

For publication

Car Parks Fees and Charges 2018/19 (TV000)

Meeting: Cabinet

Date: 30 January 2018

Cabinet portfolio: Town Centre and Visitor Economy

Report by: Town Centre Operations Manager

1.0 Purpose of report

1.1 To set the fees and charges for Car Parks for implementation from 1 April 2018.

2.0 Recommendations

2.1 That from the 1 April 2018 it will cost 70p to park up to 30 minutes, £1.40 up to 1 hour, £2.70 for up to 2 hours, £3.00 up to 3 hours and £4.40 up to 4 hours in all town centre car parks.

2.2 In all short stay/shoppers car parks, as listed in paragraph 4.1 of this report, it will cost £1.40 for each subsequent hour over 4 hours to park.

2.3 In all long stay/commuter car parks, as listed in paragraph 4.2 of this report, it will cost £5.00 to park for over 4 hours.

2.4 That all residents of the borough will continue to benefit from free parking in 2018/19 before 10am and after 3pm Monday to Saturday and all day Sunday.

- 2.5 That all advance purchase scratchcard tickets will cost £3.60 per day and are available for use only in all long stay/commuter car parks from 1 April 2018.
- 2.6 That all monthly parking tickets will cost £62 and will be available for use only in all long stay/commuter car parks from 1 April 2018.
- 2.7 That yearly parking tickets for all long stay/commuter car parks will cost £620 per annum from 1 April 2018.
- 2.8 That the price to park at Ashgate Road car park will be £2 all day from 1 April 2018.
- 2.9 That if the income target is achieved in 2018/19 there will be no increase in tariffs in 2019/20 but the prices will be reviewed for 2020/21.

3.0 **Background**

- 3.1 A review of town centre off-street parking charges was undertaken in 2015/16. This recommended various tariff changes creating a more coherent and simplistic pricing structure across both short and long stay car parks. These changes were successfully implemented on 1 April 2016.
- 3.2 It was recommended that no price increase should take place in 2017/18 however prices should be reviewed for 2018/19.

4.0 **Current Situation**

4.1 Short stay car parks are:

Location	Number of bays	Spaces for blue badges
Albion Road	30	1
Holywell Cross	255	16
Rose Hill	242	9
Soresby Street	208	14
St Mary's Gate	66	2

4.2 Long stay car parks are:

Location	Number of bays	Spaces for blue badges
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Beetwell Street	465	29
Derbyshire Times	55	0
Devonshire Street	73	0
Durrant Road	69	0
Hollis Lane	38	0
Queen's Park Annexe	43	2
Queen's Park (north)	120	3
Queen's Park (south)	43	0
Saltergate *	529	22
Spa Lane	56	0
Station Road	59	0
Theatre Lane	50	0

- Saltergate MSCP closed from 03/02/18 for a potential 12 month period.

5.0 Proposed Charges for 2018/19

5.1 The council's budget strategy is to deliver a balanced and sustainable budget. Given the forecast budget deficits it is important that all potential increases to income streams are implemented.

5.2 It is part of this strategy to seek a minimum inflationary increase of 3% on all income streams in 2018/19 or greater, but only if the market will bear it.

5.3 The existing tariffs for short stay/shoppers car parks are as follows:

- Up to 30 mins – 70p
- Up to 1 hour - £1.30
- Up to 2 hours - £2.60
- Up to 3 hours - £3.00
- Up to 4 hours - £4.30
- Each subsequent hour - £1.30

5.4 The proposed tariffs for short stay/shopper car parks are as follows, changes in bold:

- Up to 30 mins – 70p
- **Up to 1 hour - £1.40**
- **Up to 2 hours - £2.70**
- Up to 3 hours - £3.00
- **Up to 4 hours - £4.40**

- **Each subsequent hour - £1.40**

5.5 The existing tariffs for long stay/commuter car parks are as follows:

- Up to 30 mins – 70p
- Up to 1 hour - £1.30
- Up to 2 hours - £2.60
- Up to 3 hours - £3.00
- Up to 4 hours - £4.30
- 4 hours plus - £5.00

5.6 The proposed tariffs for long stay/commuter car parks are as follows, changes in bold:

- Up to 30 mins – 70p
- **Up to 1 hour - £1.40**
- **Up to 2 hours - £2.70**
- Up to 3 hours - £3.00
- **Up to 4 hours - £4.40**
- 4 hours plus - £5.00

5.7 The proposed changes to permits etc are as follows:

	Existing	Proposed
Annual Permit	£600	£620
Monthly Permit	£60	£62
Scratchcards	£3.50	£3.60
Market Trader	£2.00	£2.00
Blue Badge	£5 monthly/£50 annually	£5 monthly/£50 annually
Ashgate Road	£1 all day	£2 all day

5.8 It is not practical to alter tariffs by anything other than increments of 10p; this is because of change handling and storage within the pay stations.

5.9 The above tariff changes represent an average overall increase in parking tariffs of 4% taking into account the changes recommended.

5.10 The incentive tariffs agreed in 2016 remain unchanged; these being £3 for 3 hours on all car parks, and £5 for over 4 hours on long stay car parks. These have been created to target shoppers to dwell more in the town centre on the 3 hour tariff and to be

competitive for people who work or travel, in and from Chesterfield and park all day.

- 5.11 There are a number of existing schemes currently in use that provides free or reduced cost parking in the town centre. In particular the residents parking permit which allows free parking to Borough residents before 10am and after 3pm, Monday to Saturday, and all day on Sunday's and Bank Holidays. This is available on the majority of surface car parks in the town centre and uptake of this offer ranges from 40% to 70% on these car parks during hours of permitted use, proving its popularity. Both the scratchcard offer and monthly/annual permit offers again show continued uptake and ensure all day parking can be accessed from as little as £2.50 per day.
- 5.12 The Council is committed to providing good quality, well maintained, safe and secure parking facilities. This is evidenced through our Parkmark accreditations. The uplift in charges ensures these standards are maintained and future investment in our sites continues. The replacement Saltergate MSCP scheme and Beetwell Street MSCP repair scheme are evidence of this commitment.

6.0 **Financial Considerations**

- 6.1 The anticipated income for 2017/18 is £2,362,870; the closure of Saltergate MSCP on the 3 February 2018 has been accounted for in a reduced anticipated income for 2018/19 of £2,201,980 before any tariff changes. This includes an expected 32% displacement income from Saltergate to surface parking.
- 6.2 It is anticipated the proposed tariff increases will generate an additional £88,000 in income; as such the revised potential income for 2018/19 will be £2,290,000.

7.0 **Risk Management**

- 7.1 Income from car parks is reasonably stable under the existing tariff structure; any significant changes could result in loss of custom and negative publicity. The downturn in footfall on the High Street, both locally and nationally, remains a challenge and

is often blamed on car parking fees. Any significant tariff changes could further exacerbate this situation.

Description of Risk	Likelihood	Impact	Mitigating Action	Resultant Likelihood	Resultant Impact
Increase in charges may result in lower usage and income	M	H	Not all prices have been increased, with incentive tariffs and resident offers unchanged	L	M
Damage to Council's reputation	M	M	Proposals remain in accordance with providing competitively priced car parks and will be explained in external communications	L	L
Competitor activity	L	M	Prices reflect core location and facilities offered.	L	L

8.0 Equalities Impact Assessment (EIA)

8.1 The proposals have no negative impacts on any of the equalities groups.

9.0 Alternative Options to be Considered

9.1 That no increase in parking fees is introduced. It is felt that the proposed changes have been sensitive enough to be acceptable.

9.2 An increase of greater than 4% is introduced. It is felt that this might undermine the stable income being generated currently, particularly during a period of major disruption whilst Saltergate MSCP is demolished and re-built.

10.0 Recommendations

10.1 That from the 1 April 2018 it will cost 70p to park up to 30 minutes, £1.40 up to 1 hour, £2.70 for up to 2 hours, £3.00 up to 3 hours and £4.40 up to 4 hours in all town centre car parks.

- 10.2 In all short stay/shoppers car parks, as listed in paragraph 4.1 of this report, it will cost £1.40 for each subsequent hour over 4 hours to park.
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- 10.4 That all residents of the borough will continue to benefit from free parking in 2018/19 before 10am and after 3pm Monday to Saturday and all day Sunday.
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11.0 Reasons for Recommendations

- 11.1 To continue to support the town centre economy, providing competitively priced car parks with simple charging structures and convenient payment methods and tariffs.
- 11.2 To ensure that the council continues to receive an acceptable return on a valuable town centre asset.

Decision information

Key decision number	787
Wards affected	All

Links to Council Plan priorities	To provide value for money services
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Document information

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Appendices to the report	
Appendix A	Proposed Fees and Charges 2018-19