

Final version 11 January 2021

QUESTION NO. 1

Councillor Duveen to ask the Chair:

Title: Notification of residents regarding parking consultations

When new parking restrictions are being proposed, local residents are supposedly informed about a consultation by attaching a sheet of laminated A4 paper to the nearest lamppost. This is not satisfactory and are often not noticed. Residents are now regularly telling me that they never saw any consultation notice.

Could officers, in future, send out letters to residents with consultation details, if new parking restrictions are planned outside their front door or in their immediate vicinity, in addition to the laminated A4 sheets which should still be attached to nearby lampposts. It seems only reasonable to me that residents should be informed personally if double yellow lines are proposed outside their homes.

Many thanks

REPLY by the Chair of the Traffic Management Sub-Committee.

I invite Councillor Page, the Lead Councillor for Strategic Environment, Planning and Transport to make the response on my behalf.

REPLY by Councillor Page, Lead Councillor for Strategic Environment, Planning and Transport:

I thank Councillor Duveen for his question.

As you will be aware from your long-standing membership of this Sub-Committee, changes to parking restrictions are promoted through the 6-monthly waiting restriction review. This follows a well-established process providing a number of opportunities for ward councillors to engage in the process.

The waiting restriction review is a relatively large programme of changes when considered as a whole but, typically, features only a relatively small number in any single ward.

The process of ward councillor engagement was always intended to allow for ward councillors to then share the proposals locally at every stage as they felt appropriate. Some of the measures are road safety related requests, whilst many are local issues where residents are requesting help in managing parking problems.

As these tend to be minor changes on-street, the locally erected notices are either at or very close to the point of the change being promoted. As the notice period is 3-weeks (21-days) there is every opportunity for residents to see the local notice, particularly where they are parking on-street, and have a chance to respond. The notice is, of course, only part of the consultation requirement and the changes are

also advertised in the local printed press and on the Council website, which also contains the drawings for viewing.

Notwithstanding the Covid issues at the moment it will be easier for ward councillor to engage directly with residents that may be impacted by those few changes in their area. This would be more efficient, and much less costly, than asking officers to contact so many more individual addresses across the whole programme of changes.

It is important to bear in mind that statutory consultation is required for everyone and anyone who uses the public highway, so they are given the opportunity to consider any such proposals. This very meeting is part of that local awareness providing the opportunity for residents to engage. The Council's consultations are advertised in the same consultation hub within the Councils website which remains a good resource for everyone who wants to respond to Council business.

ENDS