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Proposed Controlled Parking Zone

Direct Line: 0208 583 3787
E-Mail: residentconsultation@hounslow.gov.uk
Our ref: Haverfields/Towers/DetailedDesign
Date: 12 October 2016

Dear Sir / Madam

**Haverfields and Brentford Towers Area
Proposed Controlled Parking Zone 'Detailed Design' Consultation**

Hounslow Housing and the Council's Traffic Team have received complaints from residents regarding obstructive and indiscriminate parking in the area which is reportedly being caused by non-residential parking. These complaints have resulted in some residents requesting the introduction of a controlled parking zone (CPZ). Furthermore, the results of a recent consultation undertaken by Hounslow Housing, which covered a wide range of issues including parking, also indicated there was some support for a CPZ.

As a result, the Council are now commencing a 'detailed design' consultation with residents to determine whether there is wider support for the introduction of parking controls. The detailed design consultation gives residents the opportunity to assess the Council's proposed scheme design and review the attached information on CPZs before indicating whether you support the introduction of a CPZ or not. The scheme design, which is attached to this letter, indicates the proposed location of parking bays, single yellow lines and double yellow lines. It should be noted that, within the Hounslow Housing areas, a number of parking bays and double yellow lines have been formally marked by Hounslow Housing and therefore the design plan very much reflects the current parking patterns in these areas.

As many of the issues raised by residents are similar to those raised by residents of the Brook Road South 'area' CPZ prior to its introduction, the Council suggest the same operational times may be an appropriate option for your area in the event of a CPZ being introduced. At present, the Brook Road South 'area' CPZ operates a mid-morning hour (10-11am, Monday-Friday), a later evening hour (7-8pm, Monday-Friday) and a Saturday match day hour (2.30-3.30pm). The purpose of these times are to prevent daytime parking from commuters, local businesses and residents from nearby developments in your roads during the week, and football supporters from parking during Saturday or midweek matches. For clarity, any CPZ introduced in the Haverfields and Brentford Towers areas will be separate from the Brook Road South 'area' CPZ, i.e. permits will not be exchangeable between zones. If you would not support these times, you can identify your preferred times on the attached questionnaire.

It has also been noted that, following surveys of the current parking provisions, there are a high number of disabled parking bays within the Hounslow Housing land. To ensure the Council are maximising the parking provisions for all residents whilst ensuring that those with legitimate requirements for disabled bays are not disadvantaged, we would ask that you identify whether you are a valid blue badge holder in need of a disabled bay on the attached questionnaire. All information provided will be kept confidential.

This is your opportunity to have a say on whether you would like to be included in a CPZ and to make suggestions/comments about the proposed design. I would strongly encourage you to respond even if you do not experience any parking difficulties and/or are not in favour of a CPZ.

Before completing the attached questionnaire, please refer to the information included with this letter which provides a summary of how CPZs work and the costs involved. Once you are satisfied that you have sufficient information **I would be grateful if you would return the completed questionnaire by 2 November 2016** at the latest in the pre-paid envelope provided (no stamp required).

The results of the consultation will be reported to your local ward councillors. If there is majority support from residents to the CPZ proposals, and Councillors approve, the scheme will be progressed to the statutory consultation stage whereby the Council advertises its intention to introduce a CPZ. This process is a 21 day period during which time any person can submit objections or representations to the Council's proposals. You will be notified in writing of the outcome of the consultation and any future action in due course.

Thank you for taking the time to participate in this consultation and I look forward to receiving your completed questionnaire.

Yours faithfully,

Andrew Nye
Parking Management
Traffic and Transport
London Borough of Hounslow

Information on Controlled Parking Zones and How They Operate

What is a Controlled Parking Zone?

A Controlled Parking Zone (CPZ) is an area where all kerbside space is marked out with parking spaces where it is safe to park. Waiting restrictions (yellow lines) would be placed everywhere else where parking would not be allowed while the CPZ is operational, or longer periods as shown on signs.

CPZs are used to provide protected parking facilities for residents and their visitors, local businesses and their visitors as well as short-term parking for shoppers and visitors to other commercial premises.

CPZs are usually located in town centres and areas surrounding underground and rail stations where extraneous parking most affects residents and businesses although CPZs have also been introduced in areas heavily affected by commercial and/or business parking. CPZs also help ease congestion by removing obstructive and indiscriminate parking.

How do Controlled Parking Zones Work?

CPZs work by ensuring that only vehicles with valid permits are allowed to park in designated bays during the hours the CPZ operates. Permits will only be made available to local residents and businesses within the CPZ boundary. Outside of the operational hours, parking is unrestricted unless otherwise indicated by additional signage, such as where a single yellow line may need to operate for an extended period. Any vehicles that are parked illegally during the controlled times are liable to receive a Penalty Charge Notice (PCN) {parking ticket}.

Service / delivery vehicles can load or unload for up to 20 minutes on the yellow lines (where there are no loading restrictions) and in residents' or shared use bays. However, loading / unloading must be evident to ensure a penalty charge notice is not issued.

What are the Advantages of a Controlled Parking Zone?

- Residents and their visitors are given priority when parking in residential roads.
- Shared use bays (RingGo, residents permit and business permit) may be used in locations adjacent to residential premises, shops and other businesses, or in special circumstances should they be required. These bays can be used by any person with a valid permit or those wishing to pay to park.
- Yellow lines will prevent obstructive parking on junctions, across driveways, on bends and in narrow roads.
- Accessibility will be improved for pedestrians, wheelchair users and the disabled and also larger vehicles such as the emergency services and refuse collection by removing obstructive parking.

Controlled Parking Zones Disadvantages

- The layout of parking bays may appear to reduce the amount of parking spaces available, but much of this "parking" may be obstructive or dangerous. However, every attempt will be made to optimise the amount of on street parking bays, without compromising safety and accessibility requirements.
- It is possible that parking will be displaced into uncontrolled roads close to the CPZ boundary.
- The signs and road markings that must be used may be perceived as being visually obtrusive, although every effort will be made to keep signs and lines to a minimum.

- The scheme does not permit residents to park across driveways during the operating hours of the CPZ. This is because practical enforcement difficulties arise from such measures and they can create tension between neighbours (e.g. a neighbour may choose to park partly across your driveway even though they should not). The occasional exception is made in roads where the 'permit holder only past this point' signs are proposed and, as no parking bay markings would be provided, residents would be entitled to park across their own driveways.

Types of Parking Bays and who is eligible to park in them

Residents' permit parking bays

Bays would be marked for the use of vehicles displaying a valid parking permit during the hours of control. Only residents of the zone will be eligible for parking permits. One permit is needed for each vehicle parked on street during the hours the zone operates and that permit will only be eligible for the vehicle it is registered to. No permit is required if residents do not need to park on-street during the hours of control.

Visitor parking

Visitors can use "Visitor Permits" if they wish to park on street during the operational hours of the scheme. It is worth noting that accommodation of visitors within the zone could reduce on street parking provision for residents themselves since they will occupy the same parking bays.

Visitors can park in residents' permit bays or shared use bays during the hours of control provided a valid visitor permit is displayed in their vehicle. Alternatively, visitors can park in private driveways where this is possible or arrange their visits outside the restricted time, if convenient. Outside the hours of operation visitors do not need to display a permit.

Parking for disabled badge holders

Residents who have blue badges are eligible to park in on-street pay and display, shared use and permit holder bays (except where controlled signs state otherwise) without displaying a residents' parking permit. Those with valid blue badges will therefore not need to purchase a resident permit. Blue badge holders are exempt for up to 3 hours on yellow lines where there are no loading restrictions and provided their vehicle does not cause safety or congestion problems.

Motorcycle parking

Motorcycles or scooters can park free of charge in any dedicated motorcycle bay (both on-street or in a council car park) or in any residents' bay or shared use bay where a resident permit would normally be accepted (please refer to on-street signs). Motorcycles or scooters may not park on the footway other than in designated footway parking bays.

Permit Charges

(with effect from 1 April 2016)

Residents' permits:	£80 per year for 1 st vehicle, £133 per year for 2 nd vehicle, £220 per year for 3 rd vehicle.
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Change of vehicle/refund:	£20 admin charge
Replacement (lost permit):	£20 admin charge

Visitors' Permits: £22.50 per 'card'. Each card is divided into 30 lines and each line allows 1 hour's parking. Parking for your visitors will therefore cost 75p per hour.

Carer/Medical Permits: £67.50 per year. This is available to assist people such as independent elderly residents, who may possibly be housebound, to maintain their lifestyle. Carer permits are not available for Nannies. A relative/nominated friend may apply for a carer permit.

For further information on parking permits and the parking permit policy please refer to Council website: http://www.hounslow.gov.uk/index/transport_and_streets/parking.htm

Please be aware that permit prices are subject to change.

Dropped Kerbs

Please be aware that should a CPZ be introduced in your road the Council will only accept requests for new dropped kerbs (driveways to allow off street parking on your private land) in exceptional circumstances.

In addition to the existing charge for the construction of a dropped kerb, which can be confirmed by the Councils' highways contractor Hounslow Highways, there would also be an additional charge for the amendment to the Traffic Management Order (TMO; which, amongst other things, confirms the locations of parking bays and waiting restrictions within the scheme) to accommodate the removal of any existing parking bay that may obstruct access to your property.

It is therefore recommended that, should you wish to install a dropped kerb, you make contact with Hounslow Highways at your earliest possible opportunity. It is, however, advisable that you wait until this consultation is complete and a decision whether to progress the CPZ or not has been made before you apply for a dropped kerb. Hounslow Highways can be contacted via the following options:

Telephone: 020 8583 2000

Email: Enquiries@hounslowhighways.org

Website: www.hounslowhighways.org