

## Q&A - Daniel Connelly, LBD Parking division

1) *Why is it possible to report illegal front garden parking or dropped kerb parking on the website, but not illegal corner/on the pavement parking that is dangerous, obstructs views and blocks pavements?*

- Yes, there is a specific tab on the website for residents to raise issues relating to illegal front garden parking. However, we welcome any reporting of illegal, dangerous or inconsiderate parking of any kind, and this includes blocking of pavements etc. In fact, we have recently set up a dedicated parking contact centre who are fully trained in all parking matters and are the best place to provide advice and support. This service is contactable on 0208 215 3000

Particular concern was raised over parking of delivery vehicles on the corner of East Road and Tolworth Gardens. Daniel promised to raise this with colleagues in order to target enforcement.

2) *Is it true the whole borough is going to eventually become CPZ's?*

- Going forward we have plans to consult residents regarding the introduction of CPZ across many locations within the borough including the Chadwell Heath and surrounding wards. This doesn't mean these areas will definitely become controlled, it simply means we intend to consult. Residents will be informed by letter, with various opportunities for feedback (not just online).

3) *Mill Lane and the High Street are constantly down to one lane traffic due to parked cars either side. Is anything going to be done about it? Coming out of/going into Ashton Gardens is particularly bad and quite dangerous when approaching the Tollgate lights and cars are parked along the road and you want to turn right.*

- Within High Road (between Ashton Gardens and the Tolgate Pub) we do have single double yellow lines with loading restriction that should restrict this activity. Our enforcement team does enforce at this location and will continue to task this to ensure compliance.
- Within Mill Lane we have double yellow lines known as "junction protection markings" to restrict parking close to the junction in accordance with Highway code regulations. There are also a few bollards in place to physically deter this activity also. The only additional parking restriction which could be considered would be CPZ as this would control all types of parking within this road/ junction and the wider area as this would reduce the number of vehicles looking to park (school related parking for example). As mentioned above there are plans to consult on CPZ but this wouldn't be until the summer at the earliest due to existing commitments.

It was felt by residents and Councillors that these actions are not currently working effectively.

Cllr Perry added that he has reported a number of vehicles to the borough, without success.

Daniel agreed to take this information back, regarding the need for greater enforcement.

4) *There are lots of unused rental garages in this area. eg The ones at the end of my road in Lansbury Avenue RM6. Can't some of the land on these sites be converted into parking bays to ease parking problems in congested areas? A house next to these garages has just been knocked down and 3 new 3 bed houses built on the land. That's potentially 3+ more cars with no extra parking space. The last time I enquired (in 2017) about these garages only 8 out of 23 were in use. I'm sure either the same amount or less are in use now. There are 45 properties in this road (some are HMO's so more people). This road ends in a cul-de-sac. Cars can only park along one side of the road and there are only 3 parking spaces in the cul-de-sac (for 16 town houses) so people park on the grass verge, on corners, pavements, etc. The parking is becoming unbearable. Turning some of the garage land into bays would alleviate some of these problems.*

- Generally, garages are the responsibility of the Housing Dept. We are aware of the issues of the lack of use of the garage sites. This is similar across many of the sites across the borough and the numbers of in use garages on this site has not changed hugely at this time. Unfortunately, any changes to garage sites forms part of a much larger strategy across the

Borough. At this time the Council is working on sites which have been identified as ASB hotspots or are in serious disrepair, and this site is not currently one that has been identified. Making significant changes to sites, including demolition, is very expensive and a business case needs to be put in place before any changes could be considered. It may be once the business case was looked at, that it would be determined that the land would be used for redevelopment, and there is no guarantee that this would be changed into parking.

5) *Can you clarify the law regarding parking and dropped kerbs. ie*

- *When someone parks in your own off-street parking on your driveway*

This is a private matter as the car would be parked on private, homeowner's land, so the Council's parking dept has no powers to enforce. It is a civil action of Trespass.

- *When someone parks in front of your dropped kerb when your car is not there,*
- *When someone parks in front of your dropped kerb from car is there, so you cannot exit your property.*

In both of these cases, the response is the same. A penalty charge notice can be issued. The vehicle needs to be reported via the Parking Contact Centre number (see above), or via the link:

<https://www.lbbd.gov.uk/parking/dropped-kerbs/report-obstruction-your-dropped-kerb>

- *What about parking on footpaths?*

It is illegal to park on footpaths unless signs permit it. However, parking enforcement officers will first look to enforce against any obstruction to pedestrians, wheelchair users, etc.