

MAYOR AND CABINET		
Report Title	Matter referred by the Lee Green Assembly – parking and CPZ report	
Key Decision	No	Item No.
Ward	Lee Green	
Contributors	Lee Green Assembly	
Class	Open	Date: 7 March 2012

1. Summary

This report informs the Mayor and Cabinet of the statement of community views of the Lee Green assembly relating to the issue of parking and CPZs within the ward. Parking is one of the top priorities for the Lee Green assembly, and a working group drawn from the assembly has worked with officers to develop a report on parking and the CPZ situation within the ward. The assembly has now passed a statement of community views which they would like the Mayor to consider.

2. Purpose of the Report

To inform Mayor and Cabinet of the statement of community views of the Lee Green assembly in relation to parking and CPZs in the ward, specifically, on charges, operational hours and the lack of choice in consultation, and to provide the Mayor and Cabinet with a copy of the assembly report on parking and CPZs in the ward.

3. Recommendation

It is recommended that the Mayor asks the Executive Directors for Customer Services and for Resources and Regeneration to consider and report back to him on the implications of the 'Statement of Community Views' from the Lee Green Assembly.

4. Lee Green Assembly – parking and CPZs

- 4.1 The first Lee Green assembly in June 2008 identified the issue of parking as one of its priorities. This priority was adopted again at the assembly's review of its priorities in autumn 2010, and has been the focus of many assembly meetings.

- 4.2 The Lee Green assembly presented a statement of community views to Mayor & Cabinet in May 2009, requesting a review of parking across the whole ward to find long term solutions for each area in the ward. This arose out of the assembly's concerns about a piecemeal approach to parking in the ward and a 'one-size-fits-all' CPZ model. A review was undertaken by parking officers, and a new parking zone was created following consultation with residents.
- 4.3 Lee Green Assembly agreed at its meeting of 13 September 2011 to set up a working group to look at the issue of parking in the ward, and in particular controlled parking zones (CPZs). The Working Group has met four times since then, with Parking Services officers in attendance. The Group discussed a wide range of issues, including the financing of parking, current parking zones, consultation and implementation, operational hours and flexibility of the schemes, charging policies and comparisons with other boroughs.
- 4.4 The Working Group have looked at the break down of costs associated with parking and have found it difficult to understand these, and have recommended that the Council publishes transparent accounts and that any savings made from service improvements should be reflected in reduced charges to residents.
- 4.5 The Assembly has noted widespread concern about the lack of consultation over the rise in annual charges for resident parking, and the Working Group have found that the current price of £120 is in the top five London Boroughs. Visitor permits were found to be the highest in London. The report recommends that the Council reviews its annual charge, reduce the cost of visitor permits, and establish a scale of higher charges for owners of more than one car (with the money being used to reduce the charge for those with one car).
- 4.6 The assembly has expressed concern about the inflexibility of the CPZ times, most of which are for the whole day. The Assembly has previously requested two-hour restrictions for zones that suffer most from commuter parking, but this has not been granted. This concern was among the most important to the Assembly, and they voted unanimously on shorter restrictions. The report recommends that the zones in the ward are consulted again on whether they wish to have a 2 hour system, adopting different time slots in neighbouring zones to make staffing affordable.
- 4.7 The assembly have expressed concern about the lack of choice or information, and the process used in consulting about CPZs. The report recommends the process is reviewed, local residents are involved in drawing up questionnaires, and consideration is given to using the Alternative Voting system.
- 4.8 The Working Group considered the impact of parking restrictions on local businesses and schools. The report recommends that the Council reduce charges to smaller businesses and undertake work with schools to establish how to overcome problems created by their parking needs.

4.9 The assembly therefore sets out the following statement of community views and requests that the Mayor considers:

- (i) A formal response from the Mayor and Cabinet to the parking and CPZ report and instruct officers to provide a formal response to the recommendations contained within the report (in particular, the recommendations calling for reductions and greater flexibility in all charges, zones adopting two-hour restrictions, and greater resident involvement in the consultation process), including the costs of the proposed changes.
- (ii) The Assembly also agreed to continue the Working Group in order to progress issues that can be resolved within Lee Green.

5. Financial Implications

That there are no direct financial implications arising from this report.

6. Legal Implications

Executive Procedure Rule 19 in the Constitution outlines that each local assembly may place up to one item on Mayor and Cabinet agenda in any twelve month period, unless the Mayor agrees to contrary, restricted to a maximum of any two such items on any agenda.

BACKGROUND PAPERS

Appendix 1: Lee Green parking and CPZ report (February 2012).

If you have any queries on this report, please contact Petra Smith on 020 8314 7034, or Liz Dart on 020 8314 6115.