



Scoping for Parking Strategy

The parking strategy is seen as an integral part of the Council's strategic economic growth plan for the town centres as well as part of the holistic asset management strategy.

There are 2 main towns in Harborough district, Market Harborough and Lutterworth with additional sizable villages such as Broughton Astley, Fleckney and Kibworth along with a number of small rural settlements.

The Council owned car parks in Market Harborough are all pay and display and are a mixture of long and short stay. In Lutterworth the car parks are pay and display however there is 2 hours free parking in the town. There are also a number of free rural car parks throughout the district. The size and usage of all of the rural car parks varies depending on the location. Where charges apply to a car park, pay and display systems are in use and the current charging structure can be found in appendix 2

Location	Short stay (spaces)	Long stay (spaces)	Rural
Market Harborough	8 (1268)	5 (223)	N/A
Lutterworth	3 (162)	1 (18)	N/A
Rural	N/A	N/A	14

Permits are available for car parks in Market Harborough and Lutterworth

The Council's current strategy was approved in 2007 and covers the period up to 2016 however the strategy and action plan needs reviewing to reflect present day issues.

In 2013 the Council provided free parking for the Saturdays in December for the run up to Christmas. Consideration is required to repeat this initiative again and look to see what the impact would be to extend it to cover other events in the district.

The Council is looking to encourage town centre growth and regeneration including the use of its current car parks in line with the Council's Asset Management Strategy whilst retaining the right mix of long and short stay parking within the town centre.

In general the strategy should consider the following:

1. Study on current car park usage including spare capacity and predictions of future use
2. Impact of free parking for Christmas and other events
3. Impact on the introduction of 1 hour stay
4. Study on the current mix of car parks – long and short stay, location, rural Carparking etc
5. Potential coach parking in the town centre

6. Car park asset management
7. Benchmarking on parking fees
8. Investigation on alternative payment methods
9. Signage.

General Approach

Procurement is required to appoint a consultant to undertake the renewal of the Parking Strategy for each Local Authority based on the following criteria.

- 1. A review of the current situation regarding the Council's car parks, to include –**
 - a. Location (context, facilities), size and type of usage (long/short stay).
 - b. Usage levels Inc. survey of car park users and non-users
 - c. Review whether capacity and existing controls are appropriate for each car park, taking future needs into account
 - c. Pricing strategy, and its relationship to on-street parking and to the Council's transport and economic development policies and benchmarking data.
 - d. Income and costs
 - e. Car park condition survey
- 2. Management –**
 - a. Current operating methods including equipment and alternative (cashless) payment methods.
 - b. Designation between long and short stay use – the right mix in the right location.
 - c. Costs and effectiveness of current enforcement system.
 - d. Whether to continue to provide car park management directly or to engage a third party.
 - e. With regards Town Centre management identify whether alternative uses would be more appropriate for some sites, whilst retaining sufficient overall provision.
 - f. Develop guidelines for temporary closures of car parks for charitable and business purposes or other events.
- 3. Review of Parking Strategy –**

The data collected in 1 and 2 above to be used to update (or create) the existing Parking Strategy document, as will the following:

 - a. Review of local and national policies and practises (national guidance, local development framework, local transport plan, town centre plans etc.)
 - b. Assessment of the likely effects of future development on provision or loss of car parks
 - c. The future forecast of car park usage
 - d. Potential other sources of income through car park usage.
 - e. Examples of good practise from elsewhere
 - f. Consultation with stakeholders
- 4. Assess the whole of the district to identify possible opportunities for the Council:-**
 - a. To undertake parking enforcement on behalf of other bodies
 - b. To undertake ticket machine maintenance on behalf of other bodies
- 5. Prepare a report setting out the results of the review and develop action plan and monitoring plan for each authority including short, medium and long term actions**

Car Parking Charging Structure for Harborough District Council

NEW PARKING CHARGES FROM 01 APRIL 2012

If customers calls in after the 01 April 2012, to report they have put an amount in a meter and have not got a ticket at all, or have not got a ticket for the time they expected, it is likely that they may not have put in the correct amount of money in accordance with the new charging regime (see below).

Where this happens, customers should be advised to refer to the new tariff rates which are provided on the parking meter inserts and on the surrounding car park signage. Where a ticket has not been issued, the customer will need to re-enter enough money in accordance with the new charges to get a ticket to cover the time they require.

Where the customer has a ticket but it does not cover the time period they expected, they will need to purchase an additional ticket to cover the extra time they want to remain in the car park and display both tickets together (e.g. wanted to park for over 4 hours in long stay car park, put in old rate of £2.00 (would give them ticket for up to 4 hours as new charges from 01.04.12 are £2.20 for over 4 hours), would need to then purchase another £1.20 ticket (up to 4 hours) and display both tickets together).

Authorisation to park without displaying the relevant ticket(s) should not be granted in these circumstances.

Short Stay Pay & Display Car Parks – Market Harborough	New Charge - Monday to Saturday including Public Holidays
Doddridge Road Car Park King's Head Place Car Park Market Hall Car Park Mill Hill Car Park (Saturdays & Public Holidays) Springfield Retail Park incorporating Sainsbury's & Kandahar (Springfield) Sarl Car Parks St Mary's Road West Car Park Symington Way Car Park The Commons Car Park	Up to 2 hours - £0.70 Up to 3 hours - £1.20 Up to 4 hours - £1.70 Over 4 hours - £3.20
Long Stay Pay & Display Car Parks – Market Harborough	New Charge - Monday to Saturday including Public Holidays
Angel Street Car Park Doddridge Road Car Park Springfield Street Car Park St Mary's Road East Car Park	Up to 4 hours - £1.20 Over 4 hours - £2.20
Short Stay Pay & Display Car Parks - Lutterworth	New Charge - Monday to Saturday including Public Holidays
Chapel Street Car Park George Street Car Park Station Road Car Park	Up to 1 hour - Free Up to 2 hours - £0.70 Up to 3 hours - £1.20 Up to 4 hours - £1.70 Over 4 hours - £ 3.20
Long Stay Pay & Display Car Parks - Lutterworth	New Charge - Monday to Saturday including Public Holidays
Church Close Car Park	Up to 1 hour - Free Up to 4 hours - £1.20 Over 4 hours - £2.20

PERMIT PRICES

A limited number of parking permits will be available to purchase on an annual, half yearly or quarterly basis on certain car parks at the following prices:-

Permit Type	Short Stay Car Park Permit - New Price from 01 April 2012			Long Stay Car Park Permit - New Price from 01 April 2012		
	Annual	Half Yearly	Quarterly	Annual	Half Yearly	Quarterly
3 day	£281.48	£143.24	£74.12	£195.08	£100.04	£52.52
5 day	£465.80	£235.40	£120.20	£321.80	£163.40	£84.20
6 day	£557.96	£281.48	£143.24	£385.16	£195.08	£100.04