



# **HIGHWAYS ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

18 February 2014

# **REPORT**

**Subject Heading:**

**PROPOSED PAY & DISPLAY BAY –  
BALGORES CRESCENT- comments to  
advertised proposals**

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**The subject matter of this report deals with the following Council Objectives**

Clean, safe and green borough	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Excellence in education and learning	<input type="checkbox"/>
Opportunities for all through economic, social and cultural activity	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Value and enhance the life of every individual	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
High customer satisfaction and a stable council tax	<input type="checkbox"/>

## **SUMMARY**

This report outlines the responses received to the advertised proposals to convert the existing free parking bay located in Balgores Crescent into a Pay & Display bay area.

## RECOMMENDATIONS

That the Committee having considered the report and representations made recommends to the Cabinet Member for Community Empowerment that:

- a) The proposals to change the existing free parking bay located in Balgores Lane be operational from 9.00am to 5.00pm Monday to Saturday inclusive with a maximum stay period of 3 hours, with no return to the bay within 2 hours, shown on drawing reference TPC252 attached, be implemented to fall in line with the current Pay and Display operational hours. The effects of the scheme be monitored once implemented.

Or

- b) The proposals outlined in (a) above be abandoned.

## REPORT DETAIL

### 1.0 Background

- 1.1 At a meeting of this Committee on the 19th June 2012, a request was made that the existing free parking bay located in Balgores Crescent, Gidea Park be converted to a new Pay & Display parking facility operational from 9.00am - 5.00pm Monday to Saturday inclusive, with a maximum stay period of 2 hours, with no return to the bay within 2 hours. This request was deferred.
- 1.2 On the 16<sup>th</sup> October 2012 it was agreed by the Highways Advisory Committee that the scheme be removed from the deferred list to the Minor Schemes works programme to extend the Pay and Display facilities in the area.
- 1.3 These proposals were subsequently designed and publicly advertised. A copy of the plan outlining the proposals is appended to this report as Appendix A. Residents in the immediate area of the proposed scheme were notified by letter, enclosing a copy of plan reference TPC252. In addition to this key stakeholders were consulted such as London Buses, emergency services and Ward Councillors. Notices were also placed on site detailing the proposals and advertised in the press.
- 1.4 The proposals were advertised with a 2 hour maximum stay period, although Officers recommend to the Committee that they should approve an increase of the maximum stay period to 3 hours, to fall in line with the harmonisation of the borough wide Pay and Display operational hours.

## **2.0 Outcome of Public Consultation**

2.1 On the 2<sup>nd</sup> August 2013, residents of 27 addresses in the immediate area of the proposed scheme were advised by letter enclosing a copy of plan reference TPC252, detailing the proposals. Eighteen statutory bodies were also consulted and site notices were placed in Balgores Crescent.

## **3.0 Responses**

3.1 At the close of the public consultation on 23<sup>rd</sup> August 2013, 7 responses were received all objecting to the proposals to implement a Pay and Display scheme within the existing free bay. Please refer to Appendix B of this report.

## **4.0 Staff Comments**

4.1 All responses received objected to the proposals, however it is felt by Officers that the proposed design should be implemented as advertised to promote shorter term parking in the existing parking bays and introduce a more user friendly parking solution for local businesses and amenities.

# **IMPLICATIONS AND RISKS**

### **Financial implications and risks:**

This report is asking HAC to recommend to Lead Member the implementation of the above scheme.

The estimated cost of implementing the proposals as described above and shown on the attached plan is £5,000 including advertising costs. This cost can be met from the 2013/2014 Minor Parking Schemes revenue budget.

The costs shown are an estimate of the full costs of the scheme, should it be implemented. A final decision would be made by the Lead Member – as regards to actual implementation and scheme detail. Therefore, final costs are subject to change

This is a standard project for StreetCare and there is no expectation that the works cannot be contained within the cost estimate. There is an element of contingency built into the financial estimate. In the unlikely event of an overspend, the balance would need to be contained within the StreetCare overall Minor Parking Schemes revenue budget.

**Legal implications and risks:**

Waiting restrictions and parking bays require consultation and the advertisement of proposals before a decision can be taken on their introduction.

**Human Resources implications and risks:**

The collection of cash from pay and display machines is a labour intensive task. Currently, there are sufficient employees to undertake cash collection from existing P&D machines. However, whilst there may be a marginal level of additional capacity brought about by a reduction in cash collection schedules and frequency there will be an inevitable increase of risk from cash theft if money is left in situ for longer. That said, a physical limit for cash collections will soon be reached and so consideration will need to be given to additional employees to undertake increased levels of cash collection at a later stage.

However, for this scheme it is anticipated that collections can be met from within current staff resources.

**Equalities implications and risks:**

Parking restrictions have the potential to displace parking to adjacent areas, which may be detrimental to some equality groups that could be differentially affected such as older people and disabled residents, particularly those requiring regular visits by carers/relatives. The area in question is currently covered by a commuter parking zone and there are no plans to introduce permits for residents, visitors and businesses to allow them to park within this Pay and Display parking bay. The proposed scheme could also affect some local businesses.

There could also be some visual impact from the required signing and lining works but it is anticipated that the proposed scheme will improve road safety and accessibility for local residents and businesses who may otherwise be affected by long-term non-residential parking.

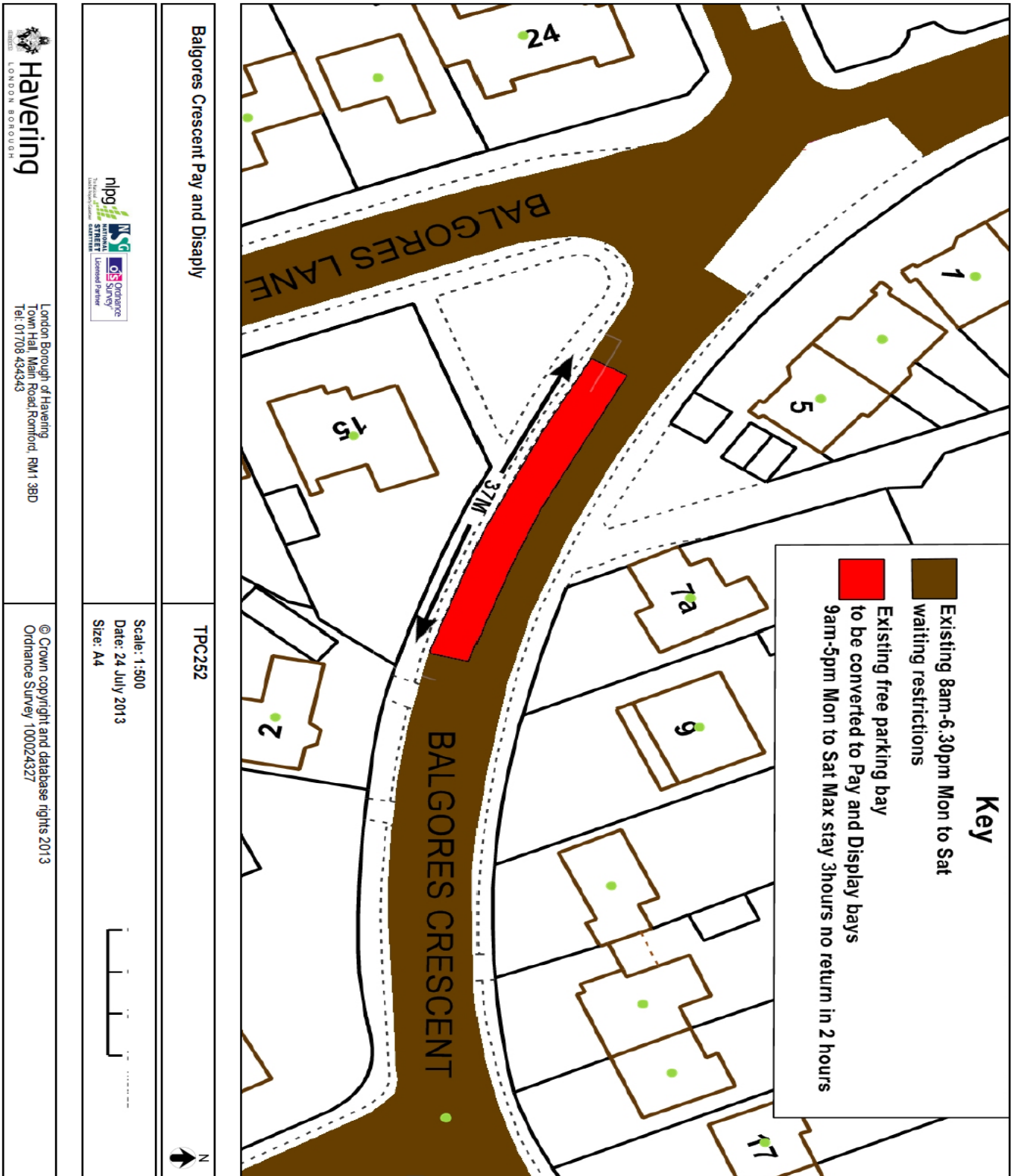
The proposed scheme has been publicly advertised and subject to formal consultation. Residents of 27 addresses in the area perceived to be affected by the proposal were advised by letter enclosing a plan, detailing the proposals. Eighteen statutory bodies were also consulted and site notices were placed in Balgore's Crescent. At the close of the public consultation, 7 responses were received all objecting to the proposals to implement a Pay and Display scheme within the existing free bay, none of which refer to any equality related concerns or issues.

While it is anticipated that the proposed changes will introduce a more user friendly parking solution for local businesses and amenities, it is noted that the consultation responses received are against the proposed changes (see Appendix B). After careful consideration of each of the responses and any potential/likely equalities issues and concerns arising from the proposals, officers have recommended that the proposed changes be implemented as advertised and the effects be monitored on a regular basis.

Any required changes to the scheme will be reported to the Highways Advisory Committee who will advise on further course of action.

**BACKGROUND PAPERS**

**Appendix A**



## **Appendix B**

### **Responses to the consultation**

**Response 1-** I write to object to this proposal. The bay in question is well used for shoppers and occasionally by commuters. There are often available spaces and I see no reason whatsoever to change its status as a free facility.

**Response 2-** I object to introducing pay and display into the existing free bay in Balgores Crescent as it will probably displace parking into those uncontrolled bits of road in the Reptons and Tudors area who are already being inconvenienced by displacement activity caused by extra yellow line restrictions. The existing pay and displays In Balgores Crescent and Crossways are seldom fully used as it is.

**Response 3-** Please note I am NOT in favour of this proposal.

**Response 4-** We are not in favour of the proposals. I do go to work and I have a car. There is not adequate parking in Balgores Crescent, if proposed pay and display is enforced there will be no where for my car to be parked. Would you be providing permits Free of charge to local residents? I have lived in Balgores crescent for some two years now, the parking arrangements are fine, there is no congestion in the road. Placing this enforcement will cause unnecessary issues.

**Response 5-** We are not in favour of the proposals. From our experience, cars are there for under 30 minutes anyway, and a revenue generating scheme will affect local businesses. We cannot see how this proposal is any more user friendly than current. This is not a current problem and can see people using other businesses elsewhere.

**Response 6-** I am not in favour of the proposed pay and display scheme for Balgores Crescent. I have no parking facilities and regularly use Balgores Crescent to park my vehicle, I already have a yellow line with restrictions and pay and display outside my property giving me very few options to park for free.

**Response 7-** I wish to object to the proposed changes to car parking in Balgores Crescent. The changes will cause yet more parking problems for residents' visitors and trades people.