

## Faversham Town Centre Road Closures, Option Assessment

Reference: 007901-PCL-HGN-ZZ-RP-CH-0001

<b>Project</b>	<b>Faversham Town Centre Closures</b>	<b>Job No</b>	<b>1000007901</b>
<b>Subject</b>	<b>Options Assessment</b>	<b>Issue</b>	<b>03</b>
<b>Prepared by</b>	<b>Jon East</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>25/04/22</b>
<b>Approved by</b>	<b>Ben Meekings</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>25/04/22</b>

### 1.1 Purpose of the Technical Note

1.1.1 The Purpose of the Technical Note is to explain the Options Sifting process undertaken for the Faversham Town Centre Road Closures and how the recommended options for further assessment have been obtained.

### 1.2 Options Assessment Criteria

1.2.1 The first stage of the Options Assessment process was to develop the Options Assessment Criteria, these were developed using the principles of sustainability (Economic, Social & Environmental) whilst also the individual scheme objectives:

- Economic Benefits
- Environmental Impacts
- Wellbeing
- Cost
- Safety Impacts
- Equality Impacts
- Emergency Access
- Impact on Local Business
- Loading / Servicing

1.2.2 As the key objectives of the scheme are to improve the high street economy as well as providing a better environment for walking & cycling, the Economic and Environmental assessment criteria have been provided with a larger weighting.

1.2.3 A scoring criteria was established as detailed in the table below:

Rating Score	Description
-3	Significant negative impact
-2	Moderate negative impact
-1	Minor negative impact
0	Neutral Impact
1	Minor positive impact
2	Moderate positive impact
3	Significant positive impact

### 1.3 Options For Assessment

1.3.1 The Options for Assessment are also shown on drawing 1000007901-2-0100-05 included as Appendix A to this technical note and are described below.

#### 1.3.2 **Option 1a – Court Street Closure 10:00 to 16:00 All Days with Exemptions for Permit Holders**

Option 1a is a closure of Court Street, Middle Row, Market Place & Market Street on all days of the week without exemptions between 10:00 & 16:00. Effectively this is the same closure which is currently in place on Court Street on Friday, Saturday & Sunday (Option 2a) but extended through the whole week.

There would be proposed exemptions for permit holders (i.e. residents) during the closure times.

#### 1.3.3 **Option 1b – Court Street Closure 09:00 to 18:00 All Days with Exemptions for Permit Holders**

Option 1b is a closure of Court Street, Middle Row, Market Place & Market Street on all days of the week with permit holder exemptions between 09:00 & 18:00. This is the same restrictions proposed in Option 1a but extended in time.

#### 1.3.4 **Option 1c – Court Street Closure 24hrs with Permitted Exemptions**

Option 1c is a 24hr closure of Court Street, Middle Row, Market Place & Market Street creating a pedestrian zone with then an exemption in place for loading, disabled access & permit holders from 08:00 to 11:00.

#### 1.3.5 **Option 1d – Court Street Physical Closure**

Option 1d is the installation of permanent physical infrastructure such as bollards at the junction of Court Street / Crescent Road, which in effect would result in a 24hr closure of Court Street, Middle Row, Market Place & Market Street with no exemptions.

#### 1.3.6 **Option 1e – Court Street Closure 08:00 to 18:00 All Days with Permitted Exemptions**

Option 1e is a full closure of Court Street, Middle Row, Market Place & Market Street on all days from 08:00 to 18:00 with permitted exemptions along with an East Street and Preston Street Closure on Saturdays from 08:00 to 18:00 with exemptions. The following exemptions are proposed:

- Loading for Business (08:00 – 10:00 & 16:00 – 18:00)
- Permit Holders (08:00 – 18:00)
- Maintenance / Cleaning & Emergency Services (08:00 – 18:00)
- Disabled Access for East St & Preston St (08:00 – 18:00)

#### 1.3.7 **Option 2a – Existing Situation**

Option 2a is the current closure situation (i.e. the current Traffic Regulation Order). This provides a full closure (with no exemptions) from Court Street to Market Place from 10am to 4pm on Friday, Saturday & Sunday, along with a full closure on East Street & Preston Street on Saturdays.

Then Monday to Thursday from Court Street to Market Place from 10am to 4pm there is a prohibition of driving with the following exemptions permitted; Good vehicles for businesses, Disabled drivers & Exemption Permit holders, this is also in place Monday to Friday on East Street & Preston Street.

#### 1.3.8 **Option 2b – Full Closure 10:00 to 16:00 All Days with Exemptions for Permit Holders and Disabled Users**

Option 2b features the full closure of Court Street, Market Place, Middle Row, Market Street, East Street & Preston Street between the hours of 10:00 to 16:00 all days of the week. There would be exemptions for permit holders (all areas) during these times and for disabled users (on East Street & Preston Street only)

#### 1.3.9 **Option 2c – Full Closure 09:00 to 18:00 All Days with Exemptions for Permit Holders and Disabled Users**

Option 2c features the full closure of Court Street, Market Place, Middle Row, Market Street, East Street & Preston Street between the hours of 09:00 to 18:00 all days of the week, with the same exemptions during these times as option 2b.

#### 1.3.10 **Option 2d – Full Closure 24hours with Exemptions 08:00 to 11:00**

Option 2d features the full closure of Court Street, Market Place, Middle Row, Market Street, East Street & Preston Street for 24hrs a day with an exemption in place for loading, disabled access & permit holders from 0800 to 1100.

#### 1.3.11 **Option 2e – Full Closure 08:00 to 18:00 All Days with Exemptions**

Option 2e is a full closure of Court Street, Middle Row, Market Place, Market Street, East Street & Preston Street on all days from 08:00 to 18:00 with the following exemptions proposed:

- Loading for Business (08:00 – 10:00 & 16:00 – 18:00)
- Permit Holders (08:00 – 18:00)
- Disabled Access on East Street and Preston Street (08:00 – 18:00)
- Maintenance / Cleaning & Emergency Services (08:00 – 18:00)

1.3.12 An East Street only closure option was not taken forward for assessment as this wouldn't have met any of the objectives of the scheme.

#### **1.4 Street Cleaning**

1.4.1 Initial liaison with the waste collection provider suggests access for waste collections on a Monday and a Thursday, this is usually around 10-11am. Liaison would be required & possibly the timings of waste collection would have to be adjusted, depending on the implemented solution.

#### **1.5 Enforcement of Closures**

1.5.1 The preferred method of enforcement at this stage would be Camera Enforcement making use of Kent County Council's application to DfT for Part 6 powers under the traffic management act. The Police have indicated that they would have limited resources to enforce the closures, prior to any cameras becoming operational.

1.5.2 As a number of existing exemptions are proposed it is anticipated that a permit system would be required which would enable people to register their licence plate to prevent a penalty notice being issued.

#### **1.6 Existing Gates**

1.6.1 It is proposed that the existing gates at Court Street & East Street would remain and would be used on Market Days to implement the closures. At other times the gates would be open and the closure times enforced by cameras.

## **1.7 Options Sifting Assessment**

1.7.1 The full output from the Options Assessment is included in Appendix B to this Technical Note. The scoring of the options ranked from lowest to highest was:

1.7.2

1. Option 2a – Existing Situation = 0
2. Option 1c – Court Street 24hr Closure with Exemptions = 4.8
3. Option 1e – Court Street Closure 08:00 to 18:00 with Exemptions and East St & Preston St on Saturdays – 5.9
4. Option 1a – Court Street Closures 10:00 to 16:00 with Exemptions for Permit Holders = 6.0
5. Option 1b – Court Street Closure 09:00 to 18:00 with Exemptions for Permit Holders = 9.3
6. Option 1d – Court Street Physical Closure = 7.5
7. Option 2e - Full Closure 08:00 to 18:00 with Exemptions – 10.6
8. Option 2b – Full Town Centre Closure 10:00 to 16:00 with Exemptions for Permit Holders = 11.5
9. Option 2d – Full Closure 24hrs with Exemptions = 12.3
10. Option 2c - Full Town Centre Closure 09:00 to 18:00 with Exemptions for Permit Holders = 14.8

## **1.8 Recommendations**

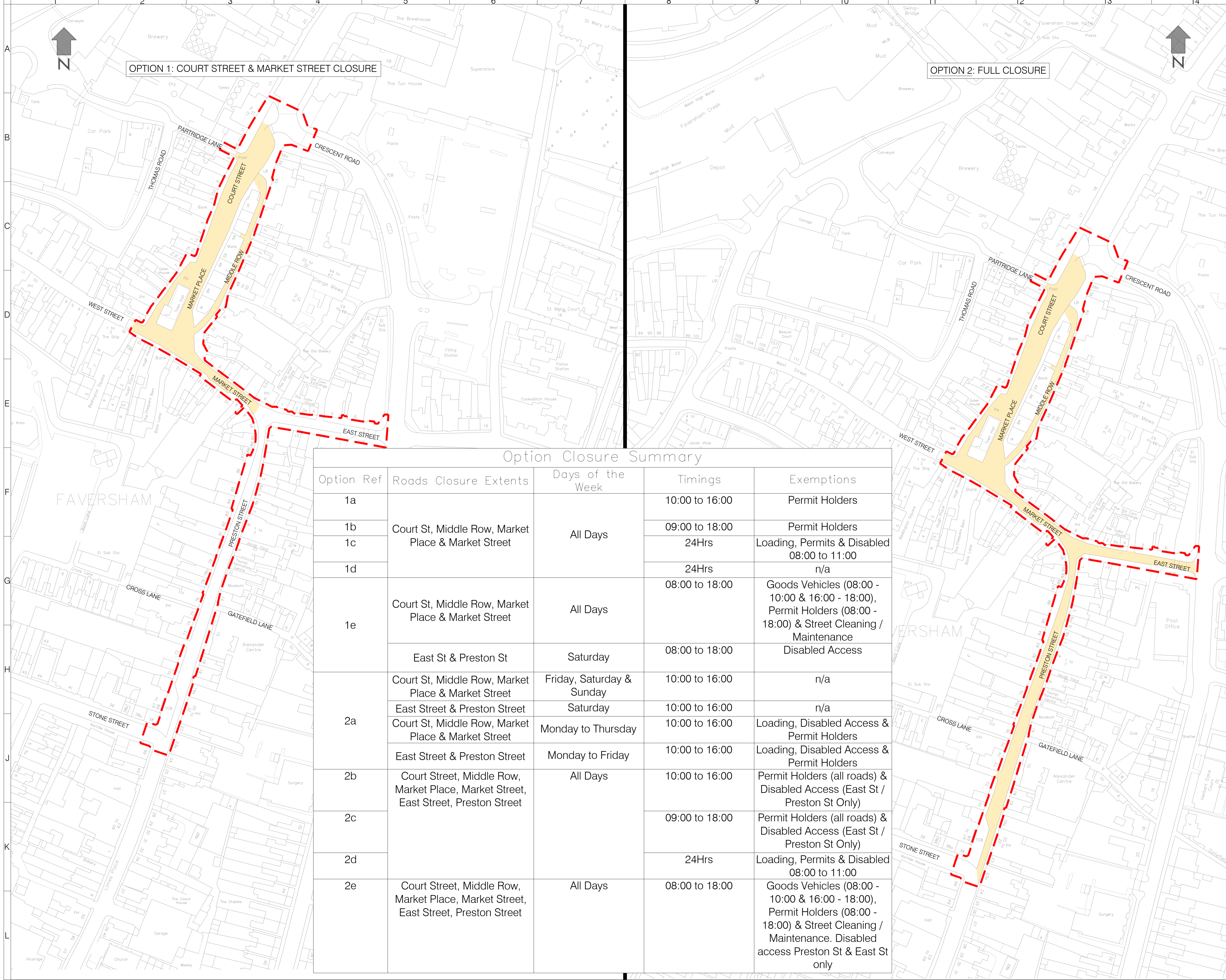
1.8.1 From the Options sifting process the best three performing options were Options 2b, 2d & 2c against the sifting criteria.

1.8.2 From the public consultation exercise undertaken in June 2021 Questions 9 & 10 asked about both the extents of the closure and the timings. The highest proportion of people wanted the closures to be 10am to 4pm and the most common amendment to the closure area was to reduce the closure to just Court Street & Market place while keeping the Preston Street and East Street open.

1.8.3 From initial discussions with an enforcement camera supplier introducing a permit system to allow loading for business will introduce an additional level of complexity, cost and administrative burden on business, so these options are not recommended to be progressed for further assessment.

1.8.4 Taking into account both the sifting exercise scores, the previous public consultation feedback and the deliverability of an enforcement camera system it is recommend that the following three options are progressed for further assessment:

- Option 1a – Court Street Closure 10:00 to 16:00 with Exemptions for permit holders
- Option 2b – Full Closure 10:00 to 16:00 with exemptions for permit holders and Disabled access for East St & Preston St only
- Option 2c – Full Closure 09:00 to 18:00 with exemptions for permit holders and Disabled access for East St & Preston St only



**LEGEND**

- Scheme Boundary
- Proposed Road Closure

**NOTES**

- This drawing is to be read in conjunction with the Options Assessment Technical Note

Option Closure Summary

Option Ref	Roads Closure Extents	Days of the Week	Timings	Exemptions
1a	Court St, Middle Row, Market Place & Market Street	All Days	10:00 to 16:00	Permit Holders
1b			09:00 to 18:00	Permit Holders
1c			24Hrs	Loading, Permits & Disabled 08:00 to 11:00
1d			24Hrs	n/a
1e	Court St, Middle Row, Market Place & Market Street	All Days	08:00 to 18:00	Goods Vehicles (08:00 - 10:00 & 16:00 - 18:00), Permit Holders (08:00 - 18:00) & Street Cleaning / Maintenance
	East St & Preston St	Saturday	08:00 to 18:00	Disabled Access
2a	Court St, Middle Row, Market Place & Market Street	Friday, Saturday & Sunday	10:00 to 16:00	n/a
	East Street & Preston Street	Saturday	10:00 to 16:00	n/a
	Court St, Middle Row, Market Place & Market Street	Monday to Thursday	10:00 to 16:00	Loading, Disabled Access & Permit Holders
2b	Court Street, Middle Row, Market Place, Market Street, East Street, Preston Street	All Days	10:00 to 16:00	Permit Holders (all roads) & Disabled Access (East St / Preston St Only)
			09:00 to 18:00	Permit Holders (all roads) & Disabled Access (East St / Preston St Only)
2c	Court Street, Middle Row, Market Place, Market Street, East Street, Preston Street	All Days	24Hrs	Loading, Permits & Disabled 08:00 to 11:00
2d			08:00 to 18:00	Goods Vehicles (08:00 - 10:00 & 16:00 - 18:00), Permit Holders (08:00 - 18:00) & Street Cleaning / Maintenance. Disabled access Preston St & East St only
2e	Court Street, Middle Row, Market Place, Market Street, East Street, Preston Street	All Days	08:00 to 18:00	Goods Vehicles (08:00 - 10:00 & 16:00 - 18:00), Permit Holders (08:00 - 18:00) & Street Cleaning / Maintenance. Disabled access Preston St & East St only

Rev	Date	Description	Drn	Chk	App
2	25.04.22	MINOR UPDATE TO OPTIONS	JE	JE	BM
1	24.03.22	ADDITIONAL OPTION ADDED	JE	JE	BM
0	11.02.22	ORIGINAL ISSUE	WM	JE	BM

**PROJECT CENTRE**

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Client **Swale BOROUGH COUNCIL**  
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Project **FAVERSHAM TOWN CENTRE ROAD CLOSURE**

Drawing Title **ROAD CLOSURE OPTIONS**

Drawing Status **FOR APPROVAL**

Drawn	Designed	Date	Scale	Size
WMM	JE	NOV 2021	1:1000	A1

Drawing No. **1000007901-2-0100-05**

Rev **2**

Assessment Criteria	Weighting Score (%)	Option 1a - Court St Closure 1000-1600 Prohibition of Driving All Days (Exemption for Permit holders)	Option 1b - Court Street Closure 0900 - 1800 Prohibition of Driving All Days (Exemption for Permit holders)	Option 1c - Court St Closure 24hrs with Exemptions 0800 - 1100	Option 1d - Court Street - Permanent Physical Closure	Option 1e - Court Street Closure 0800 - 1800 All days & East St / Preston St on Saturdays with the following exemptions: - Goods Vehicles (08:00 - 10:00) & (16:00 - 18:00) - Disabled access on East St / Preston St on Saturday - Permit Holders (08:00 - 18:00) - Maintenance, Cleansing & Emergency Services (08:00 - 18:00)	Option 2a - Existing Closure from TRO	Option 2b - Full closure 1000 - 1600 Prohibition of Driving All Days (Exemption for Permit holders & Disabled access on East St & Preston St only)	Option 2c - Full Closure 0900 - 1800 Prohibition of Driving All Days (Exemption for Permit holders & Disabled access on East St & Preston St only)	Option 2d - Full Closure 24hrs with Exemptions 0800 - 1100	Option 2e - Full Closure 0800 - 1800 with the following Exemptions: - Goods Vehicles (08:00 - 10:00) & (16:00 - 18:00) - Disabled access on East St / Preston St on Saturday - Permit Holders (08:00 - 18:00) - Maintenance, Cleansing & Emergency Services (08:00 - 18:00)	Justification
Economic Benefits (AMAT)	22.00%	1	1.5	1.5	2	1.75	0	2	2.5	2.5	2.25	Larger extents & timings of closure will give a greater benefit (AMAT). Longer closures also anticipated to give a greater benefit. Exemptions are expected to reduce benefits
Environmental – (including Air Quality Impact)	22.00%	1	1.5	1.5	2	1.75	0	2	2.5	2.5	2.25	Larger extents of closure give greater environmental benefits. Longer closure times also anticipated to give greater benefits. Exemptions are expected to reduce benefits
Wellbeing	8.00%	1	1.5	1.5	2	1.75	0	2	2.5	2.5	2.25	Larger extents & increased time period of the closure result in the increased wellbeing impact. Exemptions reduce the well being impact due to number of vehicles.
Cost	8.00%	-1	-1	-2.5	-1	-3	0	-2	-2	-3	-3	Full extents of closure is likely to be the more expensive option. Exemptions increase cost of enforcement system
Safety Impacts	8.00%	1.5	1.5	1	2	1	0	2.5	2.5	2	2	Greater safety benefits are achieved without exemptions and for the larger extents
Equality Impacts (including Disability)	8.00%	-1	-1	-0.5	-2	-0.5	0	-2	-2	0	0	Negative impact on disabled users when no exemptions are provided, as these users will find it difficult to access the town centre.
Emergency Access	8.00%	0	0	0	-3	0	0	0	0	0	0	Emergency access would be maintained except for a permanent closure at Court St.
Impact on local Business	8.00%	1	1.5	-2	1.5	-2	0	2	2.5	-2	-2	Larger extents of the closure are likely to deliver greater benefits. Exemptions will have a negative impact on business due to logistic impacts
Loading / Servicing	8.00%	-1	-1.5	-1	-3	-1	0	-2	-2.5	-1	-1	Total prohibition of driving will have a negative impact on loading & servicing.
<b>Total (including Weighting)</b>	<b>100.00%</b>	<b>6.0</b>	<b>9.3</b>	<b>4.8</b>	<b>7.5</b>	<b>5.9</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>11.5</b>	<b>14.8</b>	<b>12.3</b>	<b>10.6</b>	