

LONDON BOROUGH OF BRENT

HIGHWAYS COMMITTEE

7th December 2004

REPORT FROM THE DIRECTOR OF ENVIRONMENT

FOR ACTION

ALL WARDS

REPORT TITLE :	Review of the Controlled Parking Zones Operational Times
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1.0 SUMMARY

- 1.1 This report provides Members with a comparison of the operational times of CPZs in this borough with other neighbouring Local Authorities. Recommendations are made to the Committee for the most effective and appropriate CPZ operational times when a new CPZ being proposed, or an existing CPZ being reviewed.

2.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1 That Committee notes the options provided by other local authorities during consultation exercises on the operational times of the Controlled Parking Zones in their respective questionnaires.
- 2.2 That Committee approves the three different operational times for CPZ to be offered to residents/businesses during consultations in this borough, as set out in paragraph 8.10

3.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 3.1 The staffing costs associated with initial consultations will be met from existing revenue funding for the current financial year for the development of CPZ schemes.

4.0 STAFFING IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 The Transportation Service Unit will undertake the public consultation, statutory consultation and implementation work at the instruction of this Committee.

5.0 ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 The implementation of parking control schemes is in line with Government guidelines and policies relating to integrated transport policy and road traffic restraint.

6.0 LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

- 6.1 Any schemes approved for implementation will require the making of a traffic regulation order under the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984. The procedures to be adopted for making the necessary orders and any amendments thereto are set out in the Local Authorities ' Traffic Orders (Procedure) (England and Wales) Regulations 1996.

7.0 DIVERSITY IMPLICATIONS

- 7.1 All public consultation material includes a section written in the most common languages used in the Borough with an explanation of how more information about proposals can be obtained. Consultation material can also be provided in large print if required.
- 7.2 Parking schemes take account of the requirements of the different religious organisations in the borough in respect of parking needs for community establishments during the design of projects and through the consultation process.
- 7.3 Parking schemes also take account of the needs of people with disabilities through parking dispensations for blue/orange badge holders in parking places which allow parking without charge or restriction on length of stay and through the provision of disabled persons parking places in order to assist the mobility impaired. The control of on street parking also allows greater access to crossing points and at road junctions by preventing obstruction at these locations in order to assist pedestrians particularly the blind or visually handicapped.

8.0 DETAIL

Background

- 8.1 Currently there are a total of 36 CPZ's in the Borough and five free parking zones. Out of the 36 CPZs 9 are located north of the North Circular Road and 27 CPZs south of North Circular Road.(Appendix A)
- 8.2 The Controlled Parking Zones in the borough currently provide approximately 23,593 resident and permit parking bays. There are also 368 Disabled Persons' Parking Places in the borough.

8.3 The existing CPZs operational times are tabulated below:

Zones	Hours and days
GM, MC (2)	10.00am-9.00pm, Mon-Sat
MA, MK (2)	10.00am-3.00pm, Mon-Fri
QA (1)	10.00am-3.00pm, Mon-Sat
KS (1)	8.00am-6.30pm, Mon-Fri
MW, KM, H, HS, HW, ST, SH, NC, C (9)	8.00am-6.30pm, Mon-Sat
K, KB, KC, KD, KG, KR, KQ, KL, GB, GC, GD, GH, NS (13)	8.30am-6.30pm, Mon-Fri
E, W (2)	8.00am-9.00pm, Mon-Sun
Temple area (1)	7 days, 24 Hours

8.4 The above table indicates that the most common CPZ operational time is 8.30am to 6.30pm Monday to Friday as in a total of 13 zones. 9 CPZs operational times are 8.00 am to 6.30 pm Monday to Saturday with one CPZ (KS) operating at 8.00am to 6.30 pm Monday to Friday. Other CPZ operational times currently in force are 8.00am to 9.00pm Monday to Sunday, 10.00am to 3.00pm Monday to Friday/Saturday, 10.00am to 9.00pm Monday to Saturday and the Temple area which operates 7day, 24hours.

8.5 A summary of the options given by other local authorities on the timing of the Controlled Parking Zones is set out below:

London Borough of Hammersmith and Fulham

- Policy approved by the Cabinet to give residents a standard optional time of 9am-5pm, Monday to Friday.
- Options on weekends only
- Engineers have no options to suggest

- Residents have no options to choose

City of Westminster

- Hold meetings with focus group before the consultation
- Carry out sample surveys
- Engineers have options to suggest after the meetings
- Residents have options to choose
- Proposed policy to convert all the existing resident parking bays in the City to 24-7 resident only parking bays

London Borough of Ealing

- Policy states that residents should choose their own CPZ timing
- Hold meetings with resident representatives and business groups before the consultation
- After this engineers should come with suggested options
- Residents will have a range of options to select including all day or short hours
- Example of short hours CPZ operating in the borough are 1hr in the morning and 1 hr in the evening restricted parking CPZ

London Borough of Camden

- Hold meeting with members of the steering group
- Summarise the feedback
- Engineers make suggestions looking at the feedback
- Residents will have options to choose
- Examples: 2 hrs CPZ operating between 10am-12pm or 12pm-2pm and other all day CPZs

London Borough of Harrow

- meeting with key stake holders
- give them a blank sheet to come with options
- engineers suggest options after receiving feedback
- residents will have options to choose

London Borough of Barnet

- Hold meetings with resident groups
- Engineers give all day and short hrs options
- Residents have a range of options to select including 1 hr CPZs

London Borough of Kensington and Chelsea

- The whole borough is divided to three major CPZs
- Their time of operations are as follows:
 - 8.30am-6.30pm, Mon-Fri 8.30am-1.30pm Sat
 - 8.30am-10.00pm, Mon-Fri 8.30am-1.30pm Sat

- 8.30am-10.00pm, Mon-Fri 8.30am – 6.30pm Sat

- 8.6 Controlled Parking Zones (CPZ) are defined in Direction 23(3) of the Traffic Signs Regulations and General Directions 2002, which requires a sign to be erected at every entrance to a zone showing the hours of restriction. Direction 23(2) exempts an Authority from the requirement to provide signs (time plates) where there are yellow lines within a zone, except where restrictions differ from those on the zone entry sign.
- 8.7 Other adjoining boroughs appear to provide more options varying from a wide range of operational hours. Example boroughs such as Hammersmith and Fulham only offer 9am to 5pm Monday to Friday.
- 8.8 In deciding the hour of operation of a CPZ, Members will wish to reflect the preference of local residents as expressed through consultation on representation, whilst recognising the needs for operational efficiency. Whilst residents may wish to have specific times for their own particular zone, there is a need to have regard to the requirement of people who enter the zone on a less frequent basis. In London especially, motorists may pass in and out of many zones during their vehicular journey. On parking in any particular zone, the driver needs to be sure of the operational times displayed on the plate of that zone. Motorists can often be confused by the plethora road signs on the public highway, and may not remember or have noticed the times displayed on the zone entry plates. This leads to confusion and frustration. It is therefore helpful to the motorists to minimise the number of different zones, to an appropriate few. In problematical commuter areas, the 10.00am -3.00 pm has been shown to be effective. In more densely parked areas adjacent to visitor attractions, the 8.30am-6.30pm would provide protection for local residents. Should the zone be close to evening activity areas, then 10.00am-9.00pm would work well. Depending on the requirement the zones will operate Monday-Friday or Monday-Saturday. When for example, seven day trading occur, the Monday-Sunday zone may be considered. Members will be aware of the special zone operating continuously round the Neasden Temple which provides protection parking to residents when numerous events take place on an irregular time/day basis.

Enforcement

- 8.9 There are concerns that more varied operation times can lead to confusion, particularly where adjoining CPZ operate on different times. When that happens, motorists are more likely to argue and challenge Penalty Charge Notices (PCNs). If the Council receives more representation as a result a proportional increase in resources will be required to deal with the representations. If these cases reach appeal stage, based on more borough's experience, the independent adjudicator is more likely to rule in favour of the motorist at the slightest hint of confusion. Variations in operation times also require additional enforcement staff and certainly more supervisory staff, hence additional monitoring by the Council.
- 8.10 The options recommended to Committee for the future consultation on new CPZ and review of existing zones are as follows:
- 10.00am – 3.00 pm Monday – Friday

- 8.30am – 6.30pm Monday - Friday
- 10.0am – 9pm Monday – Friday
- Inclusion of Saturday or Sunday as appropriate

9.0 BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Details of Documents:

- 9.1 L.B. Brent Parking Strategy
A New Deal for Transport: Better for Everyone (DETR)
Traffic Management and Parking Guidance for London (GOL)
- 9.2 Any person wishing to inspect the above papers should contact H Amirhosseini,
Transportation Service Unit, Brent House, 349 High Road, Wembley, Middlesex
HA9 6BZ,
Telephone: 020 8937 5188

Richard Saunders
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APPENDIX A

