

**PLANNING AND HIGHWAYS COMMITTEE EAST
MONDAY 28TH FEBRUARY 2022**

REPORT TO CONSIDER AND REVIEW:

**UPDATE ON THE COMMUNITY PARKING
MANAGEMENT SCHEME (CPMS) PROGRAMME**

REPORT TO PLANNING AND HIGHWAYS COMMITTEE EAST

UPDATE ON PREVIOUSLY AGREED CPMS PROGRAMME FOLLOWING THE IMPACT OF COVID 19 AND CHANGES TO COMMUTER PARKING

1. Purpose of the Report

- 1.1 This report is to present the Planning and Highways Committee East with an update on the Community Parking Management Scheme (CPMS) Programme which was presented to Planning and Highways on Wednesday the 7th November 2018 following delays through Covid 19 and changes to potential schemes through the reduction in long term commuters.

2. Introduction and background

- 2.1 A report was presented to Planning and Highways in 2018 which outlined a new way of delivery and programme of future schemes. This report updates members on the programme and changes we have made due to the impact of Covid 19 initially but also changes in areas that may no longer experience long term commuter parking problems.

3. Agreed programme of CPMS investigations

| Area | Zone/Phase | Rank | Est Start | Est End |
|--|------------|------|-------------|-------------|
| Doxford International (Moorside / East Herrington) | 1 | 1 | Jan 2019 | Jan 2021 |
| Seaburn Metro Phase 2 | 2 | 1 | April 2019 | April 2021 |
| QAR | 1 | 2 | April 2020 | April 2022 |
| Hendon Ward (East End) | 1 | 2 | July 2020 | July 2022 |
| Royal Hospital 5 | 5 | 3 | April 2021 | April 2023 |
| Stadium of Light (Event) | 3 | 3 | August 2021 | August 2023 |

4. Covid 19 and the long-term impact on CPMS

- 4.1 Covid 19 has had a significant impact on the existing CPMS programme and the way Sunderland Council were able to continue the delivery of the programme. As we begin to return to normal following Covid 19 we are seeing ongoing changes to commuter behaviour with businesses changing their policies with ongoing working from home continuing. As a Council we will continue to monitor how this could affect future CPMS and the current processes involved in developing those schemes.

5.0 Update on the programme

5.1 Doxford International (Moorside / East Herrington)

When first looking at the Doxford International CPMS it was split over two areas, Moorside and East Herrington, due to the extents and differences in potential schemes a decision was made to split the schemes and progress individually.

5.2 Doxford International (East Herrington)

Following engagement processes the scheme was completed on the 1st March 2021

5.3 Doxford International (Moorside)

The Moorside investigations and proposals were also linked with other parking proposals in the vicinity. Officers have progressed a scheme from initial conversations with members through the standard CPMS process including multiple public engagement exercises. The public engagement exercises then gave us areas of public support to progress with a CPMS. Covid 19 impacted upon the necessity to progress a CPMS within Moorside as a significant number of businesses at Doxford International allowed staff to work from home during the pandemic, this significantly reduced the number of commuters parking within the residential areas surrounding Doxford International.

Officers have met with the Doxford ward members regularly to discuss the current extents of commuter parking and the long-term requirement for a CPMS to progress in the area. In agreement with members we have continued to monitor the change in Covid 19 restrictions and how these changes have impacted upon parking in the area. Further changes to Covid 19 restrictions are expected at the end of February 2022 and so officers and members have a meeting pre-arranged for the 4th of March to consider if the latest government announcement will impact upon how we progress in the Moorside area.

5.4 Seaburn Metro Phase 2

Scheme was completed February 2021.

5.5 QAR

The Queen Alexandra Road investigations were due to begin in the April of 2020. At the time with the Covid 19 restrictions and direct impact on business we held off contacting the members until the 29th of April as the original restrictions were only proposed for a short term.

Officers have met with members from the St Michaels Ward throughout the Covid 19 pandemic. As a group we understood that changes to commuting due to the ongoing Covid 19 pandemic meant the long term reported commuter parking had changed and any surveys at that time would not show a true reflection of any commuter parking problems, we agreed to continue to monitor both the changes to covid 19 restrictions and the impact those changes had on the parking. We continued to monitor the changing restrictions and parking changes throughout but agreed that parking had not returned to the levels of pre pandemic. Whilst the scheme was originally named as QAR, the reported parking issues were from commuters and

visitors from the Eye Infirmary, so when considering parking changes throughout the pandemic we also fully considered the parking changes to neighbouring streets. As a group we kept regular contact throughout the pandemic.

In March 2021 it was announced that the Eye Infirmary was moving from Queen Alexandra Road to the Riverside Development, with the hospital then given the formal go ahead in November 2021 with plans to begin construction in 2022 with a view to completing in 2024.

With all on going and future CPMS we must consider the need for a scheme given the current changes to driver and commuter behaviour. We must also consider that changes to an area may have occurred since originally agreeing the original programme of investigations and when starting those investigations has anything changed or is anything else planned to change that would reduce or remove the need for a CPMS. A CPMS is a long-term solution, which is not used to resolve short term issues. It is fully expected that when the Eye Infirmary moves from QAR to the Riverside no commuters would use QAR or surrounding streets for long term parking.

As the news of the new eye infirmary was released the working group were still meeting regularly and have discussed if the area around the Eye Infirmary is still suitable for a CPMS. Given the time scales involved with the implementation of any CPMS, it is no longer felt that a CPMS is the most suitable solution due to the anticipated reduction of commuters when the Eye Infirmary does re locate. Officers have agreed with members to look at other short-term solutions to assist with residents with any reported issues with commuter parking where possible.

5.6 Hendon Ward (East Area)

It was agreed following some basic initial surveys that the area was not showing the extents of parking as reported pre covid 19. The initial areas put forward for investigation were also within walking distance to the Riverside Development and any impact of the development would need to be reconsidered on completion. An agreement was made with members that Hendon (East End) would not progress at that time and that it would be put forward for the next programme of CPMS for re investigation.

5.7 Royal Hospital Phase 5

First contact was made with members in the June of 2021. Covid 19 restrictions were still in place at that time. The government announced further relaxation of those restrictions just as the school summer holidays were beginning, as parking and commuter trips can change greatly during school holidays we agreed to wait until schools returned before carrying out any surveys. Surveys have now been completed and in agreement with the working group we have now began public engagement in both the Barnes and Pallion Wards.

5.8 Stadium of Light / Event Phase 3

Officers met with members and discussed the need for a Stadium of Light / Event Phase 3 CPMS, with specific areas being put forward for surveys. Surveys for an event days CPMS take a little longer than standard CPMS surveys as we need to show the contrast between non-event and event days. Those surveys are complete and we are due to meet the members to discuss in coming weeks.

6. Conclusion

- 6.1 Officers have continued to develop and move schemes forward as much as physically possible within the ever-changing situation and restrictions of Covid 19.
- 6.2 The team have continued to work with and liaise with members as much as possible throughout the programme.
- 6.3 As a Council we have continued to compile any new requests for service for CPMS across the city, these requests are answered initially and added to a list of locations to be considered for the next programme of CPMS.

7. Recommendations

- 7.1 To continue to progress schemes in areas which continue to experience long term commuter parking.
- 7.2 Continue to work with members in Doxford (Moorside), Royal Hospital Phase 5 and Stadium of Light Phase 3 areas to develop / implement a CPMS where required.
- 7.3 Continue to work with members from QAR to look at an alternative option to a CPMS given that the long-term commuter parking problem will be resolved when the Eye Infirmary moves. Include agreement to re visit area once an announcement is made regarding the plans for the Eye Infirmary site if it is due to be developed into anything which may draw commuters back to the area.
- 7.4 Include Hendon Ward (East End) in a future programme of CPMS.
- 7.5 Begin more detailed development of the next programme of CPMS as the current programme draws to a close and feedback that new programme through Planning and Highways Committees.

