



From: Friends of Clarendon Park (FCP)
To: Martin Fletcher (Head of Highways, LCC)
Cc: Patrick Kitterick, Danny Myers, Deborah Sangster (Castle Ward Councillors)
Subject: Clarendon Park – experimental parking permit scheme

Dear Martin,

Friends of Clarendon Park is keenly interested in the experimental parking permit scheme that is due to commence on 1st February in a designated zone around Queens Road, and we have been publicising information about the experiment to the local community as we did with the previous scheme that was proposed in 2016.

The main parking problem that residents report is the inability to find a parking place near their homes when returning from a daytime or evening trip or when returning home after work. They also report that pressure on parking is particularly high during term time, depending on the combination of schools, WQE College and University of Leicester operating at any given time.

Demand for parking this year has also varied with the level of Covid-19 restrictions in place, which is likely to continue to be a factor throughout the experimental period.

The stated aim of the experiment is to ease the parking situation in Clarendon Park with the chosen approach being to deter commuter parking by restricting parking to permit holders only for a 1-hour period from 9:30-10:30am Monday to Friday.

We understand the rationale for undertaking the experiment, but believe that greater clarity on how the experiment will be measured and evaluated is needed for the community to accept the outcome of this experiment having previously voted against two previous proposals.

IN-AREA LETTERS

The letters sent to residents and businesses inside the experimental area identify two measures of whether the experiment will have succeeded or failed:

- “The amount of parking spaces that are available in the experimental area during the day, before and after the introduction of the experiment.”
- “The attitudes of residents and businesses in the experimental area as to how the experiment went.”

The in-area letters also say that:

- Surveys will be taking place at different times during the experimental scheme.
- Comments and feedback should be sent to the Traffic Operations Team.

OUT-OF-AREA LETTERS

The letter sent to residents and businesses outside the experimental area identifies the same two measures of whether the experiment will have succeeded or failed and also invites comments and feedback to be sent to the Traffic Operations Team.

The out-of-area letters also say that:

- “During the experiment the City Council will survey streets immediately outside of the area to measure any potential displacement of parking caused by the experiment.”
- “If the experiment is judged to have succeeded within the experimental zone, the City Council will then open expressions of interest from residents and businesses in surrounding streets to join the experiment.”
- “If there is a clear majority to join the scheme, we currently have a target date of September 2021 to expand the experimental zone to interested streets.”

QUESTIONS

We have a number of questions relating to the measures that have been outlined and the success criteria to be used in the evaluation of the experiment. These are provided in the attached PDF document and we would be grateful for your prompt answers to these questions.

PROPOSED ACTIONS

We propose that LCC use our questions to devise, publicise and implement a transparent approach to measuring the performance of the experiment in order to come to an overall judgement on its effectiveness that will be accepted by the community.

Additionally, if not already planning to do so, we propose that LCC send a letter to residents and businesses both inside and outside the experimental area in late January as a reminder about the imminent implementation of the scheme and that warning letters rather than enforcement notices will be issued in the first couple of weeks. This letter should also provide questions similar to those suggested above to prompt comments and feedback in a structured manner.

Best regards,

Ian Brown, Bart MacCarthy & Steve Thomas

Friends of Clarendon Park committee