



**Haringey** Council

**Cabinet Member Signing**  
**Civic Centre**

**Date: 9 September 2009**

**Report Title.** Review of the Business Permit charges

**Report of :** Niall Bolger , Director of Urban Environment

Signed :

*NPBolger* 6<sup>th</sup> August 2009

**Contact Officer :** Ann Cunningham, Head of Parking Services  
Telephone: 0208 489 1355

**Wards(s) affected:** All

Report for: key decision

**1. Purpose of the report**

1.1 To review business permit charges to ensure that they are proportionate and to support businesses in the current economic climate.

**2. Introduction by Cabinet Member (if necessary)**

2.1

**3. State link(s) with Council Plan Priorities and actions and /or other Strategies:**

3.1 Recommendations in this report link to priorities in Haringey's Community Strategy ('economic vitality and prosperity shared for all ') which commits the Council to support local businesses.

**4. Recommendations**

- That the Cabinet Member for Environment and Conservation agree to reduce the business permit charge to a standard £200. This charge also to apply to second and subsequent permits.
- To authorise officers to make the necessary changes to traffic management orders

- That the Cabinet Member for Environment and Conservation agree that a further review of Business charges be undertaken in October 2010 to evaluate the impact of this reduction in charges.

## **5. Reason for recommendation(s)**

5.1 The take up of business permits across the borough is relatively low, however in a very small number of locations demand currently exceeds capacity. Businesses feel that in general take up is low due to the charges that apply to those permits. They asked that the Council reduce those charges to assist them in the current economic climate.

## **6. Other options considered**

6.1 The other option considered was to continue with existing charges as they have not been increased over the past 3 years and compare reasonably well with other boroughs. However the council is committed to introducing measures to support businesses through the current economic difficulties.

## **7. Summary**

7.1 The Council's business permit scheme applies to all commercial businesses located in the borough's existing CPZ's. Those permits are issued to businesses who

- require regular and unavoidable use of a vehicle to run their business
- transport bulky and, or high value goods on a regular and unavoidable basis
- work unsociable hours (when public transport is not readily available)

7.4 Permits are not issued just for employees travelling to work (unless these journeys need to be made at unsociable hours). Business permit holders are not allocated a specific bay, but may use any of the business bays provided within that CPZ.

7.5 The current charges of the Business Permits are as detailed below:

- Green/Electric Vehicles - £ Free of charge
- First Permit: Wood Green & Green Lane Zones - £300
- Second & Subsequent Permits - £400
- First Permit: All Other Zones - £225
- Second & Subsequent Permits - £300

7.6 Business permit charges in neighbouring boroughs are detailed in appendix 1.

7.7 The below table provides full details of the number of business bays (including shared business / residents bays) available across the borough and the number of permits currently in issue by the Council.

CPZ	Number of Bays (including shared use bays)	Number of Permits in issue
Bounds Green	6	4
Finsbury Park	35	19
Green Lanes A & B	52	37
Highgate Hill/Station	33	15
Myddleton Road	7	7
Seven Sisters	63	8
Wood Green Inner & Outer	157	37
<b>Total</b>	<b>353</b>	<b>127</b>

7.8 It is proposed that all business permit charges are reduced to £200 per annum.

## **8 Chief Financial Officer Comments**

8.1 Although it is proposed to reduce all business permit charges to £200 per annum, the service estimates that annual income will remain at £44k as take up is expected to increase. This will be monitored through the budget management process.

## **9 Head of Legal Services Comments**

9.1 The Road Traffic Regulation Act (1984) makes provision for local authorities to charge for parking and vary those charges. Amendments to the relevant traffic orders will be required when changes to the existing parking scheme are made.

## **10 Equalities & Community Cohesion Comments**

10.1 Proposals in this report will support businesses during the current economic climate.

## **11 Consultation**

11.4 Statutory Consultation will be undertaken before changing charges, which requires the Council to notify its intentions in the London gazette, local press and on site where changes to charges are proposed.

## **12 Service Financial Comments**

12.4 The business permit scheme currently generates £44k annually. It is expected that the reduction in charge will be revenue neutral as take up of business permits increases.

12.5 There are currently 127 permits in issue, which give an average permit charge of £346. In order to maintain the existing level of revenue the Council would need to issue an additional 93 permits annually.

### **13 Use of appendices /Tables and photographs**

13.1 Appendix 1 – detailed business permit charges in neighbouring boroughs.

### **14 Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985**

## Appendix 1

<b>Neighbouring Boroughs</b>	<b>First Permit - £ (standard engine size)</b>	<b>First Permit - £ (large engine size)</b>	<b>Subsequent Permits - £</b>
Enfield	£750 ( in town centres)  £60 ( in the outer two hours CPZ's)	£750 ( in town Centres)  £60 ( in the outer two hours CPZ's)	(same as purchase price)
Waltham Forest	£390 / £410	£390 / £410	£500 / £550
Barnet	£300	£300	(same as purchase price)
Islington	£600	£600	(same as purchase price)
Camden	£205	£205	(same as purchase price)
Hackney – Inner Zone	£800	£1200	(same as purchase price)
Hackney – Outer Zone	£370	£555	(same as purchase price)
Haringey	Electric vehicles cars free  others ranging from £225 to £300		(£300 - £400)