

Question: P18.02

Cabinet – 14 December 2021

Re: Agenda item 18 – Parking Permit and Tariff Review Oct 21 – Residents' Parking Schemes (RPS) and Permit Parking Areas (PPA)

Statement submitted by: Richard Clarke

In reference to Item 18 on the Agenda - Parking Permit and Tariff Review – Residents' Parking Schemes (RPS) and Permit Parking Areas (PPA) - I would like to refer the Cabinet to the misuse of 'Customer Permits' by Nuffield Health and other businesses in the Clifton Village RPZ area in flagrant breach of the BCC RPZ rules.

It states very clearly in sections 8.2 and 9.2 in the BCC Rule document that both business permits and customer permits are not to be used for staff parking i.e. the paper permits must not be issued to staff to park their cars in CV RPZ parking bays. However Nuffield Health and other businesses are issuing these permits to staff for their private commuter parking purposes. Nuffield Health issues 20+ permits each day to staff to commute and park in adjacent streets.

This malpractice not only breaks the rules of the scheme but significantly reduces parking availability for bona fide residents or their visitors. The RPZ scheme was introduced to help reduce commuter parking; Nuffield Health is by its actions helping to maintain or even grow it.

It is clear too that BCC is choosing not to enforce this rule. My fellow neighbours and I have written to the BCC officer via our councillor on several occasions and have still not received any response. Businesses in the CV area continue to break the rules of the scheme on customer permits with impunity.

For your information, my neighbours and I have now taken legal advice about initiating a Judicial Review to oblige the BCC to address this lack of enforcement of BCC's own rules.

For your information also I include the following information to support our case:

1. Mail from Parking Services (22 Sept 2021) confirming that Nuffield Health has agreed to abide by the CV RPZ Terms & Conditions (i.e. not to allocate Customer Permits to staff) - scanned copy
2. Mail from Nuffield Bristol Hospital Director to Richard Clarke (10 November 2021) confirming that Nuffield Health allocates customer parking permits to staff and asserting that BCC acknowledges and accepts this practice - scanned copy
3. RPZ Terms & Conditions - included for completeness

Let me make a simple point to close - if BCC issues rules for the PPZ scheme, then it is reasonable for honest charge-paying residents to expect BCC to enforce them. Please do so.

I look forward to the Cabinet's discussion and resolution of this matter.