

	<b>Finchley and Golders Green Area Committee</b>  <b>27<sup>th</sup> April 2017</b>
<b>Title</b>	<b>Leslie Road and Leopold Road, N2 – Results of Parking Consultation</b>
<b>Report of</b>	Commissioning Director for Environment
<b>Wards</b>	East Finchley
<b>Status</b>	Public
<b>Urgent</b>	No
<b>Key</b>	No
<b>Enclosures</b>	Appendix A – Copy of consultation letter and questionnaire- Appendix B – Drawing of consultation area
<b>Officer Contact Details</b>	Gavin Woolery-Allen <a href="mailto:gavin.woolery-allen@barnet.gov.uk">gavin.woolery-allen@barnet.gov.uk</a> ; 020 8359 3555

## Summary

The purpose of this report is to advise on the outcome of the informal parking consultation carried out for a Controlled Parking Zone scheme in Leslie Road and Leopold Road N2 and to outline the findings. The report recommends that, having considered the feedback to the consultation, a detailed design and statutory consultation should take place in respect of introducing new waiting restrictions in these roads

## Recommendations

1. That the Finchley and Golders Green Area Committee note the results of the Leslie Road and Leopold Road N2 parking consultation and the recommendation not to seek to introduce a Controlled Parking Zone (CPZ) in these roads.
2. That the Finchley and Golders Green Area Committee, resolves to authorise the Commissioning Director for Environment and his officers to undertake a feasibility study on the possible introduction of a 20mph limit and one-way

**traffic system in Leslie Road and Leopold Road N2 and to report the findings of that study to a future meeting of this Committee.**

- 3. That the Finchley and Golders Green Area Committee, resolves to authorise the Commissioning Director for Environment and his officers to draw up alternative waiting restriction proposals in discussion with East Finchley ward councillors, and to report back to a future meeting of this Committee .**

## **1. WHY THIS REPORT IS NEEDED**

- 1.1 On 13 January 2016 the Finchley and Golders Green Area Committee (“the Committee”) resolved, following a referral from the Finchley and Golders Green Residents Forum on 13<sup>th</sup> January 2016, that officers investigate the feasibility for implementing a Controlled Parking Zone (CPZ) in Leslie Road and Leopold Road N2, and to report back to Committee outlining potential options .
- 1.2 On 30<sup>th</sup> March 2016, the Committee committed £10,000 from its budget [CIL] for a feasibility study to take place on parking on roads outside the East Finchley CPZ including Leslie and Leopold Roads, with a view to reporting back to this Committee
- 1.3 Consequently, in discussion with ward Councillors, it was agreed that a consultation should take place to establish local opinion on whether a CPZ would be acceptable to the local community.
- 1.4 This report summarises the findings of the consultation and recommends further action as a result of those findings.

## **2. REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 2.1 An informal consultation was carried out in September/October 2016 with residents in Leslie Road and Leopold Road, as outlined in drawing 20495/250 (Appendix B).
- 2.2 A letter was hand delivered to all residential properties within the consultation area asking the recipient to complete an on-line “SurveyMonkey” questionnaire. The questionnaire asked a range of questions about the parking situation in their road/area and amongst other things, whether they had any parking related concerns in the local area, whether they would like a Controlled Parking Zone (CPZ) and whether they would like parking issues investigated further in their road/area. A copy of the questionnaire is attached in Appendix A.
- 2.3 254 letters were hand delivered to residential properties in the area. A web page was also set up on the Council’s Engage Portal containing details of the informal consultation. The closing date for the consultation was 14 October 2016. Paper or emailed copies of the questionnaire were also made available

to residents on request if they were having difficulties or were unwilling to complete the questionnaire online.

- 2.4 A total of 120 questionnaires were submitted or returned, of which 6 were considered as duplicates as they were submitted from the same households as questionnaires already submitted. Therefore for the purposes of analysing the responses, a total of 114 valid responses have been considered, a response rate of 45%.

#### Analysis of responses received

- 2.5 The responses received appear to be quite mixed in terms of the extent of the parking issues in the road, and whether it is considered that further action should take place.
- 2.6 75 (66%) respondents stated they find it difficult to park in their road, whereas 37 (32%) do not find it difficult to park. 2 (2%) did not know or did not answer the question.
- 2.7 89 (78%) of respondents find that they have to park in neighbouring roads because there is no space in their road, whereas 21 (18%) do not. 4 (4%) did not know or did not answer the question.
- 2.8 The responses to these particular questions appear to support the view that residents regularly find it difficult to park near their homes.
- 2.9 Of those residents who considered it difficult to park in their road, the majority stated that afternoons and evenings from Monday to Friday were the worst periods, with significantly lesser concern about parking on Saturdays and Sundays. This, in addition to 'free text' comments received in some responses, suggests that the perception is that may be attributable to commuter or local workers seeking to park in the nearest unrestricted road to where they need to visit.
- 2.10 The responses indicate that there was more concern about parking on weekday nights than on any period over the weekend (36 respondents), which may indicate that the parking issues may not solely be attributable to typical "commuter/local worker" parking. A number of "free text" comments also suggest that a number of residents believe that the number of vehicles owned by residents could be a contributing factor to any night-time parking issues encountered.
- 2.11 It should be noted however that although there was less concern about parking on Saturday and Sunday nights (17 and 15 respondents respectively).
- 2.12 Concern was also raised about the way motorists were parking in the road, in that often motorists took up more space than necessary – for example parking one vehicle in a space where two vehicles could fit in (12 mentions).

- 2.13 Less than half of respondents were concerned about general road safety. 54 (47%) respondents find that vehicles are regularly parked obstructively, unfairly and/or inconsiderately, whereas 55 (48%) do not. 5 (4%) did not know or did not answer the question. Furthermore 45 (39%) of respondents find it difficult to turn at junctions of their road due to parked vehicles, whereas 64 (56%) do not. 5 (4%) did not know or did not answer the question.
- 2.14 Of the locations mentioned as being an issue, the bend in Leslie Road was of most concern, with 6 mentions. The junctions of High Road and Leopold Road were also mentioned as problematic with 5 mentions.
- 2.15 Furthermore although a number of issues were raised by the respondents, the other main issue raised was a request to make Leslie Road and Leopold Road one-way (10 mentions) to address issues of vehicle conflicts resulting in 'stand-off' situations.
- 2.16 Leslie Road and Leopold Road fall just outside the northernmost boundary of the East Finchley 'M' CPZ which operates between 2pm and 3pm, Mondays to Fridays..
- 2.17 The CPZ incorporates approximately 60 streets, and extends to Park Road in the north and Ossulton Way to the west and to the borough boundary with the London Borough of Haringey to the south
- 2.18 When considering the question whether they would like their road to be in a CPZ, 59 (51%) respondents stated that they would like their road to be included in a CPZ, whereas 51 (45%) stated they would not. 4 (4%) respondents did not know or did not respond to this question.
- 2.19 The slight majority of respondents appear to be in favour of a CPZ, however when breaking down the results on a road by road basis, it is noted that for Leslie Road, the results are 33 (47%) in favour and 37 (53%) against a CPZ. For Leopold Road, the results are 26 (59%) in favour and 14 (32%) against, and 4 (9%) who did not respond or did not know.
- 2.20 In order to understand the layout and characteristics of the roads, an Officer visited Leslie Road and Leopold Road and noted that the majority of households in both roads were of terraced style with little to no off-street parking facility, confirming that the majority of vehicle-owning residents would require to park in the street.

#### Overall conclusions and recommendations

- 2.21 The response rate of 45% gives confidence that the responses are a good representation from the two roads in question.

- 2.22 There is no doubt, based on the content of the responses, that there is concern from local residents about non-residents parking in Leslie Road and Leopold Road during the daytime.
- 2.23 Furthermore there is a concern, albeit a lesser concern, about night-time parking that suggests that there may be a high demand for kerbside space by residents.
- 2.24 Although on the whole, the respondents were less concerned about obstructive parking or parking at junctions, particular issues were raised as significant. Parking near and on the bend in Leslie Road was highlighted, as was to a lesser extent the junctions of Leslie Road and High Road and Leopold Road and High Road. Vehicles being parked on both roads near the footpath leading the The Walks and Park Gate N2, and on the Service Road on High Road between Leslie Road and Leopold Road were also mentioned.
- 2.25 Due to the concern it is considered that waiting restrictions (yellow lines) could be considered for implementation at these locations to ensure it they are kept clear from parked vehicles, although the introduction of the measure would reduce the opportunity and hence increase the competition for kerbside space in the roads.
- 2.26 Direct questions were asked in the questionnaire about whether the respondents have difficulties parking in their road, and the majority response was “yes”.
- 2.27 In considering whether Leslie Road and Leopold Road N2 should be included in a CPZ, it is considered that any action or non-action should apply to both roads, as opposed to one or the other, due to their proximity to each other and the potential negative impact that could occur (e.g. displacement of motorists seeking to park) should action take place on one road and not the other.
- 2.28 Based on the overall results of the CPZ question, although there is a very slight majority in favour of a CPZ, with one road 47%/53% against a CPZ and the other 59%/32%/9% in favour, Officers remain unconvinced about whether the results of this consultation represents a mandate to recommend progressing a CPZ in these roads. Certainly for such a localised consultation, Officers believe there is definitely no mandate to suggest a CPZ in Leslie Road, where the majority of respondents were against a CPZ. .
- 2.29 This is particularly the case given residents’ need to park on-street due to the lack of off-street parking facilities associated with the households throughout the roads meaning that vehicle-owning residents or those with regular visitors have a more vested interest in any future on-street parking arrangement than if they have their own driveway, for example.
- 2.30 The ‘free text’ sections of the questionnaire allowed residents to put in their own words what they considered the main problems/issues to be.

- 2.31 One of the most prevalent issues raised was the issue of motorists taking up utilising more kerbside space than necessary when parking their vehicles, and then leaving large gaps between their parked vehicle and those already parked, to the detriment to the overall number of vehicles that can be parked along the roads.
- 2.32 Unfortunately there is little that can be done within the Council's current practices to alleviate the concern, there are no powers to suggest or enforce the way motorists park in respect of another vehicle in an unrestricted road.
- 2.33 Marked out parking spaces could be provided, however their sizes would usually cater for the largest possible vehicle and in themselves would likely reduce the number of motorists who could park in the roads.
- 2.34 The other prevalent issue raised was a request for a one-way system in both Leslie and Leopold Roads. It should also be noted that a petition co-signed by 56 households, requesting the roads to be made one-way and for a 20mph limit to be introduced in them, was reported to the Finchley and Golders Green Area Committee in October 2016.
- 2.35 The Committee, having considered the petition, and in the knowledge that the parking consultation had just ended, decided to note the request, and asked Officers refer to the request within the report which is due to be reported to this Committee about the CPZ consultation.
- 2.36 Officers consider that the request for a one-way system is a result of the traffic flow problems that reportedly occurs due to the majority of kerbside space being taken up by parked vehicles, leaving little space for opposing motorists to pass each other.
- 2.37 This issue could be addressed through the introduction of waiting restrictions (yellow lines) at strategic lengths to enable motorists to pull alongside the kerb and allow an opposing motorist past. However this would reduce the available kerbside space used by motorists to park their vehicles, likely resulting in a more problematic parking situation for residents, particularly if the roads were to remain outside of a CPZ.
- 2.38 Having considered the results of the parking consultation however, Officers do not recommend that a Controlled Parking Zone (CPZ) should be pursued in these roads.
- 2.39 However, in respect of the request for one-way and 20mph, Officers note the concern and believe this should be investigated further, particularly in light of the recommendation to not progress with a CPZ. Therefore it is considered that a feasibility study should take place on whether a one-way system and 20mph limit should be introduced in Leslie Road and Leopold Road with a view to reporting back the findings of the feasibility study to this Committee.
- 2.40 Furthermore, as there appears to be specific concern about parking at certain lengths, of road in Leslie Road and Leopold Road Officers consider that there

would be merit in further investigation of the provision of waiting restrictions as follows:

- (a) The junction of High Road and Leopold Road
- (b) The junction of High Road and Leslie Road
- (c) On Leslie Road on the bend in the vicinity of No. 102 Leslie Road
- (d) On Leslie Road and Leopold Road near the footpath leading to The Walks/Park Gate

2.41 It is considered that the investigation and design of any waiting restrictions should take place in discussion with Ward Councillors, and concurrently with the one-way/20mph feasibility study, with a view to reporting back the findings and design to a future meeting of this Committee.

### **3. ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED AND NOT RECOMMENDED**

3.1 It is considered that any potential alternative options and impacts have been considered and addressed elsewhere in this report.

### **4. POST DECISION IMPLEMENTATION**

4.1 Officers would carry out a feasibility study on the provision of a 20mph limit and one-way traffic measures in Leslie Road and Leopold Road with a view to reporting back the findings to a future meeting of this Committee.

4.2 Officers would also investigate and design waiting restrictions in consultation with Ward Councillors with a view to reporting back to a future meeting of this Committee

### **5. IMPLICATIONS OF DECISION**

#### **5.1 Corporate Priorities and Performance**

5.1.1 The consultation seeks to establish whether measures are required to particularly help to address the Corporate Plan delivery objectives of “a clean and attractive environment, with well-maintained roads and pavements, flowing traffic”.

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

5.2.1 There is £10,000 already committed from the Area Committee budget CIL (approved at the 30<sup>th</sup> March 2016 Finchley & Golders Green Area Committee) for a feasibility study to take place on parking on roads outside the East Finchley CPZ including Leslie and Leopold Roads, with a view to reporting back to this Committee.

5.2.2 It is not envisaged that any further funding will be required for the one-way and 20mph feasibility study and the design and liaison with ward Councillors on possible waiting restrictions, and a further report to be drafted for this Committee.

5.2.3 If following the feasibility study and design further funding is required to progress any measures this requirement will be set out in the future report to the Committee.

### 5.3 **Social Value**

Not applicable in the context of this report.

### 5.4 **Legal and Constitutional References**

5.4.1 The Council's Constitution (Responsibility for Functions, Annex A) provides that in the area covered by the committee:

- Discharge any functions, within the budget and policy framework agreed by Policy and Resources, of the theme committees that they agree are more properly delegated to a more local level. These include but are not limited to local highways and safety schemes.

5.4.2 The Traffic Management Act 2004 places obligation on authorities to ensure the expeditious movement of traffic on their road network. Authorities are required to make arrangements as they consider appropriate for planning and carrying out the action to be taken in performing the duty.

### 5.5 **Risk Management**

5.5.1 It is not considered the issues involved are likely to give rise to policy considerations as any additional measures would seek to improve traffic and parking in the affected streets.

5.5.2 It is considered the issues involved proposing or introducing any new parking restrictions in the future may lead to some level of public concern from local residents who do not wish for additional restrictions, or from residents of other roads in the area concerned about parking being displaced into their road or network of roads. However, for both issues, it is considered that adequate consultation will be undertaken with members of the public so they can have the opportunity to comment to any statutory consultation on any proposed

### 5.6 **Equalities and Diversity**

5.6.1 The public sector equality duty (PEQD) under Section 149(1) of the Equalities Act 2010, requires the authority, in the exercise of its functions, to have regard to the need to advance equality of opportunity between persons who share relevant protected characteristics and person who do not share it.

5.6.2 Having due regards means the need to (a) remove or minimise disadvantage suffered by persons who share a relevant protected characteristics that are connected to that characteristics (b) take steps to meet the needs of persons who share a relevant protected characteristics that are different from the needs of person who do not share (c) encourage persons who share a relevant protected characteristics to participate in public life in any other activity in which participation by such persons is disproportionately low.

5.6.3 The relevant protected characteristics are age, disability, gender

reassignment, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or beliefs, sex and sexual orientation.

5.6.4 Full analysis of the responses and comments to the consultation has not indicated that there are any particular negative equalities/diversity impacts on vulnerable residents in the area.

## 5.7 **Consultation and Engagement**

5.7.1 Consultation was undertaken as described elsewhere in this report.

## 5.8 **Insight**

5.8.1 None in relation to this report

## 6. **BACKGROUND PAPERS**

6.1 Item 7 of the Finchley and Golders Green Area Committee meeting of 26<sup>th</sup> October 2016 – Petitions

<http://barnet.moderngov.co.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=712&MId=8750&Ver=4>

6.2 Item 9 of the Finchley and Golders Green Area Committee of 30<sup>th</sup> March 2016 – Progress Update on Finchley and Golders Green Area Committee Actions

<http://barnet.moderngov.co.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=712&MId=8267&Ver=4>

6.3 Item 6 of the Finchley and Golders Green Area Committee meeting of 13<sup>th</sup> January 2016 – Matters referred from the Finchley and Golders Green Area Residents Forum

<http://barnet.moderngov.co.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=712&MId=8266&Ver=4>

6.4 Item 6 of the Finchley and Golders Green Residents Forum of 13<sup>th</sup> January 2016

<http://barnet.moderngov.co.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=170&MId=8273&Ver=4>