

BARNSTAPLE • HIGH STREET



CONTEXT

The High Street is a busy main shopping street, narrow in places, and is the focus of pedestrian activity in Barnstaple. Conflict between vehicular traffic and pedestrians was severe and environmental conditions were of unacceptable standards.

OBJECTIVES

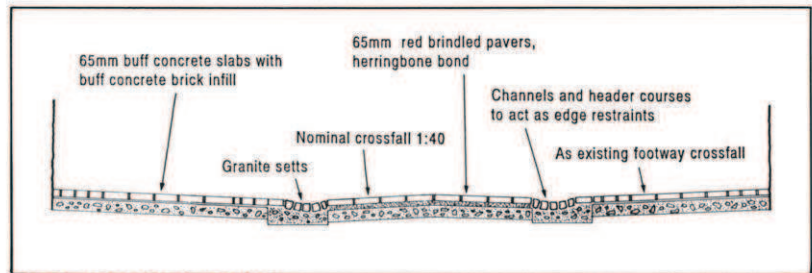
The main objectives were: to exclude traffic from the High Street, except for access for goods vehicles, during most of the working day; to introduce measures to reduce traffic speeds at other times; and to implement environmental improvements.

DESCRIPTION

Traffic in the middle section of the High Street is excluded from 9.15 a.m. to 5 p.m. with access for goods vehicles only at other times. The footways have been widened and the carriageway surfaced with clay pavers and removable bollards have been installed



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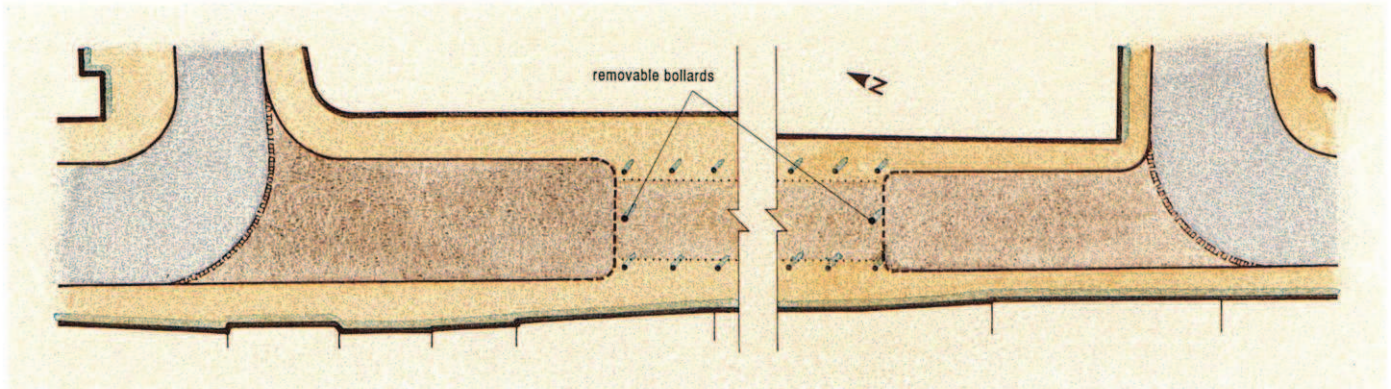
TYPICAL CROSS SECTION

at each end. Access to the northern section of the High Street is also restricted to vehicles loading and unloading only, Monday to Friday 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. and is open to pedestrians only on Saturdays.

COST

The cost of the paving was £40,000 and that for narrowing the carriageway £1,000 which was paid by developers.

58: Full width paving enhances the street scene. Vehicle speeds have been reduced during the times when access is allowed. (Photo: Devon County Council)



ASSESSMENT

There has been a positive improvement in the shopping environment of the High Street with considerable benefits to the comfort and safety of pedestrians. Disabled drivers have also benefited from the scheme as they are exempted from the restrictions to vehicles loading and unloading in the northern section of the High Street.

It is proposed to fully pedestrianise the northern end of High Street and to extend the partial pedestrianisation to the other main town centre shopping streets.