

Charging for Car Parking in Parks project - update

Cannon Hill Park update

Traffic Regulation Orders (TROs) to protect residents of surrounding roads from displacement (experimental highway TRO), and to enable charging for parking within Cannon Hill Park (permanent non-highway TRO) were drafted and advertised in April. A 3 week formal consultation took place for the permanent TRO seeking citizens' views regarding the project. The consultation for the experimental TRO lasts for 12 months and is still underway.

An equality assessment for Cannon Hill was completed to accompany the Cabinet Member Decision Report that sought approval for the charging project and funding to complete the improvement works at the car parks within Cannon Hill Park. The equality assessment did not identify any protected characteristics that would be adversely affected by the implementation of charging for parking.

Call-in of the Cabinet Member Decision Report focussed on a lack of consultation with citizens around charging for parking. As a result, we completed a face-to-face clipboard exercise with park users over 26th-28th May and undertook analysis of their responses, alongside the responses we received via the consultation mailbox. We ensured Councillors were consulted with following Call-In and linked with residents associations to book attendance at their future meetings to ensure they are kept abreast of developments/answer their queries/listen to their views. We also invited residents of surrounding roads (900 letters) to a residents meeting on 14th June at the MAC so they could give their feedback on the project and the proposed experimental TRO. The comments we received from the meeting were analysed and were included in a consultation report to Councillors which included suggestions to amend the experimental TRO.

The Executive Response to Call-In went to Cabinet on 27th June where the proposal was approved.

Work on improving the surface of the Nature Centre car park at Cannon Hill Park began in May, and is currently on hold. The final elements to complete the surface works will begin at the end of July. Pay and display machines are then to be installed, alongside signage for the Pay By Mobile payment option, in readiness for implementation shortly after the end of the Summer Holidays. The installation of CCTV and lighting will follow implementation in 2017, to tackle the ongoing issues the car park has with vehicle crime, assaults, carjacking etc. Over time the combination of these works will improve the safety of park and MAC users.

A management agreement is being drawn up between the city council and MAC outlining that the MAC will take day to day responsibilities for the operation of the car park including monitoring the CCTV etc in return for a percentage split of the income.

Sutton Park update

Our primary focus is the roll-out of charging at Cannon Hill Park; only after implementation will work begin properly on Sutton Park. Having said that, work is currently underway looking at TROs currently in place in roads surrounding Sutton Park (boundary of 500m), and identifying if TROs will be needed for the project.