

LONDON BOROUGH OF LAMBETH

STATEMENT OF REASONS

PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO THE EMISSIONS-BASED STRUCTURE FOR PARKING CHARGES

The Lambeth (Charged-For Parking Places) (Amendment No. **) Order 202*

Background

Poor air quality is the largest environmental risk to public health in the UK. Long-term exposure to air pollution can cause chronic conditions such as cardiovascular and respiratory diseases as well as lung cancer, leading to reduced life expectancy.

In 2007, the whole of Lambeth was declared an Air Quality Management Area (AQMA) for the pollutants of nitrogen dioxide (NO₂) and PM₁₀ and while air quality is improving across the Borough, air pollution still exceeds legal limits at multiple locations in Lambeth as set out in national Air Quality Objectives and air pollution in Lambeth significantly exceeds World Health Organisation targets, which were adopted by the council in 2021 as part of an Air Quality Vision.

The Lambeth Transport Strategy 2019 responds to the (London) Mayor's Transport Strategy 2018 and sets out priorities for traffic reduction, reducing road danger and promoting a switch to walking, cycling and public transport with an implementation timeline up to 2039.

Lambeth's Climate Action Plan 2022 builds on these objectives by calling for a 27% reduction of traffic by 2030, reducing air pollution and converting 25% of the kerbside space to more sustainable uses.

In January 2023, Lambeth adopted its Kerbside Strategy, which sets out how the kerbside (the space where cars park typically) will support the response to the climate emergency, tackle inequality and enable a wide range of other strategic objectives such as clean air. The kerbside strategy sets out clear principles for the kerbside, including:-

- (a) If your vehicle produces more emissions or more exhaust or non-exhaust pollutants, you should pay more; or,
- (b) If your vehicle takes up more space and increases congestion, you should pay more.

In May 2023, the Council adopted the first phase of emissions-based charging for most permit holder and paid parking in the Borough. The second phase which is the subject of this proposal would apply emissions-based charging for all paid, and permit holder parking in the Borough.

Proposals

The proposed measures approved in the Emissions Banding – other parking permits report which can be seen here [Kerbside Pricing \(Parking\) 24/25 Consultation](#) propose to:-

- (1) extend emissions-based parking charges for :-
 - (a) single zone, and all zone business permits;
 - (b) Doctor permits;
 - (c) Teacher permits; and,
 - (d) Motorcycle permits.
- (2) extend the diesel surcharge to all diesel vehicles including those that are Euro 6 compliant;
- (3) Introduce a surcharge for second and subsequent permits within the same household.

Objectives

Extending the emissions banding structure to all permit types will bring parity and ensure a consistent approach to charging and is in accordance with the existing Kerbside Strategy. This in turn supports a reduction in carbon emissions and in air quality pollutants and supports the delivery of the Air Quality Action Plan, Climate Action Plan, Transport Strategy, Public Sector Equalities Duty and Health and Wellbeing Strategy.

Extending the diesel surcharge to apply to all diesel vehicles will provide consistency. Currently Euro6 diesel vehicles are allowed to emit more NOx than petrol vehicles. The proposals aim to provide a disincentive to operate vehicles that emit harmful nitrogen oxides and encourage a switch to less-polluting vehicles or alternative more sustainable public transport options.

The proposal to apply a surcharge for additional permits within the same household is commonplace within Greater London and seeks to reduce the dominance of motor vehicles within the Borough and supports the Lambeth Transport Strategy, The Lambeth Climate Action Plan, and the Lambeth Kerbside Strategy.

Use of Permanent Orders

The scheme will be introduced by means of Permanent Traffic Orders (PTO). A Notice of Proposal will be advertised in the press, on the Council's website and media platforms. All existing permit and recent but lapsed permit holders will be contacted electronically or in the few cases where a paper permit application procedure applies by letter. All cashless parking users will receive a 'push notification' when they use the app to buy parking time. The information will provide information about the proposals, how they can make comments/objections, the timeframe for doing so, and where they can obtain further information.

All comments/objections received within the consultation period will be analysed and the information used to inform the decision-making process.

Measures of success

1. Reduce motor vehicle traffic in the Borough;
2. Increase sustainable travel;
3. Encourage permit holders to switch to less-polluting vehicles;
4. Encourage multiple vehicle households to reduce the number of vehicles in a household;
5. Encourage net zero emissions freight in the Borough; and,
6. Help achieve a net zero Lambeth by 2030.