



Environment Committee

24 September 2015

Title	Saracens Event Day Controlled Parking Zone (CPZ) Update
Report of	Commissioning Director - Environment
Wards	All
Status	Public
Enclosures	Appendix 1 – Suggested roads for removal from CPZ
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Summary

This report provides an update on the Saracens Event Day CPZ in relation to the following items:

1. Event Day Resident’s Permits – Progress update
2. Event Day Visitor’s Vouchers – Progress Update
3. Event Day CPZ Hours of Operation
4. Event Day CPZ Boundary Review
5. Review of the Event Day CPZ - Past this Point signage

Recommendations

1. That the Environment Committee note the content of this report and agree:
 - That the Event Day CPZ Hours of Operation are not reduced.
 - That the Event Day CPZ Boundary Review is amended to exclude the Mill Hill Broadway Area bounded by the A1 Barnet By-Pass to the east, A5100 The Broadway to the north, the M1 to the West and Bunns Lane to the South.
 - That any revised signs as a result of the discussion with the Department For Transport (DfT) on the Review of the - Past this Point signage, are installed and consulted with Ward Members and residents where necessary before installation.

- **That residents are limited to 16 visitors' vouchers per year as detailed in Paragraph 1.3.1 of this report.**

1. WHY THIS REPORT IS NEEDED

1.1 Requests have been received from Saracens and local Ward Councillors to provide an update on the operation of the Saracens Event Day Controlled Parking Zone (CPZ) in relation to the following items:

1. Event Day Resident's Permits – Progress update
2. Event Day Visitor's Vouchers – Progress Update
3. Event Day CPZ Hours of Operation
4. Event Day CPZ Boundary Review
5. Review of the Event Day CPZ - Past this Point signage

1.2 Event Day Resident's Permits – Progress update

1.2.1 The new e-permit system is expected to become operational at the end of September 2015, however many of the Event Day Permits will not require renewing at that point, as many of them expire between December 2015 and March 2016.

1.2.2 The Council has considered renewing all existing permits and issuing new e-permits when the system is live. This will create resource problems now and in a years' time when the permits would all need renewing at the same time. Therefore to overcome this, if a paper Event Day permit has not been replaced with an e-permit the vehicle will not receive a PCN if it has a valid paper permit in place which was not displayed.

1.2.3 To implement this the Council has trialled interrogating the permit system on site from the CEO's handheld which has established that this will be possible. On that basis the Council's Parking Enforcement Contractor NSL will be instructed to check the permit system and this should remove the concern and frustration from residents that they will receive a PCN because they did not realise that it was an Event Day and/or forgot to display their permit. Clearly any resident vehicle that does not have a valid permit would still receive a PCN.

1.2.4 The first Saracens league game is on 26 September 2015. Saracens will distribute a newsletter, to residents informing them of forthcoming match fixtures. Saracens also distribute hard copy information leaflets 3 times/year to update residents on future Fixtures and Events at the Allianz Park Stadium.

1.3 Event Day Visitor's Vouchers – Progress Update

1.3.1 Residents within the Event Day CPZ are currently able to obtain a maximum of 88 Event Day visitor's vouchers which has in the past led to abuse and misuse. It is recommended that residents should be limited to 16 visitor's vouchers per year. The Customer Services Supervisor would review cases

where this is considered to be inadequate by an applicant and where necessary refer to the Parking Manager for guidance on whether this can be granted. The Traffic Management Orders have not been amended and the flexibility to legally issue additional visitors permits is therefore retained.

1.4 2013 Review of the Event Day CPZ

1.4.1 A review of the Event Day CPZ was carried out in the Summer 2013 following the completion of the first season of Saracens playing at Allianz Park. The review was undertaken and the decision of the Delegated Powers Report Review of Event Day Controlled Parking Zone in the vicinity of Allianz Park (Barnet Copthall Stadium) NW4 of 26 September 2015 was that following the Event Day CPZ Review, no changes are made to the operation of the Event Day CPZ apart from minor amendments to the layout as outlined in the report and these were to be progressed through the relevant statutory consultation procedures.

1.5 It was considered that based on the feedback received from the Event Day CPZ Review, it would appear that residents and businesses are satisfied that the Event Day CPZ is meeting its objectives of minimising obstructive parking whilst providing adequate parking for residents, businesses and their visitors. Where requests have been made for more parking spaces in specific locations, these have been investigated and where possible more parking spaces will be provided. Feedback in relation to the need for improved publicity of event dates has been considered and the Council will continue to work with Saracens to ensure that information is available well in advance of events. The Council's Enforcement Team was made aware of the feedback received in relation to the enforcement of the zone.

1.6 The Review was also considered by the Business Management Overview and Scrutiny Committee Date 7 October 2013 - Saracens Controlled Parking Zone – Update Report. The Committee noted the update on the Review of the Event Day Controlled Parking Zone in the vicinity of Allianz Park (Barnet Copthall Stadium).

1.7 Event Day CPZ Hours of Operation

1.7.1 The Event Day CPZ currently operates between 1pm and 6pm on Event days. Saracens and Ward Councillors have requested an amendment to reduce the operational hours so that the Event Day CPZ operates between 2pm and 5pm. This is to reduce the impact on the ability of visitors to the area to park on Event Days.

1.7.2 The hours of operation, 1pm – 6pm on Event Days, were agreed as it is possible that match start times may vary. All games are televised and match times may vary depending on the type of competition (Premiership Match or Heineken Cup Match), and the various broadcasters that are covering these matches. Therefore, in order for the Event Day CPZ to operate effectively, the hours of operation need to accommodate all potential match times, which on occasions may start as early as 12 midday or 1pm and as late 5pm. In

addition, up to two additional Major Events (of over 5000 Spectators) can be held at the stadium, as these events could occur at varying times the 1pm – 6pm would give the protection to the residents if the timings of these events differ to a typical rugby match.

1.7.3 It is also noted that when the review of the Event Day CPZ was undertaken in September 2013, residents did not request a change in the Event Day CPZ operating hours as part of this exercise. In addition, there has recently been no direct correspondence to the Traffic and Development Parking Design team requesting that the hours of operation of the Event Day CPZ are reduced.

1.7.4 Therefore, without further evidence being provided it is recommended the operational hours of the Event Day CPZ are not reduced to 2pm -5pm and remain at 1pm – 6pm.

1.8 Event Day CPZ Boundary Review

1.8.1 Saracens and a number of Ward Members have requested that some roads are removed from the Event Day CPZ as shown on the Plan at Appendix 1. These are:

- All roads within the existing Mill Hill CPZ.
- All the roads to the east of the Event Day CPZ bounded by Great North Way, Cophall Stadium, Bitacy Hill and Holders Hill Road including Holders Hill Drive, Avenue, Crescent and Gardens.
- Roads in Hendon Ward bounded by A1 Great North Way, Pearson Street, Church Road, Greyhound Hill, Watford Way.

1.8.2 This request will result in the Event Day CPZ being reduced in size by approximately 50%. Although the requests have been received from some of the local ward Councillors it should be noted that the residents of the area did not directly ask for their roads to be removed from the Event Day CPZ as part of the review undertaken in 2013.

1.8.3 In addition, there are no recent records of direct correspondence to the Council requesting that these particular roads are removed from the Event Day CPZ.

1.8.4 Therefore, without further evidence being provided it is recommended that the extent of the Event Day CPZ boundary remains unchanged.

1.9 Mill Hill Broadway

1.9.1 There is a view, supported by Saracens and officers, that the Event Day Saturday restrictions in the Mill Hill Broadway area have an adverse impact on the vitality and economic activity of this Town Centre. It is felt that the majority of supporters are now accustomed to traveling to Mill Hill Broadway underground station and taking the free shuttle bus service to the stadium and would therefore unlikely drive to the area if the event day restrictions were lifted. It is therefore proposed, subject to consultation, that all roads within the Mill Hill CPZ are removed from the Event Day CPZ. This review will be

undertaken as a first phase independently of any wider review of the Event Day CPZ.

- 1.9.2 All reasonable costs of undertaking this review will be met from the Saracens S106 contribution which was agreed as part of Planning Permission (H/00928/11) issued on the 30th March 2012.

1.10 Review of the Event Day CPZ - Past this Point signage

- 1.10.1 It is considered that the Event Day CPZ is operating reasonably well. However, there are concerns that the 'Past this Point' controls in certain roads (signs only with no bay markings) are confusing to drivers as they are not aware of where they can park. This has led to a number of appeals (300) at the Parking and Traffic Appeals Service (PATAS).

Many of these cases have been lost at appeal stage and the adjudicators have not only proposed that the Council cancel the PCN's but have also more recently awarded costs. While the adjudicators are aware that the scheme has DfT approval they have however expressed their own concerns regarding the clarity of the signage and have sympathised with motorist's confusion. Costs have been awarded in view that the Council is not reacting to the concerns raised and continue to enforce regardless. This situation cannot be sustained and the Council has to be seen to be taking account of the concerns and acting on them

- 1.10.2 The Saracens Proposed Event Day Parking Restrictions together with the locations of the signs approved by Department for Transport approval of 6th December 2012 under ref No. GT 50/071/0006-1 is shown on Drawing No 745322 attached to this report. When the Event Day CPZ was implemented the signs were located as per this approval.

- 1.10.3 Therefore, Officers are in liaison with the DfT to confirm if any additional signage can be erected to help improve drivers understanding of the 'Past this Point' restrictions. The outcome of the discussions with the DfT will be progressed in the form of a design which subject to statutory requirements will be consulted on before progressing with the necessary changes.

2. REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1 It is considered that there are currently insufficient requests from the local community to review the operational hours and the extent of the Event Day CPZ boundary (except for Mill Hill Broadway) at this current time.

- 2.2 Failure to address the signage issue will be detrimental to further enforcement of the CPZ and will lead to further criticism by the adjudication service and likely further cancellations and cost awards.

3. ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED AND NOT RECOMMENDED

A review of the operational hours and extent of the Event Day boundary have been discussed and at this time it is considered that there is insufficient support from within the Event Day CPZ to make any changes to the current operation.

4. POST DECISION IMPLEMENTATION

- 4.1 Any representations regarding the Event Day CPZ for the local community are monitored.
- 4.2 Implement the requirements related to improved signage following the DfT discussions on the additional signage within the 'past this point' roads are reported back to a future Environment Committee, with costings and locations of any additional signage that is proposed.

5. IMPLICATIONS OF DECISION

5.1 Corporate Priorities and Performance

- 5.1.1 The Council's Corporate Plan states in its strategic objectives that it will work with local partners to create the right environment to promote responsible growth, development and success across the Borough. In particular the Council will maintain a well-designed, attractive and accessible place, with sustainable infrastructure across the borough. The plan also acknowledges that the future success of the Borough depends on effective transport networks.

5.2 Resources (Finance & Value for Money, Procurement, Staffing, IT, Property, Sustainability)

- 5.2.1 All reasonable costs of administering the Event Day CPZ and revising if necessary will be met by Saracens Ltd as set out in the S106 Agreement which was signed in accordance with the condition attached to the Planning Permission (H/00928/11) issued on the 30th March 2012.
- 5.2.2 The recommendations outlined in this report are not believed to have a significant impact on the Special Parking Account (SPA).

5.3 Legal and Constitutional References

- 5.3.1 The Council's Constitution (Responsibly for Functions, Annex A) gives the Environment Committee certain responsibilities related to the street scene including pavements and all classes of roads, parking provision and enforcement, and transport and traffic management.

5.4 Risk Management

- 5.4.1 It is considered that the issues involved are not likely to give rise to adverse policy considerations as the Event Day Controlled Parking Zone (CPZ) was designed to prioritise available kerbside space for residents and their visitors

in an area identified as being likely to attract those attending Saracens matches by motor vehicle and wishing to park in local roads.

- 5.4.2 There is a risk that if the 'Past this Point' signage remains unchanged as described in paragraph 1.9 of this report the Council will continue to lose appeal cases with costs awarded to the appellant which will also lead to reputational damage.

5.5 Equalities and Diversity

- 5.5.1 The principle of introducing Controlled Parking Zones in the borough in order to address particular parking pressures is already well established and aside from protecting kerbside space for local residents and their visitors on event days, is not envisaged to exclusively disadvantage or benefit any members or particular sections of the local community. Additionally, motorists displaying a valid Disabled Badge in their vehicle can park for unlimited periods in permit holder only areas and bays without further charge, thereby affording more protection to this section of the community than would be the case if restrictions were not in place on event days.

- 5.5.2 Street design should be inclusive, providing for all people regardless of age or ability. There is a general duty for public authorities to promote equality under the 2010 Equality Act. There is also a specific obligation for those who design, manage and maintain buildings and public spaces to ensure that disabled people play a full part in benefiting from, and shaping, an inclusive built environment.

- 5.5.3 Designers will be required to refer to Inclusive Mobility, The Principles of Inclusive Design and Guidance on the Use of Tactile Paving Surfaces (1999) in order to ensure that the designs are inclusive.

- 1.5.4 The 2010 Equality Act outlines the provisions of the Public Sector Equalities Duty which requires Public Bodies to have due regard to the need to:
1. eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation and other conduct prohibited by the Equality Act 2010
 2. advance equality of opportunity between people from different groups
 3. foster good relations between people from different groups

5.6 Consultation and Engagement

- 5.6.1 The proposal to remove all roads within the Mill Hill Broadway CPZ from the Event Day CPZ will be subject to a consultation with all residents and business of this area.

- 5.6.2 Discussions and consultation will take place with the DfT on the additional signage within the 'past this point' roads.

6. BACKGROUND PAPERS

- 6.1 Planning and Environment Committee on 2 February 2012 resolved to approve the planning application ref H/00928/11 made by Saracens Ltd to develop Barnet Copthall Stadium subject to the completion of a Section 106 Agreement and referral to the Secretary of State.
- 6.2 On 12 March 2012 the Secretary of State issued a Direction not to call in the Planning Application and the decision as to whether planning permission should be granted therefore remained with the London Borough of Barnet.
- 6.3 On 30 March 2012 the Council granted the planning permission and issued the Decision Notice for the Planning Application ref H/00928/11 and the agreement under Section 106 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 relating to land at Copthall Stadium, Barnet was completed and signed.
- 6.4 The decision of the Delegated Powers Report No.1795 – Proposed Event Day Controlled Parking Zone in the vicinity of Barnet Copthall Stadium NW4 – proposing an Event Day Controlled Parking Zone in the area surrounding Barnet Copthall Stadium was that the proposed CPZ be progressed through the relevant statutory consultation procedures.
- 6.5 The decision of the Delegated Powers Report No. 1868 - Proposed Event Day Controlled Parking Zone in the vicinity of Allianz Park (Barnet Copthall Stadium) NW4 – advising of the outcome of statutory consultation and the decision to introduce the Event Day Controlled Parking Zone as originally proposed with minor layout amendments. It was also agreed that the measures be reviewed at the end of the 2012/13 season with consideration given to any further changes or recommendations as necessary.
- 6.6 The decision of the Delegated Powers Report Review of Event Day Controlled Parking Zone in the vicinity of Allianz Park (Barnet Copthall Stadium) NW4 of 26 September 2015 – which recommended that following the Event Day CPZ Review, no changes are made to the operation of the Event Day CPZ apart from minor amendments to the layout as outlined in the report.
- 6.7 Business Management Overview and Scrutiny Committee Date 7 October 2013 - Saracens Controlled Parking Zone – Update Report

Decisions:

The Committee considered a report which provided an update on the Review of the Event Day Controlled Parking Zone in the vicinity of Allianz Park (Barnet Copthall Stadium).

The Committee welcomed the Cabinet Member for Environment, Councillor Dean Cohen, Pam Wharfe, Director for Place and Neil Richardson, Highways Manager, Traffic and Development who were in attendance to present the item.

Officers reported that whilst the scheme was largely unchanged, there had been some amendments to signage following feedback from Ward Members.

Members were advised that Saracens would be improving publicity around match days, creating a list of frequently asked questions and undertaking proactive community engagement.

Officers advised the Committee that any PCNs issued incorrectly could be claimed back by residents in the zone (e.g. permit holders who were not displaying their permits during controlled hours). It was suggested that the registration number of vehicles in the CPZ zone should be registered on a database and made available to Civil Enforcement Officers to ensure that Penalty Charge Notices (PCNs) were not incorrectly issued to permit holders.

The Committee were addressed by Councillor Sury Khatri, a Mill Hill Ward Member. He reported that he had submitted a number of questions and comments on the scheme which had not resulted in any amendments. He noted that his suggestion regarding the introduction of electronic signage which could vary CPZ hours on an event by event basis had been ruled out on cost grounds.

Councillor Khatri highlighted that only 6.8% of residents had responded to the consultation and suggested that this was not a representative sample of residents in the CPZ.

RESOLVED that:

1. The Committee note the update on the Review of the Event Day Controlled Parking Zone in the vicinity of Allianz Park (Barnet Copthall Stadium) as set out in the report and above.
2. The Committee recommend that the Council and Saracens develop a Communications Plan to ensure that residents in the Event Day Controlled Parking Zone are aware of match days and restrictions.
3. The Committee recommend that there be a review of Event Day Controlled Parking Zone signage, including an exploration of variable electronic signage options.
4. Officers be recommended to create a database include details of all households and vehicles with a registered permit in the Event Day Controlled Parking Zone to prevent the incorrect issuing of Penalty Charge Notices to residents.

APPENDIX 1

