

30th July 2021 - Trade Update - Shrewsbury High Street Restrictions

As you will be aware, from Monday 19 July 2021, all taxis and private hire vehicles (and buses) have full access to Shrewsbury High Street on **weekdays only**. This has been agreed in order to increase the times when the public can be transported directly into and out of Shrewsbury town centre.

On **Saturdays and Sundays** no traffic is permitted to access Shrewsbury High Street between 11am and 4pm; however, outside these times all vehicles, including taxis and private hire vehicles (and buses) are permitted to access Shrewsbury High Street in the normal way.

These arrangements are due to be reviewed in the Autumn; however, in the meantime, when taxis and private hire vehicles are accessing the restricted areas, we are strongly urging all drivers to adhere to a voluntary **maximum** speed limit of 15 mph. This aligns with what has been agreed with the bus operators. In addition to applying this voluntary maximum speed limit in the areas subject to the actual restrictions, we are also encouraging this in all areas where there is high pedestrian footfall, including Wyle Cop, Barker Street, Castle Street and Dogpole. Whilst we are advocating 15 mph as the maximum speed, as is the case when driving in any situation, it is imperative that drivers drive in a manner that is appropriate to the conditions of the road and the environment and to drive with due care and attention at all times. We want to ensure you are aware that because of the recent changes to the Shrewsbury town centre restrictions, there is a very strong likelihood that pedestrians may step out into the road having not first checked if it is safe to do so. This may leave a driver very little time to take action to avoid a collision with a pedestrian/group of pedestrians and, for this reason, we urge drivers to proceed with caution when driving in Shrewsbury town centre to allow sufficient time to respond to pedestrians unexpectedly being in the road.

During the Monday to Friday 11am to 4pm restriction when taxis and private hire vehicles are permitted to access the restricted areas, the loading bays may only be used by taxi and private hire drivers for the purposes of allowing passengers to board and alight from vehicles. Drivers are **not permitted** and **must not** use the loading bays for loading and unloading goods; this includes any collection of takeaway food delivery orders. If drivers use the loading bays for anything other than allowing passengers to board and alight from vehicles, they will risk being issued with a penalty charge notice (PCN).

Thank you for your cooperation and promoting the safety of the public in Shrewsbury town centre.