



Highways Committee
10 October 2013

**Report from the Head of
Transportation**

For Action

Wards Affected:
Sudbury

**Petition requesting a review of the Controlled Parking Zone SHJ
in Fernbank, Maybank and Rosebank Avenues, Sudbury**

1.0 Summary

1.1 This report informs the Committee of a petition requesting a review of the controlled parking zone in Fernbank, Maybank and Rosebank Avenues, Sudbury.

2.0 Recommendations

2.1 That the Committee notes the contents of the petition and the issues raised.

2.2 That, subject to approval of the 2014/15 LIP programme, the Committee approves the allocation of £10,000 of LIP capital funding to undertake a review of CPZ SH in Sudbury during the 2014/15 financial year.

2.3 That the Committee instructs the Head of Transportation to proceed with a review of the controlled parking zone SH during the 2014/15 financial year, subject to the outcome of the Local Implementation Plan capital funding submission.

2.4 That, subject to the outcomes of a review of CPZ SH during 2014-15, the Committee authorises the Head of Transportation to undertake any necessary non-statutory and statutory consultation, to consider any objections or representations and to implement the necessary Traffic Management Orders and associated signing and road marking works required to implement the changes.

2.5 That the main petitioner be informed of the outcome of the Highways Committee decision in regard to this matter.

3.0 Details of Petition

3.1 A petition has been received by the Council from local residents and businesses of Fernbank, Maybank and Rosebank Avenues. The petition has 109 signatories and has been verified in accordance with the council's procedures. Two copies of essentially the same petition were submitted to the council.

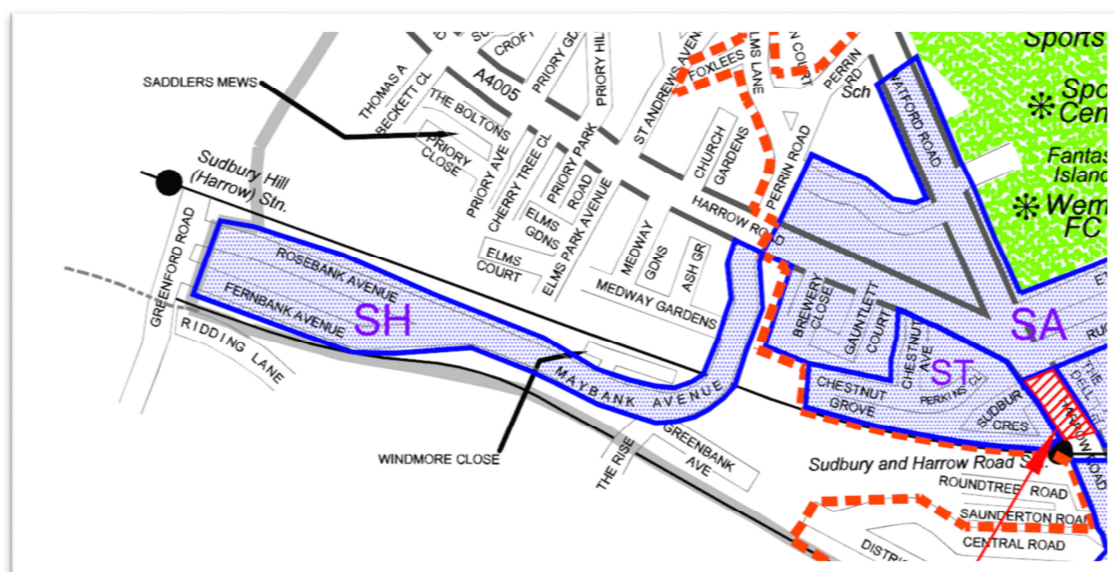
3.2 The full wording of the petition is:

"In view of the recent increases in Residents Parking Permit Charges and reductions in number and increased charges for visitor permits we call on Brent Council to undertake an early review of the controlled parking zone operating in Fernbank, Maybank and Rosebank Avenues, Sudbury."

Copies of the petition are available for inspection by Members of the Highways Committee.

4.0 Background

4.1 Controlled parking zone SH (CPZ SH) is located in Sudbury and was introduced in two phases. The original scheme included Rosebank and Fernbank Avenues and was introduced in December 2003. The scheme was then extended in November 2005 to include Maybank Avenue.



4.2 The scheme was implemented to:

- Remove commuter and long-term non-residential parking from the area;
- Improve road safety by removing obstructive parking from junctions;
- Reduce the level of traffic in the area by regulating parking on-street; and

- To attract more customers to local businesses by allowing greater turnover in parking spaces.
- 4.3 The scheme's operational times were agreed with residents and businesses at the time of the original scheme consultation and it currently operates from 8.00am to 6.30pm, Monday to Saturday excluding bank holidays.
- 4.4 The zone is located between two railway lines with Sudbury Hill station to the west and Sudbury and Harrow Road to the east. Many of the properties in the zone are residential terraced houses and the vast majority do not have the option of off-street parking spaces.
- 4.5 In February / March 2007, officers carried out a review of the zone by consulting with residents and businesses on how the CPZ was operating and on how the scheme could be improved.
- 4.6 The consultation showed that the majority of respondents were fairly satisfied with the CPZ overall. They stated that the hours of operation 8.00am - 6.30pm should remain unchanged, but they were very dissatisfied with the days of operation from Monday to Saturday and preferred to change it to Monday to Friday.
- 4.7 The results of the consultation were reported to the March 2008 Highways Committee. Members noted the results of the consultation. However the Committee felt that the results did not show decisive support to amend or retain the operational times of the zone and members decided to keep the operational times of 8.00am to 6.30pm, Monday to Saturday unchanged.
- 4.8 Members were also asked to note that residents from Rosebank and Fernbank Avenue expressed concerns about the level of parking within the SH Zone, particularly from residents of Maybank Avenue. It was noted that it would be difficult to create a separate zone for Rosebank Avenue and Fernbank Avenue exclusively (as requested by residents to prevent parking by Maybank residents), but that the Council would continue monitoring the situation in the new financial year.

5.0 Initial response to the petition

- 5.1 Resident permit prices are consistent across all parking zones. It is noted that permit prices remained unchanged until December 2012 when the Council adopted a new approach of applying annual inflation increases. A price increase was then introduced for the financial year commencing 1 April 2013. The price of Resident Permits is not therefore dependent on the hours of operation and would have no bearing on the outcome of any changes to operational days or times of CPZ operation.
- 5.2 Visitor Permit prices are also consistent across all parking zones and are payable during operational hours. It is therefore accepted that the longer the operational hours are, the greater the chance that visitor permits will need to be purchased. The current charge is £1 per day irrespective of the length of stay,

where previously the visitors parking charge was £0.50 per day: this rate had not increased since 2007.

- 5.3 At the Full Council meeting of 28th February 2011, a report titled “2011/12 Budget and Council Tax” was approved and a £300k revenue budget used for periodic review and amendment of the boroughs CPZ’s was reduced by £240k for 2011/12 and by a further £60k for 2012/13. In this report members agreed to reduce the revenue funding available, the effect of which would be to cease work to introduce new, and review or adjust existing CPZ schemes. Members are therefore reminded that there is currently no revenue budget available to introduce or amend controlled parking zones (CPZ).
- 5.4 Since withdrawal of the CPZ review budget, the Council has received a number of requests for changes to existing parking zones to address disparities in operational hours. Officers were unable to action investigations into these proposals, or to action any changes to CPZ operations, in the absence of a review budget.
- 5.5 On 18th December 2012 the Highways Committee considered a petition requesting removal of Controlled Parking Zone KD Bank Holiday parking restrictions. Officers reported to members that no funding was available for such a review. Members acknowledged the withdrawal of revenue funding but noted that a number of similar requests had been received during the year. They requested that the Head of Transportation consider whether any funding solutions could be made available for a limited programme.
- 5.6 In a subsequent report to Highways Committee on 12th March 2013 the Head of Transportation reported that a fund was available through the Local Implementation Plan capital programme for the purpose of investigating the need for, and delivering where appropriate, new or existing waiting and loading restrictions where problems have been identified.
- 5.7 Members agreed that officers should allocate £20k of the fund for reviewing parking related schemes within CPZ areas. This proposal was agreed and an agreed programme of reviews is currently underway during FYR2013/14.
- 5.8 As stated, there is no formal CPZ Review programme and as such each operational change needs to be considered on its own merit, and the benefit of proceeding with a review evaluated. Members therefore agreed to adopt an assessment process described in the Committee report of 12th March 13. The agreed assessment process has been applied to this proposal and is set out below:

Assessment of Suitability for CPZ review – Zone SH
Request for review of operating hours and/or operational days

Assessment Criteria	Assessment of suitability
Is it consistent with surrounding zones?	No – nearest zone operates shorter hours

Are changes significant?	No – minor changes to Order required and adjustment of signs
Will they impact on enforceability?	No – no changes to enforcement regime will be required aside from removal of enforcement if days/hours changed.
Does proposal conflict with CPZ policy?	No
Has there been significant demand for change?	Yes – petition received and reported to Highways Committee on 10 th October 13

- 5.9 This proposal therefore meets the criteria for undertaking a review, although all such reviews rely on the availability of funding.
- 5.10 The cost of undertaking a review includes resources involved in undertaking a consultation along with costs for amending traffic orders and implementing signing changes, if changes are agreed. The total estimated costs are £10,000, although this depends on the scope and nature of the changes that resident's request.
- 5.11 The proposed LIP capital programme bid for 2014/15 is being considered by members at the Highways Committee meeting on 10th October 2013. Subject to approval, the bid will be made to Transport for London. It contains a proposed £80k budget for waiting and loading reviews throughout the Borough. If this bid is agreed by Committee and allocated through the LIP programme it is proposed to utilise £10k of this budget to undertake a review for CPZ SH area. At the present time no further reviews have been requested within the Borough.
- 5.12 Members should note that the £10k review budget would only be sufficient to fund consultation work and low cost zone changes. If the full costs of implementation of agreed changes to zone SH exceed this budget during FYR2014/15, implementation may need to be deferred to future years, and would still be subject to funding availability.

6.0 Financial Implications

- 6.1 At the Highways Committee meeting in March 2013, the report titled Parking and Waiting Restrictions Review Programme 2013/14 was considered and approved by members who agreed to allocate £20,000 from the LIP parking and loading restrictions fund to review an agreed programme of CPZ schemes during 2013/14. No further funding is available this financial year.
- 6.2 The LIP funding bid has not been approved by Committee or confirmed by Transport for London at the present time. However, the draft bid includes a fund for undertaking parking and loading reviews and, subject to this finance being available, it is proposed to allocate up to £10k of capital funding during 2014/15 to review CPZ SH.

7.0 Legal Implications

- 7.1 There is no legal duty on the council to review controlled parking zones.
- 7.2 Any changes identified zone reviews and approved for implementation require the amending of the existing traffic regulation order under the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984.

8.0 Diversity Implications

- 8.1 Equalities implications depend on the nature and scope of proposed changes and will therefore be assessed as part of the CPZ review and (if changes are proposed), the scheme development process.

Background Papers

None

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