

Dear [...]

Re: St Andrew Bobola Church, 1 Leysfield Road, W12 9JF

I am writing to express my strong objection to the London Borough of Hammersmith & Fulham's proposed changes to parking controls in Zone V and to ask for your urgent intervention.

I strongly support Option A, which retains the current parking arrangements: 9:00am to 5:00pm, Monday to Friday, with free parking at weekends. I firmly oppose the proposal to extend restrictions to 8:30am–10:00pm, seven days a week.

The current arrangements have served our community well. The proposed changes would have a significant and unnecessary negative impact on local residents, families, visitors, places of worship, and local businesses.

One of my greatest concerns is the effect on churches and other places of worship. Weekend services, weddings, baptisms, funerals, and community activities rely heavily on family members, volunteers, elderly worshippers, and visitors being able to park nearby. Introducing parking restrictions throughout weekends would make attending these important community events considerably more difficult and would discourage participation in community life.

Similarly, local families regularly rely on free weekend parking when visiting relatives, caring for elderly family members, or supporting vulnerable residents. These changes would place an unnecessary financial and practical burden on ordinary residents while offering little evidence that they would solve the problems described by the Council.

The Council's justification is also unconvincing. Problems caused by football supporters occur only on specific match days and should be addressed through targeted event-day parking controls rather than imposing severe restrictions on residents every evening and every weekend throughout the year. Likewise, if particular streets experience issues with minicabs or delivery vehicles, those should be tackled through appropriate enforcement rather than penalising an entire neighbourhood.

I am equally concerned by the manner in which this consultation has been conducted. It cannot reasonably be described as fair or representative.

The consultation period is exceptionally short and is taking place during the peak summer holiday season, when many families are away on annual leave. A consultation of such importance should be conducted when the majority of residents are available to consider the proposals and submit informed responses. Holding it during the summer holidays inevitably suppresses participation and risks producing a result that does not reflect the true views of the community.

Even more troubling is the consultation process itself, which appears to rely primarily on an online questionnaire. This discriminates against many elderly residents and others who are not confident using computers or the internet. Older residents are among those most affected by parking changes, yet many will struggle to participate if digital access is the principal method of responding. A public consultation should be genuinely accessible to all members of the community, regardless of age or digital ability.

For a decision that will fundamentally affect thousands of residents, businesses and community organisations, the Council should ensure a consultation process that is inclusive, transparent and genuinely representative. In my view, the current process falls well short of that standard.

I therefore respectfully ask you to:

Oppose the proposed extension of parking controls in Zone V and support Option A, retaining the current parking arrangements.

Urge Hammersmith & Fulham Council to extend and restart the consultation outside the summer holiday period.

Request that the Council provides accessible, non-digital methods for all residents—particularly elderly and vulnerable people—to participate fully in the consultation.

Ask the Council to consider targeted measures to address football match parking or specific nuisance issues instead of imposing disproportionate restrictions across the entire zone.

Residents deserve a consultation that is fair, accessible and representative, and parking policies that balance genuine local concerns with the needs of families, places of worship, local businesses and the wider community.

I would be grateful if you could raise these concerns with Hammersmith & Fulham Council and keep me informed of any action you are able to take.

Thank you for your attention to this important matter. I look forward to your response.

Yours sincerely,

[Name & surname,
adresse or contact]