



# The Counties Residents' Association

*Protecting the interests of the community*

London Borough of Redbridge  
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By Email

28 September 2017

**F.A.O. Mr. M. Gray**

Dear Mr. Gray,

## **RE: Wanstead Parking Proposals 2017**

Thank you for your email dated 27/9/17, however, it doesn't answer the one specific question we raised in our initial letter and only increases our alarm in how LBR is conducting itself (original question was:- will the Council also consider new petitions AGAINST the latest proposals?).

Far from "listening to residents... etc", at best the Council seems to be "selectively listening to residents...". The Council ran a six-week consultation into their original parking plans which resulted in the bulk of the scheme being abandoned. That consultation closed in May, yet the Council is allowing further representations in August/September. Admittedly things change and consultations should be rerun periodically to ensure schemes remain valid, but years, not just weeks apart.

The Council should face up to and respect the consultation results which clearly demonstrate it basically lost the argument, as did those residents/business who wished controls installed - such is the consequence of democracy. Even P&D on the High Street wasn't supported by the consultation results with only 36% in support, yet somehow the Council claims such controls are wanted and is pushing ahead with these plans.

So, when you answer the first question above, please could you also advise why the Council is ignoring its democratic responsibility to the voters and being so blatant in its attempts to push through these parking controls that are clearly not wanted by the majority? To put it another way, what rationale has the Council employed to justify 36% as sufficient to warrant P&D controls?

Picking up on the second paragraph in your email regarding subsequent representations, please could you confirm a few data figures about these post result requests you claim to have received, such as:-

- 1) How many requests have LBR received since the publication of the consultation results which:-
  - a) call for additional P&D controls?
  - b) call for additional permit controls?
  - c) call for proposed controls to be abandoned?

cont...



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- 2) Do these figures count multiple requests from a single person/business more than once?
- 3) How many of these requests were from "new" parties that did NOT take part in the consultation?  
(and the questions from above/previous:-)
- 4) What rationale has the Council employed to justify 36% as sufficient to warrant P&D controls?
- 5) Will the Council also consider new petitions AGAINST the latest proposals?

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This section of our letter relates specifically to questions 1-3 above and picks up on Cllr Merry's email 28/9/17 in which a Nightingale Lane petition is mentioned:-

Nightingale Lane was well and truly inside the proposed parking zone and fully consulted in April. Analysing the consultation result data (page 13) and Nightingale Lane only has a 20% response rate, considerably less than the roads that eventually formed the currently proposed WD parking zone (eg Wellington, Wellesley etc with response rates between 35% and 59%). This raises the thought; if only 20% could be bothered engaging with the consultation, there can't be much of a problem!

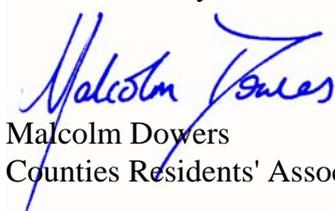
Even the breakdown figures on pages 24/25 as to whether residents experience parking problems and Nightingale Lane's data demonstrates lesser problems both in total and percentage terms than Wellington, Wellesley etc! Furthermore it is almost 50/50 amongst the respondents as to whether there is a problem with 12x "often and above" and 14x "rarely and below". "Sometimes" and "Don't Know" are not strong enough to warrant inclusion on either side of the argument.

All this analysis indicates only 12x out of 158x households, or 7.6% in favour of parking controls on Nightingale Lane which is far below even the lowest threshold the Council has accepted elsewhere - why should Nightingale Lane be treated differently?

Regardless of any new petition and on a point of democratic principle, Nightingale Lane has already had its say in the consultation. If Nightingale Lane were to get a "second bite of the cherry" especially so soon, it becomes unfair to others and would decrease the validity of the consultation if actioned.

We look forward to receiving your answers to the above and remain.

Yours faithfully,



Malcolm Dowers  
Counties Residents' Association