Dear Resident / Business,

The purpose of this consultation document is to seek your views on proposals to review the existing Colliers Wood (CW) Controlled Parking Zone (CPZ). The review also includes proposals to extend the current parking controls to include Colwood Gardens, Chiswick Close, Fortescue Road, Courtney Road, Clarendon Road, Alpha Close and part of Devonshire Road.

Since the introduction of the CW Zone in 2003, the Council has not had the opportunity to carry out a significant review to address any requests and parking concerns the local community may have. The objective of the review is to identify any such alterations to improve road safety and the operation of the parking controls to benefit residents and businesses. This could involve alterations to the existing yellow lines waiting restrictions; changes to the CPZ hours of operation (currently Monday to Friday, 8.30am to 6.30pm); changes to the use of certain parking bays and provide additional bays where suitable. Also, it is necessary to ensure that all the restrictions comply with the Department for Transport’s (DfT) regulations. This means that all designated on-street parking bays and yellow lines must be clearly and correctly marked and signed.

In addition, the Council has received requests for parking controls from residents in some of the roads west of Devonshire Road to be included in zone CW or to have a separate zone. In 2004, a consultation was carried out in the proposed zone and Brown and Roots redevelopment to determine residents’ support for a CPZ. The results of the consultation showed that the majority of residents who responded (from roads around the station) supported the introduction of a CPZ. However, the majority of respondents from Colwood Gardens, Chiswick Close, Courtney Road, Clarendon Road, Alpha Close and part of Devonshire Road were against the introduction of the scheme except for Fortescue Road that was in support of introduction of parking controls.

It is proposed to extend the existing zone to the above mentioned roads, rather than the option to provide a separate zone. This option will offer more flexibility for residents and their visitors to have a wide area, reducing parking pressures in specific areas.

EXISTING ZONE REVIEW

PROPOSED CHANGES

The following changes are proposed and are shown on the enclosed drawing No. Z78-181-01 CPZ CW Review.

- Extend the existing zone boundary to include Colwood Gardens, Chiswick Close, Fortescue Road, Courtney Road, Clarendon Road, Alpha Close and part of Devonshire Road subject to support from those residents.
- Convert an existing permit holder bay to Car Club bay (CC) and introduce a Motorcycle bay along the flank wall of No. 108 High Street, in College Road just before the beginning of the Red Route restrictions. This will give members of the CC in Colliers Wood more flexibility in the form of an additional car in the area in addition to the existing CC car in Kimberley Road. The Motorcycle bay will be for solo motorcycles only and would remove the current conflict of both motorcycles and cars competing for available parking spaces.
- Provide additional spaces or extend parking bays, where appropriate, without compromising safety and access.

CPZs that have been operating for a number of years generally operate Mondays to Saturdays in Town Centres. These controlled times are more suitable for a number of reasons, i.e. parking pressure generated by shoppers, businesses and local employees, especially on Saturdays.

Away from Town Centres the controlled days may differ, however, these areas may also be closer to train stations, attracting commuter parking. We recognise that these may require different operating hours, therefore, there is a case to consider alternative controlled times in areas away from Town Centres.
OPTIONAL CHANGES (See enclosed review questionnaire for existing zone residents ONLY)
The following optional changes will be considered where there is general support to change the operational hours:

- **Part Day Controls (10am - 4pm)**
  These operating times offer less restrictions on residents and their visitors than the current ‘all day’ controls. It is still effective in preventing commuters and other long stay parking. However, it may encourage short-term parking outside the operating times by non-residents or businesses. Residents returning from work later in the afternoon may find less available parking in their street. Motorists unable to park in nearby zones with longer operating times may also take advantage of the available parking outside the controlled times. The standard annual parking permit charges will still apply regardless of the hours the zone operates.

- **One-hour control (11am - 12 noon)**
  This minimum restriction will offer more flexibility for residents and their visitors than the part day controls, reducing the amount of visits if residents they would normally obtain. This option is still effective in restricting commuters and other long stay parking. However, it may encourage other short-term parking by non-residents or businesses. Non residents may also work their way around the one-hour by moving their vehicles and then returning to park for the rest of the day. Full enforcement of an entire zone within a one-hour period may put extra pressure on Civil Enforcement Officers (CEO), making the parking controls less effective. The standard annual parking permit charges will still apply regardless of the hours the zone operates.

- **Days of operation - Monday to Saturday**
  Reducing the existing restrictions to Monday to Friday will offer more flexibility for residents visits on weekends. However it may encourage non-residents to park on Saturdays, which is currently restricted. The standard annual parking permit charges will still apply regardless of the days the zone operates.

**CW CPZ EXTENSION**

**What is a Controlled Parking Zone or CPZ?**

A CPZ is an area where parking bays and yellow line restrictions are marked on the carriageway to indicate to motorists where it is safe/unsafe to park. In a CPZ the operational times for the single yellow lines are indicated on the zone entry signs. There may be single yellow lines that operate at different times and these would be signed separately. Double yellow line restrictions at key locations are indicated on the parking places. These statements are individually signed to inform drivers of the time the parking controls operate.

Every effort is made to reduce the number of new posts required, by attaching sign onto existing street furniture, such as lamp columns.

In a CPZ, the residents, local businesses and their visitors are given priority to use appropriate parking places by displaying a valid permit in respect of that zone. A permit does not give the holder the right to park outside a particular property, and does not guarantee a parking space.

**How will it work?**

The objectives of a CPZ are to protect the parking needs of local residents and businesses by controlling parking by non-permit holders, which may help to improve the environment by reducing the number of parked vehicles. CPZ’s also improve road safety by removing dangerous and obstructive parking.

A CPZ comprise of various types of parking bays such as permit holder bays (for use by resident or business permit holders and those with visitor permit); shared use bays (for permit holders and pay and display) and pay and display only bays. Within any proposed CPZ the Council will aim to reach a sensible balance between the residents/businesses need access and the safety of all road users.

In a CPZ all road space is managed by the introduction of restrictions. Parking can only be permitted where safety, access and sightlines are not compromised. It is, therefore, normal practice to introduce double yellow lines at key locations such as at junctions, bends, turning heads and at specific locations along lengths of roads where parking would impede the passing of vehicles. It would also be necessary to lay yellow lines (effective during the hours of operation or at any time) across where the kerb is lowered. i.e. crossovers.

In the event that the majority of those consulted do not support a CPZ in their road or area, and the Council agrees, officers may recommend that only the proposed double yellow lines identified at key locations are introduced to improve safety and maintain access.

Council appointed Civil Enforcement Officers (CEOs) will enforce the controls by issuing fines to vehicles parked in contravention. These fines are called Penalty Charge Notices (PCNs).

Outside the controlled times the restrictions are not enforced. However, CEOs will issue PCNs for any other parking contravention such as parking on double yellow lines, on footways and parking across individual crossovers without the property owner’s consent. Please see plan leaflet for further details of proposals.

**PROPOSALS** (See enclosed questionnaire for residents in the proposed zone extension ONLY)

- **Extension of the existing zone boundary to include Colwood Gardens, Christchurch Close, Fortescue Road, Courtney Road, Clarendon Road, Alpha Close and part of Devonshire Road subject to support from those residents.**

  **Hours of operation would depend on the outcome of the review of exiting zone and would be determined by the residents within the existing zone. Existing hours of operation are Monday – Friday between 8.30am & 6.30pm. Alternative option would be for the proposed extension to become a different zone with different hours of operation to be determined by the residents within the new zone.**

  **To provide Pay and Display shared use bays in Fortescue Road near its junction with Christchurch Road (This will provide parking provision in the area for use by pay and display customers as well as permit holders)**

  **To provide pay and display only bays in Fortescue Road near its junction with Christchurch Road but not shared with residents.**

  **To provide permit holder bays for use by to permit holders and their visitors.**

  **To provide a Car Club bay for the use of members.**

TfL and Merton Council is seeking to expand car clubs throughout the Borough and it is proposed to implement bays in locations where local residents are members or have expressed an interest. Car Clubs are short-term car rental schemes, allowing its members quick access to a range of vehicles, whether you need a car for just one hour, or for several days. Cars can be booked through a pay and go system, and members are charged according to the mileage driven and the length of time the car is in use.

There is a range of social, financial, economical and environmental benefits of becoming a Car Club member. If you drive less than 6,000 miles a year you can make savings of up to £1,500 a year. The main advantage is that Car Club members enjoy the freedom of using the cars without the burden of owning one.

To become a member of Streetcar and for further information, visit the streetcar club website, www.streetcar.co.uk or phone 0845 644 8475 to register.

**LET US KNOW YOUR VIEWS**

The decision on any changes to the scheme will be subject to the responses received during this consultation. Please complete and return the enclosed prepaid questionnaire (no stamp required) with any further comments and suggestions you may have by 15 October 2010.

We regret that due to the large number of responses received during a public consultation it will not possible to individually reply to each respondent. We welcome your comments on this proposal, which will be noted and included within the proposed measures where appropriate.

**WHAT HAPPENS NEXT**

The results of the consultation along with officers’ recommendations will be presented in a report to the Street Management Advisory Committee and the Cabinet Member for Environmental Sustainability and Regeneration. Once a decision is made you will be informed accordingly.