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By post and email: Wesley.Harcourt@lbhf.gov.uk

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Wesley Harcourt,
Cabinet Member for Transport,
Hammersmith and Fulham Council,
Town Hall Extension,
King Street,
London W6 9JU

Dear Wesley, **New Zone J/JJ Parking Consultation**

I am delighted that the Council has agreed to re-consult, in an open and conscientious way, on better options for parking in Zone J/JJ. As you know, the scheme imposed last December has not only caused widespread distress, but has also failed to deal with the problem. Some residents in Zone JJ still suffer significant parking stress. And parking has become *more* difficult for most in Zone J.

Fortunately, there are now two important representative groups in place, which can help you take forward the new consultation. The first – the Zone J Parking Campaign – has the support of a large number of residents, as well as all five churches and the mosque. You may have visited its website. The group is run by a steering committee of about a dozen residents, plus representatives from both the churches and mosque. The second group is made up of local business people intent on ensuring the business community too, plays its proper role in the new consultations.

Both groups will shortly be in touch with you. They support the view that the best way forward is for a predominantly ‘permit-only/shared bay’ pattern of provision, something resident groups have been seeking since 2012. Everyone is delighted that the Council has now initiated a consultation on such a scheme which it is, of course, under a legal obligation to pursue conscientiously. Given this, it is worth noting that none of the objections to such a scheme, so far cited, have any merit. The latest – advanced in response to our legal challenge – has moved experienced parking consultants, to laughter. If there *are* reasonable grounds for not offering such a scheme, no one will object. If there are no such grounds but such a scheme is still not offered, a new legal challenge will be initiated, questioning the lawfulness of the process the Council followed to arrive at such a decision.

I am sure though, that this will not be necessary and that we will be able to move forward, in a new spirit of goodwill, to forge a much better parking scheme for everybody who lives, works or worships in Zone J. I am sure this is what you want too, and I look forward to doing whatever I can to help you bring it about. To this end, it would be helpful to have an idea of your proposed schedule for the new consultation.

Yours sincerely,

David Mills