

Parking Permits Consultation: Additional Responses for Consideration

Purpose

To share findings from the public consultation for the proposed charges of parking permits.

Background

On the 29th of July 2022 a public consultation on potential charges for parking permits was launched by colleagues in Traffic Management. Within the letter sent to citizens outlining the proposal two correspondence addresses were provided, all objections were to be sent directly to Traffic Management and for residents which believed the permit parking restrictions in their area were no longer necessary, including feedback regarding existing permits to be sent to Community Protection. The correspondence received by Community Protection has been recorded centrally separate to the data obtained by Traffic Management for consideration in the implementation decision.

Participation and survey responses

Community Protection received 565 replies via email in addition to the responses sent directly to Traffic Management. All responses have been analysed to establish thematic reoccurring themes and this report has highlighted them.

Due to the potential volume of these responses an automated acknowledgement message was created stating any feedback will still be taken into consideration. Individual questions raised during the consultation period related to parking permits have been responded too where possible.

The information within this report is to be considered in conjunction with the data and information provided by Traffic Management. The below table categories the responses into 5 core themes.

No.	Theme	No. of responses	Percentage
1	Unnecessary/Ineffective or Removal of Scheme	428	61%
2	Cost of Living/Tax/ Financial Position of the City Council	110	15%
3	Social Impacts	65	9%
4	Regular Carers/Disability concerns	47	7%
5	Ineffective Enforcement	43	6%

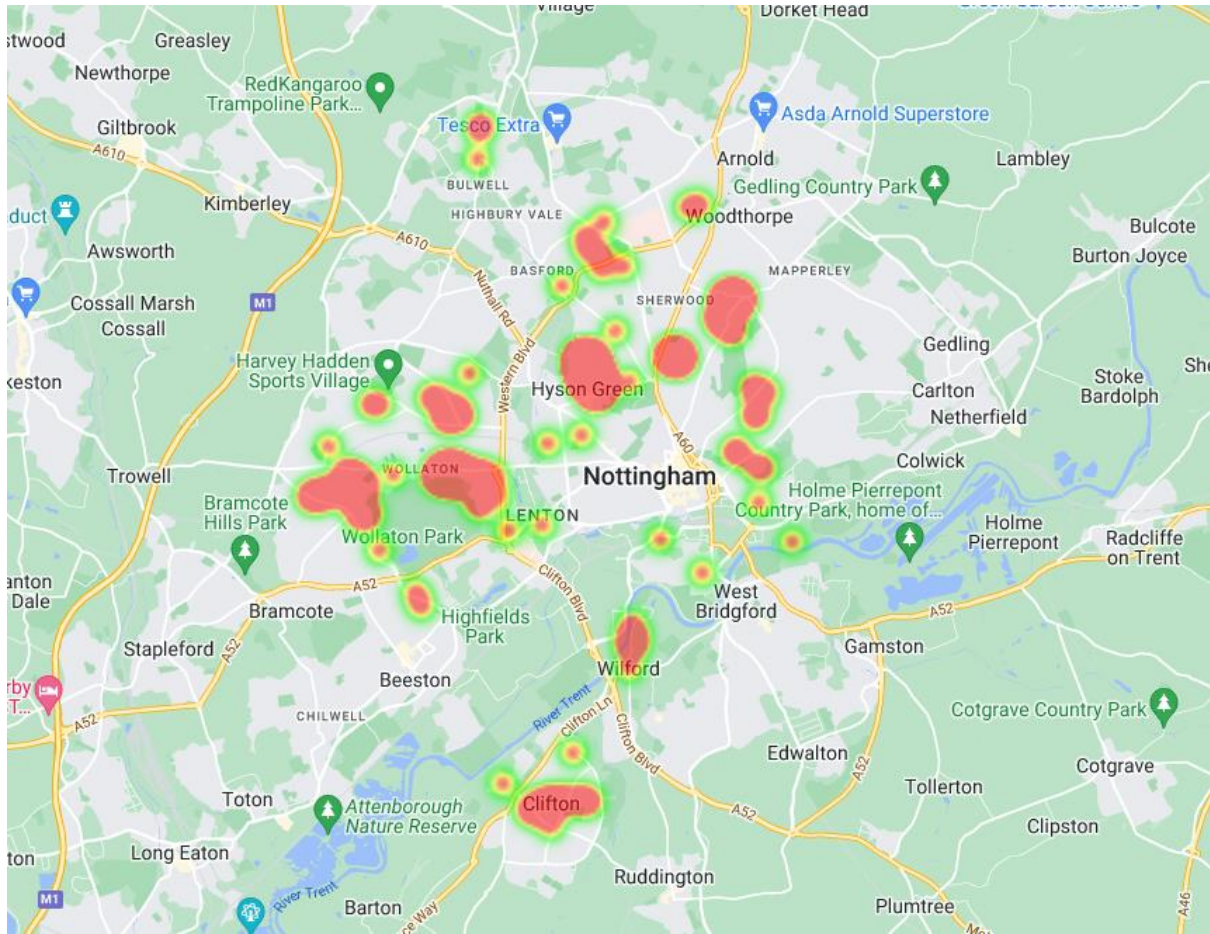
Reoccurring Themes - Additional comments

- Unnecessary/Ineffective or Removal of Scheme – The vast majority of responses received by the service related to the parking schemes/restrictions either being unnecessary due to various factors which are represented within the other common reoccurring themes or comments related to the effectiveness of existing schemes. This is largely due to there being no noticeable differences to on street parking resulting in residents directly requesting a scheme to be removed.
- Cost of Living/Tax/Financial Position of the City Council - 110 responses related to the cost of living and Nottingham City's council tax rates. Comments largely concerned the fiscal impact this could have on families in the current financial climate whilst associating the proposal to the increase in council tax. There has also been commentary on the economic position of the city council.
- Social Impacts – Residents voiced their apprehensions to 'pay' to see family and friends and the impacts of likely isolation and loneliness particularly following Covid Lockdowns. There were 65 comments which raised concerns of how the parking permits impact family events, visiting elderly family who require support due to the maximum number of permits allotted per household.
- Regular Carers/Disability Concerns -The service has received 47 comments with concerns on the likely impacts this proposal may have to people with disabilities or who have regular medical carers. Whilst an Equality Impact Assessment (EIA) exists related to this proposal a final formal decision is yet to be made on exemptions from this proposal. The purpose of the consultation is to attain feedback which will then allow the City Council to update the EIA further following the close of consultation.
- Ineffective Enforcement – There were 43 comments which stated enforcement activity on existing restrictions wasn't adequate or inconsistent.
- Other Comments Received - Separate of the common themes there have been a smaller number of comparable requests or comments. These include but aren't limited to:
 - I. The removal of the Parking Levy in areas within the city to avoid unwanted parking on residential streets
 - II. Consideration made for two free permits and the charge being applied to the third permit requested
 - III. Existing schemes to match or be altered to reflect schemes in place on streets locally

Geo-Mapping Data

All replies received which have stated parking schemes/restrictions being unnecessary and/or ineffective including those who have directly requested the removal of a scheme have been geographically mapped in a series of maps to establish trends or patterns.

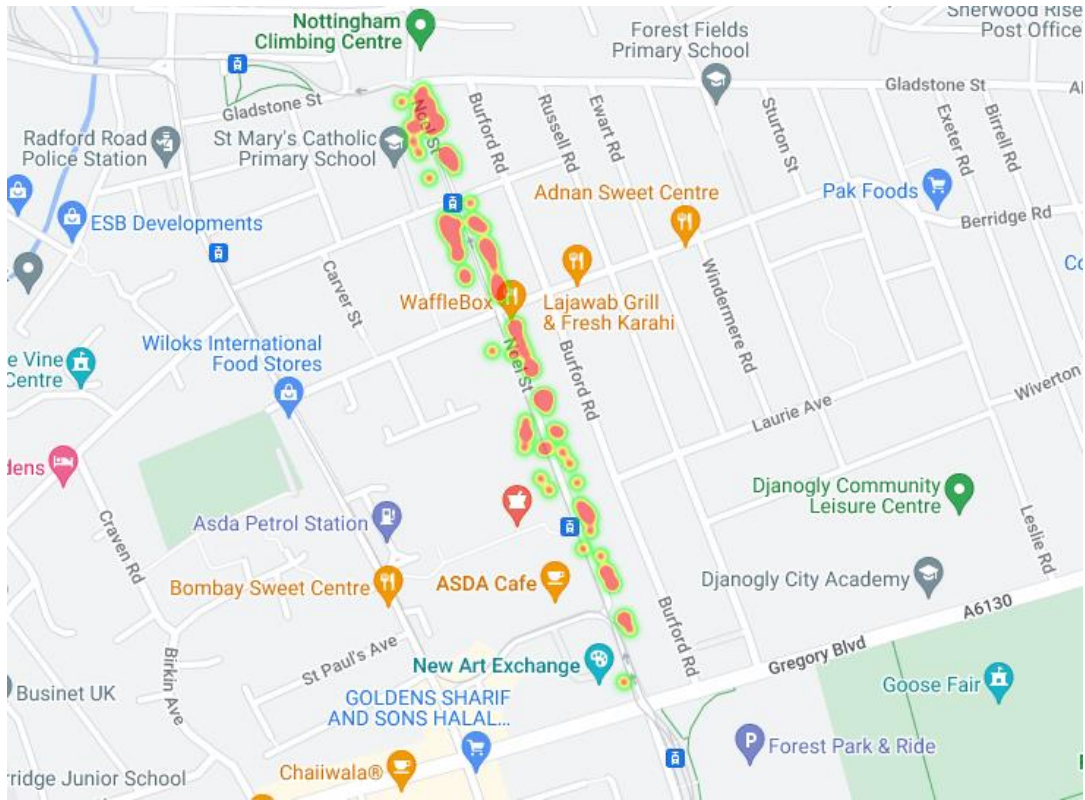
City Wide Overview



Below are the 5 areas with the highest concentrate of requests for schemes to be removed:

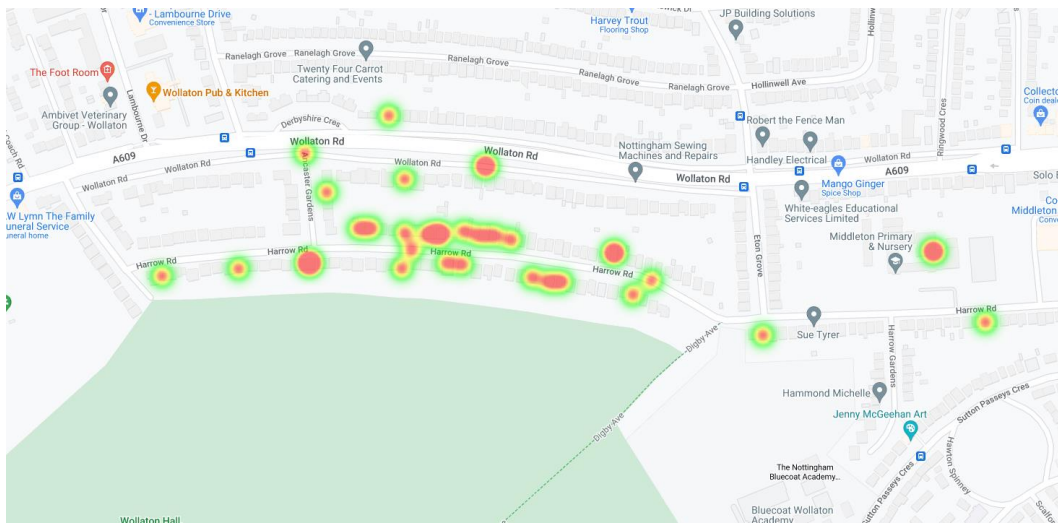
Forest Field

- Noel Street



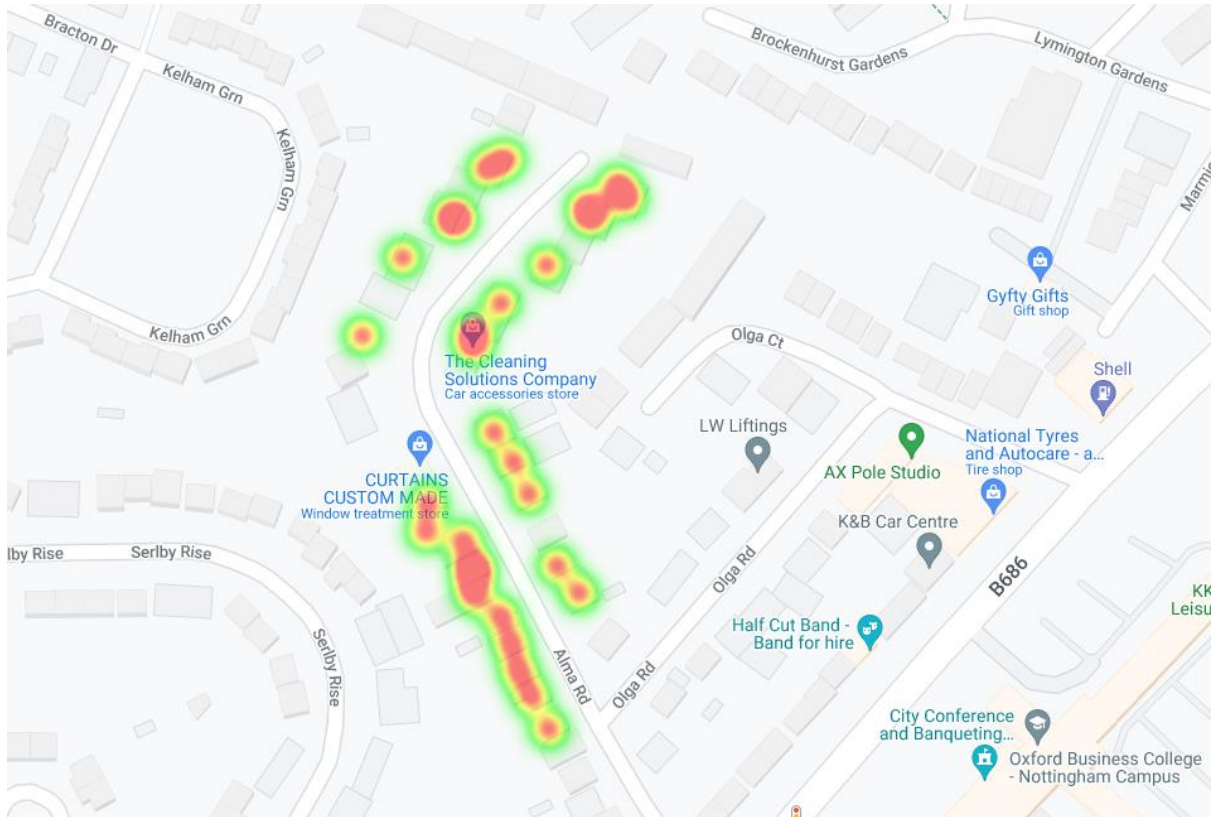
Wollaton

- Harrow Road/Ancaster Gardens area



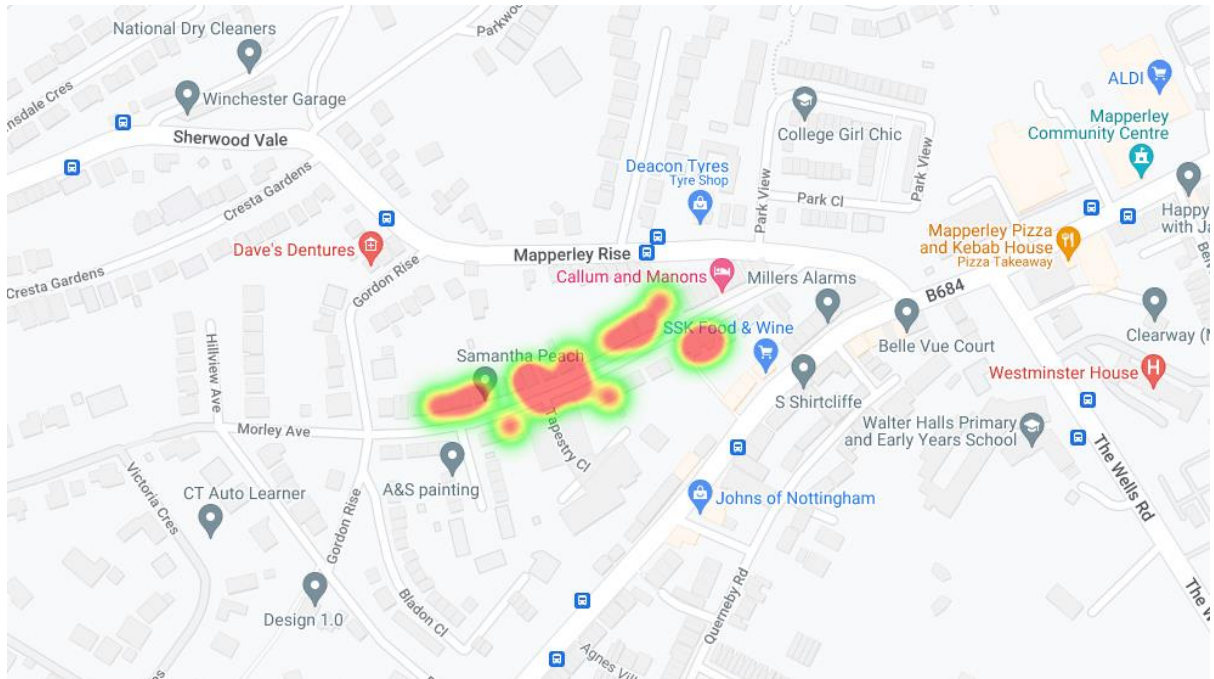
St Anns

- Alma Road



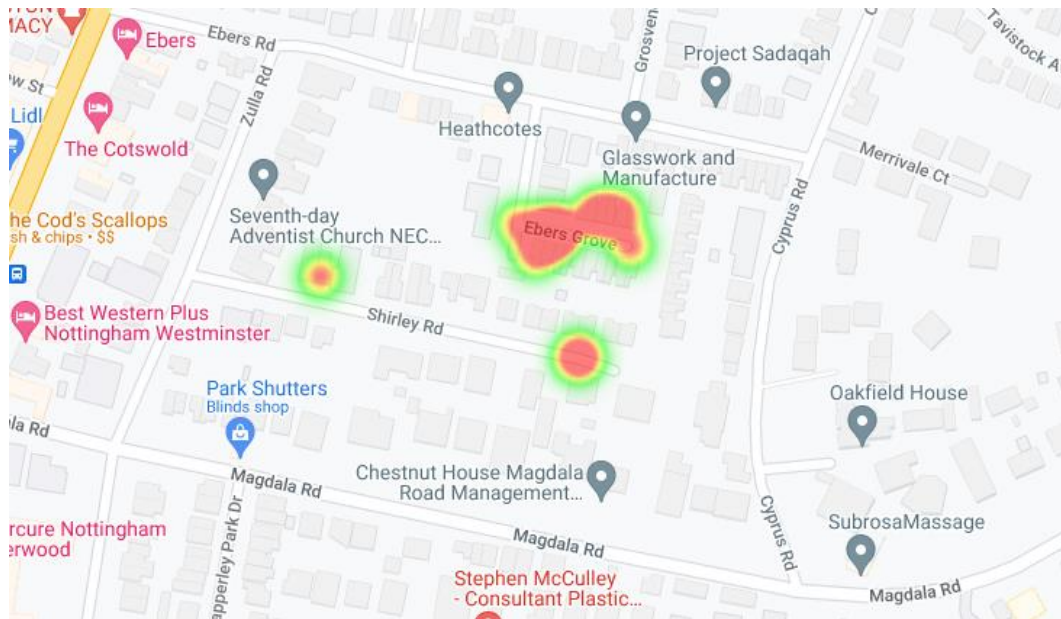
Mapperley

- Morley Avenue



Carrington

- Ebers Grove/Shirley Road area



Out of the 428 replies stating parking schemes to be removed or unnecessary, the greatest number of requests made for any individual street were:

- Noel Street (91 responses)
- Harrow Road (31 responses)
- Alma Road (30)
- Morley Avenue (18)
- Ebers Grove (12)
- Arleston Drive (8)
- Fernwood Crescent (5)

NB – the heat maps are created from the data received from residents, some of which had incomplete addresses, or provided post codes with no street names etc.

Conclusion

The concerns related to medical carers and those with disabilities has raised several questions on exemptions. Whilst an Equality Impact Assessment (EIA) exists related to this proposal a final formal decision is yet to be made on exemptions on voluntary carers. The purpose of the consultation is to attain feedback which will then allow the City Council to update the EIA further following the close of consultation. An updated Equality Impact Assessment demonstrates how the feedback has been processed and how the negative impacts will be mitigated or minimised.