

PUBLIC QUESTION – CABINET 5 DECEMBER 2023

1. Tristan Honeyborne

Please can Cllr McAsh confirm how much public money was spent pursuing the 'borough-wide' controlled parking zone (CPZ), in including but not limited to the cost of communications, consultations, legal advice, traffic monitoring and external consultants, and provide evidence for the assertion that controlled parking zones are needed in Dulwich Village and Nunhead?"

Response by Councillor James McAsh, Cabinet Member for Climate Emergency, Clean Air and Streets

Whether it is parking, or any other issue, it is important for the council to invest in good quality, genuine and comprehensive public consultation and engagement. When proposing to implement any highways scheme, the council must also invest in independent traffic monitoring, and on occasion, peer review from other local authorities. This is standard practice and ensures accountability and well-informed schemes.

This approach has been followed in relation to gathering information regarding the proposed implementation of CPZs in Nunhead, Queens Road and Dulwich. The costs associated with this activity were roughly £33,000 and were absorbed within existing budgets and not directly attributable to individual schemes. The outcome of these activities has been used to inform proposed revised schemes and the evidence will be included in the consultation booklets for each of the areas above.

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2. Simone Brown

Will the council now suspend the Trafalgar Extension CPZ, cover the signs, refund permit fees and PCNs, and commit to a comprehensive review similar to those carried out in Nunhead and Queens Road, aligning with the acknowledged ineffectiveness of a one-size-fits-all controlled parking zone (CPZ) approach?

Response by Councillor James McAsh, Cabinet Member for Climate Emergency, Clean Air and Streets

The council will not suspend the recently implemented controlled parking zone in the Trafalgar area. During our consultation work, the majority of respondents stated that they found parking difficult on weekdays (88%) and the majority (52%) supported the introduction of parking controls. Officers conducted multiple site visits to tailor the restrictions to the needs of many residents and businesses. The final implemented CPZ reflects all of this work. We review all newly implemented parking restrictions to assess the effectiveness of the zone and confirm whether it meets the needs of the residents and businesses in the area. The time frame for these reviews is generally six to twelve months post implementation, but can vary depending on other work streams.