

**The Greater London (Central Zone)
Congestion Charging (Variation No. 2) Order 2007**

Report to the Mayor of London

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Report on the Greater London (Central Zone) Congestion Charging (Variation No. 2) Order 2007

1 Background

- 1.1 This report concerns a proposed variation to the Greater London (Central Zone) Congestion Charging Order 2004 (“the Principal Order”) made by Transport for London on 30 September 2004 and confirmed with modifications by the Mayor of London on 27 October 2004, as amended.
- 1.2 The Greater London (Central Zone) Congestion Charging (Variation No. 2) Order 2007 (“Variation Order No. 2”) proposed one change:
 - A boundary change to ensure that drivers exiting from Victoria Station, at Terminus Place, do not inadvertently enter the charging zone.
- 1.3 Variation Order No. 2 will incorporate a short section of the southbound carriageway of Buckingham Palace Road from Victoria Street to Eccleston Bridge into the charging zone.
- 1.4 This section of the road is currently uncharged, as it is part of the free-through route, but leads directly into the charging zone at the next junction. Therefore drivers who turn left into Buckingham Palace Road from either Victoria Street or Terminus Place cannot avoid entering the charging zone at the Buckingham Palace Road / Eccleston Bridge junction without performing an illegal u-turn. Performing a u-turn across this busy junction could potentially cause a hazard to other road users and pedestrians.
- 1.5 The aim of Variation Order No. 2 is therefore to clarify the boundary, thus providing better signage to those drivers who wish to avoid entering the charging zone; and ensure that drivers who are setting down passengers at Victoria Station (Terminus Place), have a clear opportunity to avoid entering the charging zone
- 1.6 Variation Order No. 2 was made by TfL on 6 June 2007.

2 Procedures & Consultation

- 2.1 Consultation on Variation Order No. 2 was carried out for 5 weeks between 6 June 2007 and 11 July 2007 in line with Guidance from the Mayor of London to Transport for London on charging schemes pursuant to Schedule 23 of the Greater London authority Act 1999 and TfL’s Consultation Toolkit.
- 2.2 Two organisations were consulted. A consultation pack was sent to Westminster City Council and the Metropolitan Police.
- 2.3 The consultation pack consisted of a covering letter advising recipients of the Variation Order and how to respond to the consultation; a copy of the Variation Order itself; and a schedule of proposed variations that explains TfL’s reasons for

the variation. Representations and objections could be made via e-mail or in writing.

- 2.4 Full information on the Variation Order No. 2 was also posted on the TfL website, and deposited at TfL's Faith Lawson House for public inspection. A notice announcing the making of the Variation Order was published in the London Gazette (circulation 8,000 approx) on 9 June 2007. A Notice was also posted on lampposts in the vicinity of the boundary change.
- 2.5 Should the Mayor confirm Variation Order No. 2, with or without further modifications, TfL would publish a notice of the confirmation in the London Gazette and on its website.
- 2.6 Representations were received to the consultation from 2 respondents:
 - *Westminster City Council; and*
 - *one member of the Public.*
- 2.7 Respondents were either broadly supportive of the changes or had no objections or comments.
- 2.8 An analysis of the representations, with TfL's responses, is attached as Appendix 1.
- 2.9 If the Mayor confirms Variation Order No. 2, signage will be installed by TfL on the Transport for London Road Network and Westminster City Council roads. TfL are working with Westminster City Council towards an agreement that signage can be in place on Westminster City Council roads within 3 months. TfL therefore recommend that Variation Order No. 2 be amended to provide 3 December 2007 as the commencement date.

3 Recommendation

- 3.1 The Mayor should confirm Variation Order No. 2 by signing the Instrument of Confirmation with one modification, inserting a commencement date of 3 December 2007.