

Title: Estate and Off-Street Parking Strategy May 2024

Information Report

Recommendations: The DMC is asked to note the report.

Report Summary: This report provides an update on our project to improve parking on Camden's estates.

1. Background

1.1 The Estates and Off-Street Parking Strategy was developed following a borough-wide consultation in March 2023 and subsequently approved by the Cabinet. The goal is to make access for emergency vehicles easier by addressing parking issues on Camden's estates effectively.

2. Group 1 Estates

2.1 The following estates have been selected as the first group to see the changes implemented:

E00001 Amptill Square
E00019 Ossulston Street 1 & 2
E01026 Russell Nurseries
E01029 South End Close
E02016 Harben Road
E02039 West End Sidings
E03002 Bourne
E04002 Agar Grove

3. Resident Priorities and Preferences for Estate Improvements

3.1 A focused estate layout and design consultation for the Group 1 estates was held in July 2023, which generated some concerns from residents. We engaged further with the community to address these objections, particularly emphasising safety concerns. As a result:

- Estate layouts have been redesigned in some areas to better meet residents' needs.

- While there is a strong demand for sustainable amenities, our primary focus remains on health, safety, and wellbeing. Sustainable options will be explored after the initial implementation.

4. Statutory Consultation

4.1 We have now completed the statutory consultation process, which ran from 21st March 2024 to 15th April 2024. This included:

- Printed adverts in the Camden New Journal and London Gazette, both in print and digital formats.
- Street notices installed across the Group 1 estates
- Emails sent to approximately 2,000 residents and businesses in the first group of estates, as well as to statutory stakeholders like the Police and London Fire Brigade.

4.2 We received 16 email responses to the statutory consultation inbox, with four emails containing duplicate comments.

4.2.1 Support for Maiden Lane Proposals: Some respondents supported the proposed removal of Blue Badge exemptions on Maiden Lane. This change aims to protect parking for residents who need it, especially Blue Badge holders living on the estate who have struggled to find parking spaces.

4.2.2 Objections to New Parking Enforcement: Some respondents suggested that the Council should use the current system of parking controls properly and issue more tickets. However, changes in the law make it difficult to enforce parking on off-street land such as housing estates using the current system. The new enforcement methods will address these issues effectively.

4.2.3 Concerns Over Removal of Numbered and Allocated Parking: Respondents were concerned that removing numbered spaces would force residents to park further from their homes, which could be challenging for certain groups. The removal of allocated spaces will allow greater flexibility and improve overall access and safety.

4.2.4 Concerns Over Delivery and Contractor Parking: Respondents were worried about access for deliveries and contractors. The proposals will allow sufficient time for loading and unloading and will permit contractors to apply for special permits.

4.2.5 Visitor Parking Concerns: Some residents were concerned about the impact on visitor parking. The new strategy aims to balance visitor parking with the needs of residents, particularly those with Blue Badges. Visitors can also use surrounding CPZ areas.

4.2.6 Financial Impact Concerns: One respondent was concerned about the financial impact on residents. The current proposals do not include any changes to estate permit charges, but the Council continuously reviews all its parking controls.

4.2.7 Disabled Parking Provisions: A respondent raised concerns about insufficient disabled parking. The new strategy will provide unallocated spaces, offering greater choice and better access for disabled residents.

4.2.8 Requests for Further Information: Some respondents required more details about the changes and implementation dates. They have been provided with an overview and links to FAQs.

4.2.9 Concerns Over Specific Parking Locations: Two respondents had concerns about specific locations. These will be managed by the Estate Parking team under existing procedures.

5. Current Timetable for Implementation

July 2024	Implement phased changes in the scheme (Lines & Signs and System updates) from July 2024.
August 2024	Commence phased go-live of new enforcement from August 2024.

- 5.1 The timetable for implementation is under constant review and adjustments may be necessary to account for contractor availability.

Report Ends