

OFF-STREET CAR PARKING CHARGES

To: Cambridge City Joint Area Committee

Date: 18 November 2014

From: Head of Specialist Services, Cambridge City Council

Electoral division(s): All

Purpose: To consider a package of proposals for changes to off-street car parking charges, to be implemented from 1st April 2015

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 2015 as set out in Appendix A.

Officer contact:

Name: Paul Necus
Post: Head of Specialist Services
Email: paul.necus@cambridge.gov.uk
Tel: 01223 458510

1. BACKGROUND

1.1. The terms of reference for the Joint Area Committee 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 2015/16 requires increased income from car park charges to meet increased 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:

- 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.
- 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 nighttime economy, and Sunday trading.
- To provide a high quality of customer service, particularly in relation to information, convenience and personal safety.
- To minimise queuing in order to protect local environmental quality, minimise customer stress and reduce congestion.
- To run a cost-effective service that can enable financial surpluses to be re-invested in local services and facilities.

1.2. Policy Principles

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 2015/16 aim to maintain the following particular policy principles:

- To discourage long-stay parking in car parks
- To maintain affordable, value for money costs for short-stay parking
- To encourage use of car parking at off-peak times such as early evening
- To maintain differential pricing between Saturday and the other days of the week
- To maintain differential pricing between Grand Arcade and other car parks to manage and reduce queuing.
- To bring Sunday pricing more in line with weekdays pricing given the very busy nature of the city on Sundays.

2. PROPOSALS FOR 2015/16

- 2.1. The past year has seen a package of investment on the city's car parks. New pay machines and control equipment have been installed in the Grand arcade car park, and a network upgrade now provides a more resilient IT infrastructure to link the Grand Arcade with the other city centre multi-storey car parks. In the Annex car park of the Grand Arcade, staircases have been refurbished and new LED lighting installed. Essential works are being carried out to Park Street and Queen Anne terrace car parks this year to repair and maintain the structure, including a redesign of the entrance at Queen Anne Terrace. Additional security fencing has been installed at the Grafton East car park and lining and signage improvements made at Grafton West and at the Grand Arcade main car park.
- 2.2. Overall the proposed changes for 2015/16 are based on current forecasts of demand and represent an average increase of approximately 2.5% on current prices, in line with the current rate of price inflation assumed in the City Council's Mid-term Financial Review (MFR).
- 2.3. The proposals set out below are consistent with the above policy principles and with recent changes on the street where Sunday charges have been revised in certain areas of the city centre.
- 2.4. 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.
- 2.5. 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. The overall volume of cars parking in Cambridge's car parks in 2013/14 (2.4m) is equivalent to the demand in 2009/10.
- 2.6. 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.

3. CONSULTATION AND ADVERTISING

- 3.1. 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.

- 3.2. Following this exercise, final proposals will be submitted for budget approval to Cambridge's Environment Scrutiny Committee in January 2015.
- 3.3. Formal notice of amended charges will be advertised, in advance of the changes.

4. SUMMARY

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 parking charges, and is consistent with recent on-street changes in Cambridge. These proposals aim to meet the budget requirement of a minimum of 2.5% income growth in 2015/16. The specific proposals are set out in **Appendix A**.

Cambridge City Joint Area Committee 28 October 2014

Summary of Proposals for Off Street Parking 2015/16

1. **No changes**

- Evening and overnight parking prices
- Sunday parking charges
- Riverside pay and display car park charges
- Night Owl Season ticket parking rates
- Weekly ticket prices at Castle Hill car park
- Charges for Blue Badge holders, who will continue to receive three hours free parking at all multi-storey car parks.

2. **Weekday parking charges**

- At the Grand Arcade it will cost an extra 10p if you stay for one, two or three hours, 20p more if you stay for four hours and 50p more if you stay for five hours.
- At Queen Anne Terrace prices rise by 10p per hour for the first three hours. Four hours' parking will cost 10p more, and for stays of more than six hours the charge will go up by 30pence
- At Park Street car park it will cost an extra 10p if you stay for one, two three or four hours.
- At the Grafton Centre car parks it will cost an extra 10p if you stay for one, three or four hours (the cost of two hours' parking is unchanged), and 50p more if you park for up five hours.
- The cost of parking at Adam and Eve car park increases by 10p per hour.
- It will cost 30p more to park at Castle Hill for up to four hours (other charges are unchanged).

3. **Saturday Charges**

- At the Grand Arcade it will cost an extra 10p if you stay for one, two or three hours, 20p more if you stay for four hours and 50p more if you stay for five hours.
- At Queen Anne Terrace prices rise by 10p per hour for the first three hours. Four hours' parking will cost 10p more, and for stays of more than six hours the charge will go up by 30p.
- At Park Street and the Grafton Centre car parks it will cost an extra 10p if you stay for one, two three or four hours and 50p more if you park for up five hours.
- The cost of parking at Adam and Eve car park increases by 10p per hour.
- It will cost 30p more to park at Castle Hill for up to four hours (other charges are unchanged).
- Gwydir Street increases by 20p per hour

4. **Season tickets.** Season ticket prices for 2015/16 increase by £10 per quarter for 24-hour and office hours permits.

PROPOSED OFF-ST PARKING CHARGES 2015/16

MULTISTOREY CAR PARKS (Pay on foot)	2015/16	2015/16	2014/15	2014/15	2015/16	2015/16
	Weekdays	Saturdays	Weekdays	Saturdays		
	Mon-Fri 8am to 5pm	Sat 9am to 5pm	Mon-Fri 8am to 5pm	Sat 9am to 5pm	% change (Weekday)	% change (Saturday)
Grand Arcade						
1hr	£2.30	£2.60	£2.20	£2.50	4.5%	4.0%
2hrs	£4.60	£5.10	£4.50	£5.00	2.2%	2.0%
3hrs	£6.90	£7.60	£6.80	£7.50	1.5%	1.3%
4hrs	£10.20	£11.70	£10.00	£11.50	2.0%	1.7%
5hrs	£19.50	£20.50	£19.00	£20.00	2.6%	2.5%
over 5 hrs	£25.00	£26.00	£25.00	£26.00	0.0%	0.0%
evenings & overnight	£1.20	£1.20	£1.20	£1.20	0.0%	0.0%

	Mon-Fri 8am to 5pm	Sat 9am to 5pm	Mon-Fri 8am to 5pm	Sat 9am to 5pm	% change (Weekday)	% change (Saturday)
Queen Anne Terrace						
1hr	£1.50	£1.50	£1.40	£1.40	7.1%	7.1%
2hrs	£3.00	£3.00	£2.80	£2.80	7.1%	7.1%
3hrs	£4.20	£4.20	£4.00	£4.00	5.0%	5.0%
4hrs	£5.00	£5.00	£5.00	£5.00	0.0%	0.0%
5hrs	£6.60	£6.60	£6.50	£6.50	1.5%	1.5%
6hrs	£10.00	£10.00	£10.00	£10.00	0.0%	0.0%
over 6 hrs	£13.30	£13.30	£13.00	£13.00	2.3%	2.3%
evenings & overnight	£0.80	£0.80	£0.80	£0.80	0.0%	0.0%

	Mon-Fri 8am to 5pm	Sat 9am to 5pm	Mon-Fri 8am to 5pm	Sat 9am to 5pm	% change (Weekday)	% change (Saturday)
Park Street						
1hr	£2.10	£2.30	£2.00	£2.20	5.0%	4.5%
2hrs	£3.80	£4.60	£3.70	£4.50	2.7%	2.2%
3hrs	£5.70	£6.50	£5.60	£6.40	1.8%	1.6%
4hrs	£9.60	£10.50	£9.50	£10.40	1.1%	1.0%
5hrs	£17.00	£18.00	£17.00	£17.50	0.0%	2.9%
over 5 hrs	£24.00	£24.00	£24.00	£24.00	0.0%	0.0%
evenings & overnight	£0.80	£0.80	£0.80	£0.80	0.0%	0.0%

	Mon-Fri 8am to 5pm	Sat 9am to 5pm	Mon-Fri 8am to 5pm	Sat 9am to 5pm	% change (Weekday)	% change (Saturday)
Grafton East						
1hr	£2.10	£2.30	£2.00	£2.20	5.0%	4.5%
2hrs	£3.60	£4.40	£3.60	£4.30	0.0%	2.3%
3hrs	£5.60	£6.20	£5.50	£6.10	1.8%	1.6%
4hrs	£9.20	£10.50	£9.10	£10.40	1.1%	1.0%
5hrs	£17.00	£18.00	£16.50	£17.50	3.0%	2.9%
over 5 hrs	£24.00	£24.00	£24.00	£24.00	0.0%	0.0%
evenings & overnight	£0.80	£0.80	£0.80	£0.80	0.0%	0.0%

	Mon-Fri 8am to 5pm	Sat 9am to 5pm	Mon-Fri 8am to 5pm	Sat 9am to 5pm	% change (Weekday)	% change (Saturday)
Grafton West						
1hr	£2.10	£2.30	£2.00	£2.20	5.0%	4.5%
2hrs	£3.60	£4.40	£3.60	£4.30	0.0%	2.3%
3hrs	£5.60	£6.20	£5.50	£6.10	1.8%	1.6%
4hrs	£9.20	£10.50	£9.10	£10.40	1.1%	1.0%
5hrs	£17.00	£18.00	£16.50	£17.50	3.0%	2.9%
over 5 hrs	£24.00	£24.00	£24.00	£24.00	0.0%	0.0%
evenings & overnight	£0.80	£0.80	£0.80	£0.80	0.0%	0.0%

Sundays

Price per hour Sundays 10am to 5pm	2015/16	2014/15	% change
Grand Arcade	£2.00	£2.00	0.0%
Queen Anne Terrace	£1.20	£1.20	0.0%
Park Street	£2.00	£2.00	0.0%
Grafton East	£2.00	£2.00	0.0%
Grafton West	£2.00	£2.00	0.0%

SURFACE CAR PARKS

ADAM AND EVE STREET Monday to Friday 8am to 7pm Monday to Saturday 9am to 7pm Sunday 10am to 5pm		Pay and display			
Maximum stay 2 hours	2015/16	2014/15		% change	Evenings and overnight
Charges	70p for 20 mins (£2.10/hr)	£1 for 30 mins (£2/hr)		5.0%	Free

CASTLE HILL CAR PARK Monday to Friday 8am to 7pm Saturday 9am to 7pm Sunday 10am to 5pm		Pay and display			
Charges	2015/16	2014/15		% change	Evenings and overnight
Up to 2 hours	£2.50	£2.50		0.0%	Free
2-4 hours	£4.80	£4.50		6.7%	
over 4 hours	£8.00	£8.00		0.0%	
Sunday - all day charge	£4.00	£4.00		0.0%	
Weekly ticket (7 days) NEW	£35.00	£35.00		0.0%	

GWYDIR STREET Monday to Friday 8am to 5pm Saturday 9am to 5pm		Pay and display			
Maximum stay 2 hours	2015/16	2014/15		% change	Evenings, overnight and Sundays
Charges	90p for 30 mins (£1.80/hr)	80p for 30 mins (£1.60/hr)		12.5%	Free

RIVERSIDE CAR PARK Monday to Friday 8am to 5pm Saturday 9am to 5pm		Pay and display			
Maximum stay 8 hours	2015/16	2014/15		% change	Evenings, overnight and Sundays
Charges	50p for 30 mins (£1/hr)	50p for 30 mins (£1/hr)		0.00%	Free

SEASON TICKET CHARGES - Business Permits

New rates for 2015/16

New Options for Park Street Queen Anne and Grafton Centre car parks	Quarterly fee inclusive of VAT (15/16)	Quarterly fee inclusive of VAT (14/15)	% change	20% Discount for low emission [Group A]	Discounted fee (15/16)
'Night Owl' 7 days 5pm-9am (one car park*)	£187.50	£187.50	0.0%	£37.50	£150.00
24/7 Premium (Grafton car parks, Park St, Queen Anne)	£460.00	£450.00	2.2%	£92.00	£368.00
Monday-Friday 24/7 access (one car park*)	£430.00	£420.00	2.4%	£86.00	£344.00
Monday-Friday 8am -6pm (one car park*)	£335.00	£325.00	3.1%	£67.00	£268.00

Note * excluding Grand Arcade car park

DISABLED BADGE HOLDERS

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

Three hours free parking between 8am and 7pm Monday to Friday , between 9am and 7pm on Saturday at Adam and Eve Street car park on display of a valid Blue Badge.

Three hours free parking between 8am and 7pm Monday to Friday ,between 9am and 7pm on Saturday and between 10am and 5pm on Sundays at Castle Hill car park on display of a valid Blue Badge.

Three hours free parking between 8am and 5pm Monday to Friday , between 9am and 5pm Saturday at Gwydir Street and Riverside car parks, on display of a valid Blue Badge

For 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.

At all other times the normal car park charges will apply.