



Date: 14th November 2022
Ref: Parking/CPZ/Consult1

Liverpool City Centre Controlled Parking Zone Changes

Dear Consultee,

In 2018 Liverpool City Council carried out an extensive review of its parking functions, including the operation and effectiveness of the City Centre Controlled Parking Zone (CPZ).

Since the introduction of the existing CPZ in 1995, Liverpool City Centre has gone through significant changes and expansion. New developments, changes to the use of existing streets and highways, the introduction of new pedestrianised areas and new off-street car parks, have all resulted in an increased demand in on-street parking within the City Centre.

This has placed pressure on the highway capacity and available road space, leading to traffic congestion, unsafe parking practices, short commuter journeys by car, long-stay use of on-street parking bays and overall, creating a poor environment for all City Centre users. A growing demand for better access to shops, services and amenities, particularly because of Liverpool's growing night-time economy has resulted in on-street parking bays becoming congested during the evenings and restricting those users who may have a genuine need to park on-street.

These factors all affect the operation of the CPZ, how it is enforced and have challenged whether in its current form it remains fit for purpose. As a result of the review, the Council is now proposing a number of changes that will affect the operation of the existing CPZ across the City Centre and could commence in Spring 2023.

What are the Proposed Changes?

The proposals are aimed at reducing congestion, improving air quality, safety, and journey times through modernisation of parking across the City Centre to support Liverpool being a modern and dynamic City, helping local businesses and residents to thrive. Proposals include:

1. extending the existing hours of operation to between 7am and 11pm.
2. creating one single CPZ by combining the existing Inner and Outer Zones.
3. creating 14 smaller sub zones within the CPZ to improve operation.
4. standardising the parking times in pay and display bays to a maximum of 2 hrs with no return within 1 hour for pay and display bays.
5. introducing a tariff increase in pay and display bays of 10p per 30 minutes.

To address the congestion and traffic management issues, significant changes are required to ensure the CPZ performs as originally intended and access to the City Centre is managed in a controlled way. We are not planning to introduce any restrictions on how vehicles enter the City Centre, but changes are being proposed to how people park on-street.

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To support local businesses and residents, an extension to the hours of operation to between 7am and 11pm will make more spaces available for those who have residents and business permits. A standard 2hour parking time will encourage more use of the existing on-street parking spaces and encourage long-term parking into off-street car parks. A shorter stay-period will prioritise spaces nearest to shops and amenities for those users who require direct access and will help motorists make more informed choices before accessing the City Centre.

An increase in the parking charges by 10p per half hour will bring Liverpool in-line with other “Core Cities” across the UK, where parking charges remain significantly higher than Liverpool. The increased charges will cover the cost of the changes required and contribute to the ongoing operation and enforcement of the CPZ.

Combining the Inner and Outer Controlled Zones will help provide a consistent and standardised approach across the City Centre, reducing confusion and providing greater clarity for motorists and City Centre users. A number of sub zones will help to manage residents and business parking permits. No changes are proposed to existing permit schemes at this stage.

About the consultation

The consultation will be open for 4 weeks (28 days) during which time residents, businesses and interested parties will be able to make comments on the proposed changes.

The consultation process is being managed in a fair and transparent way to ensure opinions from all stakeholders can be obtained. This will help inform whether any amendments should be made to the proposed changes.

There will be a further opportunity for interested parties to make formal representations in support of, or to object to the proposals when the necessary Traffic Orders, required to legally enact the changes, are advertised. You can share your thoughts by taking part and completing the online survey using the website link

liverpool.gov.uk/cpzconsultation

Alternatively a paper copy of the questionnaire can be completed at the Central Library, William Brown Street. A copy of the questionnaire in different languages, or in braille can be made available upon request.

Or email parkingconsult@liverpool.gov.uk

The survey will take approximately 5 minutes to complete and the closing date for responses is 5pm on Monday 12th December 2022.

What happens next?

Comments are being invited on the above proposed changes over the next 4 weeks. The results of this voluntary consultation will help to inform the CPZ proposals. Once the Council are satisfied that it has addressed any concerns as far as it is possible to do, the Council will commence the formal Traffic Regulation order consultation. This will be formally advertised and affected parties will be given the opportunity to support or object to the proposals.

Thank you.

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