = No Access for vehicles during 'Visitor Season' and Easter Period.

Appendix

