

Bus Lane information – Castle Street

What is the Castle Street restriction?

The Castle Street restriction is not a bus lane in the normal sense but a bus gate. A bus gate is a short section of street in which only buses and other authorised vehicles can go through.

A bus gate is a form of bus lane as per the legal definition contained within section 144 of the Transport Act 2000 which states;

(5) And an area of road is or forms part of a bus lane if the order provides that it may be used—

(a) only by buses (or a particular description of bus), or

(b) only by buses (or a particular description of bus) and some other class or classes of vehicular traffic.

The informal term bus gate is used nationally to differentiate this type of restriction from the more widely used bus lanes that run adjacent to the kerb.

When is the bus lane in operation?

The bus lane is restricted to traffic (unless exempt) 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

What vehicles are allowed through?

Local buses, emergency vehicles and other exempt vehicles as defined in the relevant Traffic Order.

Taxis/private hire vehicles are currently allowed through between 7am – 7pm.

What signage is used?

The Council uses the nationally recognised prohibition of entry sign, diagram 619, more commonly known as the 'flying motorcycle' to warn motorists of the restriction. This sign prohibits any motor vehicle from passing beyond it and is the correct size for the speed limit of that area, 20mph.



In addition to the warning signage carriageway markings informing the driver that all traffic should perform a right turn away from the restriction is also in place, when travelling from New Road or Paradise Street.

The onus is on the driver to ensure that they observe and abide by the restriction signs in place.

Further information

For more on the bus lanes in Oxford City Centre please visit our website:

www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/buslaneenforcement