

**The Greater London (Central Zone)  
Congestion Charging Variation Order 2006**

**Report to the Mayor of London**

<b>Contents</b>	<b>Page number</b>
Background	2
Procedures and Consultation	2
Recommendations	3

### **Appendices**

Appendix 1	Analysis of representations received to the Variation Order consultation
Appendix 2	Schedule of variations and proposed modifications to the Variation Order
Appendix 3	Representations received to the Variation Order consultation
Appendix 4	Stakeholders Consulted on the Variation Order

## **Report on the Greater London (Central Zone) Congestion Charging Variation Order 2006**

### **1 Background**

1.1 This report concerns proposed variations to the Greater London (Central Zone) Congestion Charging Order 2001 as varied by the Greater London (Central Zone) Congestion Charging Order 2004 ("the Consolidated Order") made by Transport for London on 30 September 2004 and confirmed with modifications by the Mayor of London on 27 October 2004.

1.2 The Variation Order 2006 proposes the following changes to the Consolidated Order:

- a change to the implementation date of the Pay Next Day facility;
- incentives to register early for residents of the western extension residents' discount zone;
- to temporarily increase the length of time to process discount applications;
- an incentive to register early for Blue Badge holders.

1.3 Variation Order 2006 was made by TfL on 26 January 2006.

### **2 Procedures & Consultation**

2.2 Consultation on Variation Order 2006 was carried out for 5 weeks between 26 January and 3 March 2006 in line with TfL's Consultation Toolkit.

2.3 In total, some 233 individuals or organisations were consulted. A consultation pack was sent to each of the 33 London Boroughs, London Assembly Members (25), TfL Board members (16) London MPs and MEPs (83). Consultation packs were also sent to key stakeholders under the categories of Disability and Mobility groups (32), Emergency Services (8), GLA Functional Bodies (5) and Local Government Associations (2).

2.4 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.

2.5 Full information on the proposed Variation Order was also posted on the TfL website, and deposited at TfL's Faith Lawson House for public inspection. The notice announcing the making of the Variation Order was published in the London Gazette (circulation 8,000 approx.) on 26 January 2006. Representations and objections could be made via e-mail or in writing.

2.6 Should the Mayor confirm the Variation Order, with or without further modifications, TfL would publish a notice of the confirmation in the London Gazette and on its website. TfL would incorporate the confirmed variations in the revised consolidated Scheme Order.

2.7 Representations were received to the consultation from 10 respondents; nine responses were received from stakeholder organisations, and one response was received from a member of the public. Copies of these representations are attached as Appendix 3. Representations were received from the following stakeholders:

City of London Police  
London Assembly Conservative Group  
London Borough of Southwark  
London Borough of Camden  
Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea  
London Borough of Richmond Upon Thames  
London Borough of Wandsworth  
City of Westminster  
London First  
Mobilise

2.8 Regarding the proposals for Pay Next Day, all responses were supportive.

2.9 For the incentive for early registration proposal, the majority of respondents were supportive except the London Borough of Camden and Westminster City Council. Camden are of the view that residents in the western extension should not be able to make trips into the central zone at a 90% discounted rate (a view they raised during the consultation on the Western Extension Scheme Order); while Westminster, who agree that residents of the western extension should have the registration fee waived, are nonetheless disappointed that this waiver will not apply to residents of the existing zone.

2.10 Concerning the temporary extension of the processing time of applications from 10 to 20 days, the response was generally supportive. However, Westminster object because they fear that existing residents (who are accustomed to 10 days processing time), may apply too late for their renewal and could incur a penalty charge notice as a result of the extended processing time. The mobility and transport organisation Mobilise also request that if a backlog in applications develops, Blue Badge applications should be prioritised and fast-tracked.

2.11 There were no objections to the proposal to abandon the £10 registration fee for the Blue Badge discount. However, Mobilise consider that TfL should pay Mobilise to publicise the discount to all UK members.

2.12 An analysis of the representations, with TfL's responses, is attached as Appendix 1.

### **3 Recommendation**

3.1 The Mayor should confirm Variation Order 2006 by signing the Instrument of Confirmation without modification.