

CITY CENTRE SECURITY AND DISABLED PARKING IN RESIDENTIAL AREAS.

I would like to thank the Council members for the extra resources which enabled the excellent Accessibility study to be undertaken by Atkins and has resulted in a reappraisal of the blanket closure of Cheap Street/Westgate Street/Upper Borough Walls and Saw Close proposed in the original scheme.

I thank you also for delaying the decision, which was originally scheduled for some months earlier, which has enabled modification of the proposals. I note that there are still details in relation to exactly how Blue Badge Holders will be able to access the above areas during the proposed closure hours of 10am to 6pm.

Given the extra time that has elapsed I urge that this last vital stage is not rushed, and that proper consultation is undertaken with the very people who will need to use the access. It is important to get this right before any TROs and ATTROs are published and so I would like to suggest a Working Party (probably an outdated phrase but it says what it does on the tin!) to formulate with councillors and officers a workable solution.

What Blue Badge Holders do not need is a raft of procedures to grapple with..a one-off registration scheme is fine ..I'm thinking of the way in which Blue Badge Holders can register with Parking Eye at the RUH or even how we register with London Transport for exemption from the Congestion Charge.

Your Equalities Officer has a list of contributors to the Atkins report some of whom who could surely be asked to contribute in such a way as to assist the council in this important implementation of the scheme and I urge you to take advantage of the expertise available.

Blue Badge parking in residents parking Zones

I understand that in the consultation on Liveable Neighbourhoods in the Residents Parking section of that consultation proposed removal of the local concession for Blue Badge Holders to park in Resident's parking spaces. I am therefore surprised to see in the revised Equality Impact Assessment (under the agenda item of Emissions Parking) before you tonight that the policy was changed in DECEMBER 2020 to remove the concession. I have yet to see any data which supports this change and simply bringing Banes into line with the National Scheme does not justify the removal of the local concession. Bristol

has the same concession. Supplying Blue Badge Holders with a free Residents Permit only covers them for their OWN area and not the many areas of the city where Blue badge Holders have to go to access medical/dental and optician services as well as museums and churches, many of which lie within residents parking zones. The available on street pay and display parking and availability of double and single yellow lines for Blue Badge Holders is a diminishing facility and I urge you to look again at this change to the policy and in so doing support your own residents who need a little extra help in getting around.

Lynda Lloyd

Statement to Cabinet meeting 20/7/20