

EAST HERTS COUNCIL

COUNCIL – 30 JULY 2014

PETITION

The following petition, comprising 2,011 signatures, has been submitted by Laura Sleight, a Hertford resident:

For years, Hertford residents who rely on council run car parks have faced a parking postcode lottery. Some are issued residents' permits for only £36 per year while others are forced to buy daily tickets costing up to £1,400 a year.

Now, East Herts Council wants to introduce evening charges (£1 from 4-10 pm, except all day tickets), costing residents and others up to £260 a year.

The changes are proposed for Hertford, Ware and Bishop's Stortford and they're due to launch a consultation in May to gather public views. We need to act NOW!

Evening charges would be BAD for visitors, BAD for local businesses and even WORSE for residents.

If you care about the rights of local people in Hertfordshire, please sign the petition to show that we have a voice.

Notes

1. The Council operates a petitions scheme in accordance with the provisions of the Local Democracy, Economic Development and Construction Act 2009.
2. The relevant extract from the Council's Rules of Procedure is set out:

If a petition contains more than 1,355 signatures (1% of the local population) it will be debated by the full Council unless it is a petition asking for a senior Council officer to give evidence at a public meeting. This means that the issue raised in a petition will be discussed at a meeting which all Councillors can attend. The organiser of a petition will be given five minutes to present their petition at the meeting and the petition will then be discussed by Councillors for a maximum of 15 minutes. Council will decide how to respond to a petition at this meeting. They may decide to take the action a petition requests, not to take the action requested for reasons put forward in the debate, or to commission further investigation into the matter, for example by a relevant Committee. A petition organiser will receive written confirmation of this decision.

3. Members are asked to note that the proposed changes to car parks and objections/comments received as part of the consultation on the Traffic Regulation Order (TRO) are the subject of a report to the Executive, scheduled for consideration on 5 August 2014. This petition will be reported to that meeting, as will a summary of comments made at Council. It is for the Executive to determine whether or not to implement (or amend) the proposed car parking changes. Although Council may debate the issues raised by the petition, it cannot determine the TRO, which is an Executive function.