

Background to the Cotham North Residents' Parking Scheme proposals

The RPS proposals meet the objectives of the Council's overall transport strategy as set out in the Joint Local Transport Plan 2011-2026. Parking controls are recognised as a key part of sustainable urban transport policy, which in itself is vital to the development of a greener, healthier city. They help to reduce and better manage traffic entering the central area, especially during the peak periods when traffic congestion is at its worst, and to encourage commuters to travel to work using more sustainable modes of transport than the private car.

On 27th June 2013 the Council's Cabinet approved a report which recommended that the Council develop proposals for RPS areas around the city centre, including Cotham North.

The Council believes that the scheme will deliver significant benefits in the local area by making it easier for local residents, businesses and their visitors to park nearby and reducing the amount of traffic circulating around the area searching for a space. Experience from Bristol's existing RPS schemes is that streets become quieter and safer due to the reduction in traffic, it is easier and safer for pedestrians to walk around the area and access to properties is improved, which benefits people with limited mobility and ensures that access for deliveries and emergency vehicles is as easy as possible.

The measures were proposed for the purpose of:

- avoiding danger to persons or other traffic using the road or any other road or for preventing the likelihood of any such danger arising
- facilitating the passage on the road or any other road of any class of traffic (including pedestrians)
- preventing the use of the road by vehicular traffic of a kind which, or its use by vehicular traffic in a manner which, is unsuitable having regard to the existing character of the road or adjoining property
- preserving or improving the amenities of the area through which the road runs.

Initial proposals for a Residents' Parking Scheme in Cotham North were developed in May 2013. They were made available online and in local libraries to provide people with the opportunity to comment on the proposals. Following this, several changes were made to the design of the scheme and its operating principles in order to develop the proposals that are being advertised.

The final proposals were subject to statutory advertisement from 6th to 28th November 2013.

126 objections and 13 expressions of support were received. Four objectors submitted a copy of a 'Keep Clifton Special' leaflet which relates to the development of separate Residents' Parking Scheme proposals in Clifton. Although it does not

relate to the proposals that are the subject of this report, it has been considered in Appendix 3.

Several objections were received from residents that live in the proposed Redland RPS area. They are concerned that if these proposals are implemented, they will be affected by displaced commuter parking. However, separate proposals are being drawn up for this area and will be subject to statutory advertisement in due course.

We have received objections from people who do not want double yellow lines to be installed to protect their access. We have also been contacted by others who have requested similar amendments but have not objected to the TRO. We have considered all of these requests and are proposing to amend the Order to remove the double yellow lines where we can, leaving those sections of the highway unrestricted. The proposed modifications are set out in Appendix 2 of this report.

Three other modifications are proposed to address other objections received. These are also summarised in Appendix 2.