

OFF-STREET CAR PARKING CHARGES

To: Cambridge City Joint Area Committee

Date: 1st November 2016

From: Head of Commercial Services, Cambridge City Council

*Electoral
division(s):* All Cambridge City divisions

Purpose: To consider a package of proposals for changes to off-street car parking charges, to be implemented from 1st April 2017

Recommendation The Joint Area Committee (JAC) is recommended to :

comment and advise on a package of proposals for changes to off-street car parking charges, to be implemented from 1st April 2017 as set out in **Appendix A.**

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1. BACKGROUND

1.1 The terms of reference for the JAC include the following:-

“Advise the County Council and City Council on on-street and off-street parking charges.”

1.2 The City Council's budget for the financial year 2017/18 requires the income from car park charges to meet the operational costs and continued investment to ensure that car parking and other services funded by the Environment Committee can continue to be supported.

1.3 Proposals for changes to off-street car parking charges need to be consistent with the following strategic objectives:

- (a) To provide car access to the city centre for those who need it as part of the integrated transport and access strategy for Cambridge set out in the County Council's Local Transport Plan.
- (b) To support the vitality and viability of the city centre, particularly the business, retail and leisure sectors. The city centre car parks are particularly important to the success of the evening and night-time economy and Sunday trading.
- (c) To provide a high quality of customer service, particularly in relation to information, convenience and personal safety.
- (d) To minimise queuing in order to protect local environmental quality, minimise customer stress and reduce congestion.
- (e) To run a cost-effective service that can enable financial surpluses to be re-invested in local services and facilities.

2. POLICY PRINCIPLES

2.1 The task of setting parking charges has to balance a variety of sometimes-conflicting aims. The current proposals aim to be consistent with the above major objectives and also to contribute to the medium term objective of reducing Cambridge's carbon footprint. At the same time charges need to be consistent with policy that encourages the shift away from on-street parking to off-street parking and from car parking to Park and Ride services and other sustainable alternatives to car use. Proposals for 2017/18 aim to maintain the following particular policy principles:

- (a) To discourage long-stay parking in car parks
- (b) To maintain affordable, value for money costs for short-stay parking
- (c) Discounting the cost of parking at off-peak times, such as evenings, overnight and low peak days such as Monday and Tuesdays

- (d) To maintain differential pricing between Saturday and the other days of the week
 - (e) To maintain differential pricing on Saturday and Sunday and the other days of the week
 - (f) To maintain differential pricing between Grand Arcade and other car parks to reduce queuing
 - (g) To bring Sunday pricing in line with Saturday pricing given the very busy nature of the city on Sundays
- 2.2 The proposals for 2017/18 recognise the continuing high demand for peak time parking especially at the Grand Arcade and in Cambridge's historic centre during weekends. Charges are being set to discourage queuing and to tackle congestion at peak times where demand is greatest or indeed is growing.

3. PROPOSALS FOR 2017/18

- 3.1 The council has reinvested over £0.5m into its car parking infrastructure during 2016/17:
- (a) The past year has seen new energy-saving LED lighting installed in both the Grand Arcade and Grafton East multi-storey car parks working to reduce the carbon footprint.
 - (b) We have completed essential repairs to Park Street car park
 - (c) Delivered improved pedestrian safety and signage across the main car parks.
 - (d) We have conducted essential repairs and maintenance at Queen Anne Terrace multi-storey car park to protect and maintain the surfaces and structure.

The City Council's budget for the financial year 2017/18 also requires all services to work towards meeting increased operational costs. It also requires that other transport-related services funded by Cambridge City Council can continue to be supported.

- 3.2 In summary, Cambridge City Council's car parks cost £7.7m to operate; if shoppers' habits do not change, next year's increase in car parking charges may generate around £300K additional income. The main features of the proposals for 2017-18 are as follows:
- (a) Prices on Wednesdays, Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays at all of the multi-storey car parks will remain frozen at 2015 levels
 - (b) Prices on Mondays and Tuesdays at all multi-storey car parks are to be reduced from the current levels to those generally in line with 2012 prices; this is to make the low peak periods of the week more attractive to visitors and shoppers.

- (c) To bring Sunday pricing in line with Saturday at all multi-storey car parks to reflect the very busy nature of the city on Sundays
 - (d) Charges for evenings and overnight remain frozen at 2014 levels for all car parks
 - (e) Prices remain frozen at 2015 levels Castle Hill, Adam and Eve, Riverside and Gwydir Street car parks
 - (f) New rates for business parking are being introduced ranging from standard office hours parking during the week to 24/7 across several car parks
- 3.3 In recent years, feedback from the retail sector on parking charges has raised concerns about their perceived impact on footfall and dwell times in Cambridge shopping centres. Cambridge's car parks play a key role in supporting the vitality of the city centre, and in contributing to the experience of visitors to Cambridge. The council is mindful of these concerns and monitors car parking activity closely when preparing proposals to change its pricing structure and charging levels.
- 3.4 Evidence from this monitoring indicates that while some redistribution of demand between car parks in Cambridge may be occurring to a limited degree, the overall patterns of customer behaviour has been consistent and the volume of demand has remained relatively static in recent years. Dwell times are relatively stable from year to year, and parking demand has proven to be relatively inelastic with respect to changes in price.
- 3.5 Further work is planned to review the relationship between car parking charges on and off-street and with Park and Ride charges in order to improve the consistency of respective pricing policies in relation to overall transport policy objectives in Cambridge.

4. CONSULTATION AND ADVERTISING

- 4.1 The schedules for prices will be amended in line with the proposals in Appendix A, following a consultation exercise with key stakeholders about these changes. The City Council's Executive Councillor for Planning Policy and Transport will consider any objections to these proposals and if necessary, recommend further amendments.
- 4.2 Following this exercise final proposal will be submitted for budget approval to Cambridge's Environment Scrutiny Committee in January 2017.
- 4.3 Formal notice of amended charges will be advertised, in advance of the changes.

5. SUMMARY

- 5.1 Taken together, this package of changes maintains the strategic objectives for a differential pricing structure between Grand Arcade and other car parks, and between weekday and Saturday and Sunday parking charges. These proposals aim to meet the budget requirement of a minimum of 2.5% income growth in 2017/18. The specific proposals are set out in Appendix A.

Source Documents	Location
None	

Cambridge City Joint Area Committee

Summary of Proposals for Off Street Parking 2017/18

- (a) Prices on Wednesdays, Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays at all of the multi-storey car parks will remain frozen at 2015 levels
- (b) Prices on Mondays and Tuesdays at all multi-storey car parks are to be reduced from the current levels to those generally in line with 2012 prices; this is to make the low peak periods of the week more attractive to visitors and shoppers.
- (c) To bring Sunday pricing in line with Saturday at all multi-storey car parks to reflect the very busy nature of the city on Sundays
- (d) Charges for evenings and overnight remain frozen at 2014 levels for all car parks
- (e) Prices remain frozen at 2015 levels at Castle Hill, Adam and Eve, Riverside and Gwydir Street car parks
- (f) New rates for business parking are being introduced ranging from standard office hours parking during the week to 24/7 across several car parks

PROPOSED OFF-ST PARKING CHARGES 2017/18

MULTISTOREY CAR PARKS (Pay on foot)	2017/18		
	Mondays & Tuesdays	Wednesdays Thursdays & Fridays	Saturdays & Sundays

Grand Arcade	Mon-Tue 7am to 5pm	Wed-Fri 7am to 5pm	Sat 9am to 5pm Sundays 10am to 5pm
1hr	£2.00	£2.30	£2.60
2hrs	£4.00	£4.60	£5.10
3hrs	£6.00	£6.90	£7.60
4hrs	£8.70	£10.20	£11.70
5hrs	£19.50	£19.50	£20.50
over 5 hrs	£25.00	£25.00	£26.00
evenings & overnight	£1.20	£1.20	£1.20

Queen Anne Terrace	Mon-Tue 7am to 5pm	Wed-Fri 7am to 5pm	Sat 9am to 5pm Sundays 10am to 5pm
1hr	£1.20	£1.50	£1.50
2hrs	£2.40	£3.00	£3.00
3hrs	£3.60	£4.20	£4.20
4hrs	£4.80	£5.00	£5.00
5hrs	£6.60	£6.60	£6.60
6hrs	£10.00	£10.00	£10.00
over 6 hrs	£13.30	£13.30	£13.30
evenings & overnight	£0.80	£0.80	£0.80

Park Street	Mon-Tue 7am to 5pm	Wed-Fri 7am to 5pm	Sat 9am to 5pm Sundays 10am to 5pm
1hr	£2.00	£2.10	£2.30
2hrs	£3.50	£3.80	£4.60
3hrs	£5.00	£5.70	£6.50
4hrs	£8.00	£9.60	£10.50
5hrs	£17.00	£17.00	£18.00
over 5 hrs	£24.00	£24.00	£24.00
evenings & overnight	£0.80	£0.80	£0.80

Grafton East	Mon-Tue 7am to 5pm	Wed-Fri 7am to 5pm	Sat 9am to 5pm Sundays 10am to 5pm
1hr	£2.00	£2.10	£2.30
2hrs	£3.50	£3.60	£4.40
3hrs	£5.00	£5.60	£6.20
4hrs	£8.00	£9.20	£10.50
5hrs	£17.00	£17.00	£18.00
over 5 hrs	£24.00	£24.00	£24.00
evenings & overnight	£0.80	£0.80	£0.80

Grafton West	Mon-Tue 7am to 5pm	Wed-Fri 7am to 5pm	Sat 9am to 5pm Sundays 10am to 5pm
1hr	£2.00	£2.10	£2.30
2hrs	£3.50	£3.60	£4.40
3hrs	£5.00	£5.60	£6.20
4hrs	£8.00	£9.20	£10.50
5hrs	£17.00	£17.00	£18.00
over 5 hrs	£24.00	£24.00	£24.00
evenings & overnight	£0.80	£0.80	£0.80

SURFACE CAR PARKS

ADAM AND EVE STREET	Pay and display	Monday to Friday 8am to 7pm Saturday 9am to 7pm Sunday 10am to 5pm
Maximum stay 2 hours	2017/18	Evenings and overnight
Charges	70p for 20 mins (£2.10/hr)	Free

CASTLE HILL CAR PARK	Pay and display	Monday to Friday 8am to 7pm Saturday 9am to 7pm Sunday 10am to 5pm
Charges	2017/18	Evenings and overnight
Up to 2 hours	£2.50	Free
2-4 hours	£4.80	
over 4 hours	£8.00	
Sunday - all day charge	£4.00	
Weekly ticket (7 days)	£35.00	

GWYDIR STREET	Pay and display	Monday to Friday 8am to 5pm Saturday 9am to 5pm
Maximum stay 2 hours	2017/18	Evenings, overnight and Sundays
Charges	90p for 30 mins (£1.80/hr)	Free

RIVERSIDE CAR PARK	Pay and display	Monday to Friday 8am to 5pm Saturday 9am to 5pm
Maximum stay 8 hours	2017/18	Evenings, overnight and Sundays
Charges	50p for 30 mins (£1/hr)	Free

SEASON TICKET CHARGES - Business Permits

New rates for 2017/18

Quarterly charges inclusive of VAT	2017/18
'Night Owl' 7 days 5pm-9am (one car park*)	£187.50
24/7 Premium (Grafton car parks, Park St, Queen Anne)	£620.00
Monday-Friday 24 hour access (one car park*)	£500.00
Monday-Friday 8am -6pm (one car park*)	£400.00

Note * excluding Grand Arcade car park

A 20% discount is given for a low emission vehicles (Group A)

DISABLED BADGE HOLDERS

First three hours parking free, on production of a valid Blue Badge to the City Council at the **Grand Arcade, Park Street, Grafton East, Grafton West and Queen Anne Terrace car parks.**

At multi storey car parks durations of stay in excess of three hours the normal car park charges will apply as if from the first hour, i.e. the fourth hour will be charged as if it were the first hour, the fifth hour as if it were the second hour, etc.

Two hours free parking during charging hours when valid Blue Badge and time clock is displayed at **Adam & Eve and Gwydir street** car parks

Three hours free parking when a valid Blue Badge and time clock is displayed at **Castle Hill and Riverside car park**