

TRAFFIC AND ROAD SAFETY ADVISORY PANEL – 13 OCTOBER 2020

PUBLIC QUESTIONS (ITEM 6)

WRITTEN RESPONSE TO PUBLIC QUESTIONER 5

5.

Questioner: C Procopiou

Asked of: Councillor Jerry Miles, Chair of Traffic and Road Safety Advisory Panel

Question: RE: Parking Problems at Orchard Close, London HA8 7RE

Two main problems with our street

1: very narrow Road

2: main entrance parking to the close is used as a storage of cars owned by repair garage in the area and non-residence car owners.

Point 2 can be solved by having a residence only parking which will certainly free up a lot of the parking problem.

Point 1 is also very easily solved by the council allowing us to park on the pavement.

Our street is a narrow close which causes havoc when large vehicles need to pass through.

Many of our cars have been damaged, the cause being vans and lorries trying to squeeze through narrow gaps.

The refuse vehicles cannot get through and those that have tried have certainly damaged some of our vehicles.

It is only a matter of time that an emergency will arise that will require a fire engine which will not be able to gain access and could very likely cause unnecessary casualties.

As a street we are all in agreement that the only solution is to allow us to partially park on the kerb without fear of traffic wardens or fines.

We have done this for many years and never had a problem.

It was not until the last couple of years that someone in the council felt it wise to alienate the whole street and basically go to war with us by sending traffic wardens.

This is a quiet road that pedestrians prefer to walk on the street. In all of my many years I have never seen anyone walk on the pavement.

As residents we all stand together and ask the Council to look at this as a matter of urgency and give us the solution we all expect?

**Written
Response:**

In London there is legislation in force that prohibits all parking on footways and verges created by the Greater London Council under the General Powers Act 1974.

The carriageway in Orchard Close is not wide enough to physically accommodate vehicle parking on-street without causing extreme difficulty for large vehicles to gain access and manoeuvre, such as for emergency service vehicles. Additionally, the footways are already at a minimum width to facilitate pedestrian movement and so a footway parking scheme would not be possible as vehicles parking on the footway would reduce width for pedestrians to a sub-standard level and have a serious impact on vulnerable road users.

Road users do have a responsibility to respect parking restrictions and park appropriately and the Council also has a responsibility to enforce these restrictions in the public interest.

The Council is currently considering reviewing footway parking issues across the borough with a view to resolving these issues next financial year.