

Highways Committee – 17th September 2009

Supplementary Report to item 7 (Progress report on CPZ programme).

Zone GA CPZ Review

1. Background

1.2 Informal consultation with residents of Zone GA was undertaken during January and February 2009 (Appendix D). The results of the consultation containing tables showing street by street breakdowns are tabulated in the last 4 pages of Appendix D.

1.3 The current GA CPZ times of operation are; Mon – Sat 10am – 9pm

The key results of the consultation can be summarised as follows:

- Questionnaires were sent out to 349 properties within zone GA
- 131 completed questionnaires were returned within the specified timescale
- Return rate of 37.5%
- 94 respondents (71.8%) favoured operational days of Mon – Fri
- 60 respondents (46.2%) favoured operational times of 10am – 3pm
- 38 respondents (29.2%) favoured operational times of 8.30am – 6.30pm
- 32 respondents (24.6) favoured the existing days & times of operation

There was no particular overwhelming preference for same hours in streets closer to Cricklewood Broadway.

1.4 At the Highways Committee of 19th March 09, based on the results of the consultation, it was agreed by the Committee that the zone GA CPZ operational times to be reduced from 10am to 9pm Monday to Saturday to 10am to 3pm Monday to Friday. Accordingly, officers commenced the statutory consultation for the making of the necessary Traffic Orders.

1.5 The statutory consultation process, including the posting of street notices, started on the 1st July 2009.

- 1.6** At the 21st July 2009 Highways Committee meeting, officers were presented with a petition containing 79 verified signatures objecting to the approved changes.

The original petition contained a total of 180 signatures, including around 30 residents who live within the adjacent (GM) CPZ.

The petition reads *“Cricklewood Residents Petition. To the Council of the London Borough of Brent. We the undersigned oppose the change of operation of the GA controlled Parking to 10am to 3pm Monday to Friday, as the recent consultations by the council was flawed, we urge the Council to agree the original hours of the GA CPZ 10am to 9pm Monday to Saturday”*

At the 21st July 09 Committee it was agreed that officers prepare a further report with actions and recommendations. This is that report. Officers have not progressed implementation of the changes agreed in March 2009, since that (July 2009) decision was made.

- 1.7** On the 8th and 11th of September 2009, a further petition from residents of GA CPZ was submitted to Democratic Services.

The petition has been gathered by “NW2 Residents Association working together with Mapesbury Residents Association”. The petition is in the form of individual statements of support for particular GA CPZ operating times.

The petition comprises a total of 79 verified signatures in support of an operational time of Monday to Friday from 10am to 3pm (i.e. in line with the decision made by the Highways Committee at the March 2009 meeting).

The petition also contains 20 verified signatures in support of an operational time of Monday to Friday from 10am to 6pm.

2.0 Discussion

- 2.1** The public consultation undertaken by officers in February 2009 was consistent with normal consultation arrangements and undertaken in a “neutral” environment.

The circumstances under which residents signed the later petitions are unclear.

Neither petition provides a coherent argument as to why the petitioners support particular operating days or times.

- 2.2** It is not possible for officers to reach a conclusion as to whether or not there is a consensus on a preferred operational time based on an analysis of the petitions. Both petitions demonstrate opposing views and contain similar numbers of verified signatures. There are inconsistencies between petitions in that, in some cases, the same addresses appear against signatories in both petitions.

Officers have not compared the responses provided during the consultation exercise with the content of the petitions but anticipate this could also demonstrate inconsistencies.

2.3 There are effectively 2 possible options;

(i) To conclude, that the petitions demonstrate that either a lack of consensus or a changing of views has developed since the original consultation, and agree that the proposal should be abandoned pending a further round of consultation. Such a round of consultation could not, because of capacity issues, take place until late in 2010.

Or (ii) To conclude, that the original consultation properly captured the views of residents and should be the rationale for proceeding with amending the CPZ operation times to Monday to Friday from 10am to 3pm.

2.4 Officers are of the view that option (ii) (to proceed in accordance with the previous decision of the Highways Committee) would be the appropriate course of action.

3.0 Recommendation

It is recommended that Committee agrees to proceed with GA CPZ Zone operational times to be changed from 10am to 9pm Monday to Saturday, to, 10am to 3pm Monday to Friday.