

Parking Services – Fees and Charges Review*

Principles for Services where the Council is free to set its tariffs							
Fee description	Any subsidy from council taxpayers to the service users should be a deliberate choice	Discretionary fees and charges should generate income to help deliver service improvements in priority services	Discretionary fees and charges should help support the medium term financial strategy	There should be a measure of consistency in the setting of charges for similar services	Fees and charges should be set at a level to avoid unnecessary subsidies from the council taxpayer to commercial operations	If the impact of the fees and charges policy is going to be high, consideration should be given to changes being phased in	Comments
Pay and display charges	The council chooses not to require the council taxpayer to subsidise the provision and use of car parks.	Surpluses accrue to the general fund and are used (in part) to offset the cost of the Civil Parking Enforcement element of the service.	The charges do help support the MTFP.	There is no similar service within East Herts. (Consistency with other local authorities is confirmed through benchmarking).	The car parks are not run or maintained by a commercial operation.	N/A. Fees and charges are changed incrementally each year. The principle of charging is long established.	
Resident parking permits	There is an initial subsidy in respect of the implementation of new schemes. Payback occurs over time (typically 5 years +) through the sale of permits and vouchers.	The implementation and administration of resident permit schemes does not generate a surplus.	N/A	There is no similar service.	N/A	N/A	

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Parking Dispensations	The introduction of an administrative charge for this service in 2009/10 confirms that the Council does not wish the administration of this service to be subsidised by the council taxpayer.	The charge covers the cost of administration of this service and does not generate a surplus to be used elsewhere.	N/A	There is no similar service. Consistency with charges across neighbouring local authorities was established through benchmarking.	N/A	N/A	

*Based on principles agreed in the "Fees and Charges Strategy Report" agreed by the Executive on 9 September 2008.