



## Surrenden Area Parking Campaign

Working for better, fairer & safer parking  
in the Surrenden Area

Deputation to Environment, Transport & Sustainability Committee, 20 March 2018

### Consultation on a Controlled Parking Zone in the Surrenden Area

#### Introduction

The Surrenden Area Parking Campaign (SAPC) is a community group representing the residents of 22 streets in an area bounded by Surrenden Crescent, London Road, Preston Drove and Surrenden Road to the junction with Braybon Road. Surrenden Road from Braybon Road to Ditchling Road is also included. The Surrenden Area streets are listed in the annex<sup>(1)</sup>.

#### Proposition

**Parking in the Surrenden Area is chaotic and causing danger to road users. SAPC seeks urgent public consultation on a controlled parking zone (CPZ) proposal before the end of 2018.**

#### Issues

SAPC promoted a **petition** (38 Degrees<sup>(2)</sup>) and a parallel paper petition<sup>(3)</sup> over the 22 streets in the Surrenden Area between 28 November 2017 and 20 January 2018, calling for an urgent CPZ consultation. The selection of this area responded to community concerns that smaller CPZ designations cause parking diversion effects, which can and should be avoided<sup>(4)</sup>. Aggregating paper and e-responses, 549 households were in support (55% of households in the area). Support for a CPZ has broadly doubled since summer 2015, when 264 households in the same area supported a Council CPZ proposal<sup>(5)</sup>. Support has extended into many streets that did not support the 2015 proposal. Then, a CPZ was supported by a majority of households in 3 streets. By 2018, it was supported by a majority in 14 streets accounting for 459 (82%) of responding households, distributed evenly across the whole area.

SAPC undertook an electronic **public opinion poll** (Survey Monkey)<sup>(6)</sup> over the same period. Key poll findings include that 89% of respondents felt that residents' parking in the Surrenden Area has become more difficult in the past 3 years. 61% felt that inconsiderate parking is making local roads more dangerous for the elderly. 64% had the same view for school children. 80% felt that it was hazardous for other motorised road-users and that poorly parked high-sided vehicles were a particular concern. 80% were concerned at widespread parking in the limited number of on-street spaces by non-residents.

SAPC considers that the worsening parking situation in the Surrenden Area together with the substantial shift in public opinion that has occurred represent material changes in the circumstances since the ETS Committee considered CPZ consultation priorities in October 2017. Brighton & Hove City Council makes the largest parking revenue account surplus of any local authority in England outside London<sup>(7)</sup>. A CPZ can repay consultation and capital costs within 3 years and render a positive income stream for transport initiatives in the city from year 4. A large CPZ for the Surrenden Area would enjoy wide support and justify the re-prioritisation of human and financial resources to consult residents and undertake a designation.

SAPC has met the Ward Members for Withdean Ward who have recognised the increased seriousness of the local parking problem, the change in community opinion since 2015 and assured us of their support for an early CPZ consultation in the Surrenden Area as a whole.

Numbered **evidence notes** (1) – (7) in support of this deputation are set out in the Annex.

#### Signatories

This deputation is made and signed on behalf of the Surrenden Area Parking Campaign by Mary Allen, Michael Edwards, Anthony Meyer, Rynd Smith and Anya Symes, residents of the City of Brighton and Hove and the SAPC area of interest. A separable address sheet is attached.

## Annex: Supplementary Information and Evidence

### (1) The Surrenden Area

The Surrenden Area includes all properties in the following 22 streets:

Bavant Road	Knoyle Road	Vardean Close
Cornwall Gardens	Mulberry Close	Vardean Gardens
Draxmont Way	Poplar Close	Vardean Holt
Fairlie Gardens	Preston Drove	Varndean Drive
Fircroft Close	Surrenden Crescent	Varndean Road
Harrington Road	Surrenden Holt	Whittingehame Gardens
Harrington Villas	Surrenden Road (entire road)	Withdean Crescent
Holly Close		

### (2) The 38 Degrees Petition & (3) The Paper Petition

The 38 Degrees Petition was launched on 28 November 2017, supported by a leaflet drop and a street canvass until 20 January 2018. It said: **“Please introduce a controlled parking scheme to the extended Surrenden Area so that residents can park close to their homes, children can cross roads safely, visibility for drivers is improved, and out of area commuter, recreational and commercial vehicles are not parked on a long-term basis.”** Click here to see the [38 Degrees Petition](#) online. The Paper Petition shared the same wording as the 38 Degrees Petition, to meet the needs of those who prefer not to use electronic petitions. It was taken door-to-door in the street canvass.

At the point of analysis for this report, there were 559 signatures to both petitions from households in the Surrenden Area, out of a total of 663 signatures. Adjustments have discounted 86 signatures from Brighton residents who do not live in the Surrenden Area and 18 signatures from beyond Brighton. 10 signatures from within the Surrenden Area have also been discounted (where more than 1 signature was made per household), leaving **549 adjusted signatures** in support. The 38 Degrees Petition remains live and has accumulated a small number of signatures since the preparation of figures included in this report.

### (4) CPZ Area Designation: Technical Considerations

**The SACP recommends** that a large and self-contained area should be designated as a CPZ, including all streets within a 15 minute walking time of key non-resident parking attractors (Preston Park Station commuter parking, St Mary’s and Balfour Primary Schools, Varndean and Dorothy Stringer High Schools, Varndean VIth Form College and Downs Link College together with Preston Park, Preston Tennis Club and a number of nurseries and business such as dental and veterinary surgeries). The 22 streets in the Surrenden Area meet this criterion. The effect of applying a CPZ boundary that meets this criterion would be to make non-residents parking to use these key attractor facilities significantly re-appraise their travel and mode of transport decision-making. This in turn should reduce the adverse parking diversion effects typically experienced when smaller CPZs are designated. It should ensure higher revenue from permits and pay and display parking, from an earlier than typical time in the life of a CPZ.

### (5) The Summer 2015 Brighton & Hove City Council Fiveways and Surrenden CPZ Proposal

The Surrenden Area was last formally considered for CPZ designation by the ETS Committee on 13 October 2015 (Report: Agenda [Item 23](#) and consultation area map at page 47; Minutes: [Item 23](#)). The area subject to consultation was a larger one than the current Surrenden Area. It additionally contained streets that are now within designated Zones G, J and J Extension. ETS noted a relatively low return rate for the consultation, together with representations from Ward Members that residents in what comprises the Surrenden Area were against the proposal. SACP petition and survey work suggests that the position recorded in this report and minute has substantially changed.

**SACP notes** that in 2015, the capital cost of that draft CPZ scheme was suggested to be £50,000 and the annual revenue to be £99,000. This revenue estimate appears to be very low, considering that the area has considerably greater potential to yield pay and display income than other suburban areas, due to its location close to a number of key parking attractors that will generate demand (see note 4 above).

**SAPC notes** that whilst there is scope for the variation of some detail in a 2018 consultation from the package provided to households in the 2015 consultation, the 2015 consultation documents (with the removal of streets now in designated CPZs) provide a solid starting point for the drafting of new consultation documents. The human and financial resource requirements associated with the preparation of a new consultation could be expected to be lower than those typically incurred in an area where a draft CPZ proposal has not been prepared for consultation before.

### (6) The SAPC Survey Monkey Opinion Poll

The SAPC Survey Monkey Opinion Poll asked residents opinions about key parking topics between 28 November 2017 and 20 January 2018. There were 205 respondents (20% of households in the Surrenden Area). Invitations to complete the Poll were on a leaflet distributed door-to-door and by email to households with known email addresses. The survey was completed online and independently, without the presence of a street canvasser. It was subject to an IP address control, meaning that it could not be completed more than once from the same device. Its findings in summary are as follows:

• Parking in the Surrenden Area has become more difficult over the past 3 years.	89%
• Reasons for concerns about parking:	
▪ I can't park near my house	39%
▪ Crossing the road is more difficult	58%
▪ Poor parking makes the roads more dangerous for school students	64%
▪ Poor parking makes the roads more dangerous for the elderly	61%
▪ Parking by high-sided vehicles is adding to danger	79%
▪ People park here who do not live in the area (commuter parking)	80%
▪ Bad parking makes driving a hazard for motorised road users	80%
▪ A CPZ would improve the parking situation in my road.	79%
• A nearby CPZ excluding my street would make parking conditions worse.	93%
• Residents owning a mobile home (there are many of these parked in the area).	5%
• Residents owning a commercial vehicle (there are many of these parked in the area).	2%

Click here for a more [detailed breakdown of findings](#).

### (7) Brighton & Hove City Council Parking Revenue Account

On 9 December 2016, the RAC Foundation published research by David Leibling Transport Consultants analysing revenue from Council parking operations in 353 English local authorities. This found substantial year-on-year surpluses in many parking revenue accounts. In 2016, this analysis suggested that the City of Brighton & Hove had the 6<sup>th</sup> largest parking revenue surplus in England, and largest parking revenue surplus of any Council outside Greater London. Detailed breakdowns of this evidence can be found here:

- [Parking Revenue Tables](#), RACF / Leibling (2016); and
- [Parking Revenue Report](#), RACF / Leibling (2016).

SAPC recognises that Brighton & Hove City Council has pressures on its revenue and capital expenditure common to most local authorities. However, it has prudently generated a healthy parking revenue account. Our community seeks consultation over the designation of a large area containing over 1000 households. If 60% household take up of permits is assumed, an annual revenue of c£78,000<sup>1</sup> could be expected, with an additional revenue from pay and display parking of c£284,700<sup>2</sup>, suggesting annual revenue of circa £0.35m for a CPZ covering the Surrenden Area.

The proximity of the area to key parking attractors (see note 4 above) suggests that pay and display revenues would be healthy. This revenue projection suggests a good rate of return on capital investment. Even if the Council has previously considered that it lacks the human resources to carry out an early consultation, investment in additional human resources to bring a consultation forward is justified.

**SACP recommends** an early report to ETS reviewing the basis for a CPZ proposal for the Surrenden Area.

<sup>1</sup> Assumes permit take up of one permit at £130 by 60% of eligible households.

<sup>2</sup> Assumes 150 pay and display spaces yielding £5-20/day (based on current Zone J pricing).  
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