

Objections Grouped by theme	East Herts - Mitigation Measure or Reason to Overrule
The method of consultation was unfair and not transparent	The consultation was fully compliant. East Herts Council officers arranged for notices to be displayed in the car park and provided adequate opportunity for comments and objections from Thursday 3 August to Friday 15 September. This is more than the 21 day statutory period.
It will drive customers away from the High Street	The proposed tariff structure will benefit businesses by encouraging higher vehicle turnover and would enable visitors to park and explore Stanstead Abbots. Currently due to the free car parking some bays are not available for general use as cars are parked for extended periods which means a lower turnover and less visitors to the High Street.
It will damage local trade and impact on the viability of local businesses	The parking options offered in the council's proposal include 30 minutes free parking and a range of tariffs to ensure that the parking places are well regulated.
It will impact local residents who have little or no parking	Residents should arrange to park their vehicles on the public highway or off street in a manner that complies with the controls in place and in accordance with the Highway Code. There is no statutory duty on East Herts Council to provide off street parking to residents. The original proposal's chargeable hours (07.30am to 8.00pm) will be reduced to 07.30am to 6.30pm to reduce the impact on residents. The 30-minute free parking available will allow residents to park for free outside of the chargeable period: 8.00am to 6.00pm.

<p>It will discriminate against local and High Street residents with no parking</p>	<p>Historically the car park has operated on Pay and Display basis where the customer pays. This charging structure was removed when the local corporate sponsor (French & Jupps) became involved and paid a direct contribution to the council. East Herts is not obligated to provide parking for residents. It is the responsibility of residents to consider the parking options available. The council operates on the basis that the user pays for the service provided. There are no special rates applied for residents within East Herts.</p>
<p>It will lead to congestion in surrounding roads</p>	<p>Motorists must comply with the relevant parking controls and Highway Code guidance. Hertfordshire County Council (the Highway Authority) is responsible for safety related assessments and funding to introduce any new parking controls such as double yellow lines. East Herts council will monitor any changes locally and liaise with the Highway Authority directly.</p>
<p>It will reduce footfall in Stanstead Abbots</p>	<p>A well-regulated car park will ensure capacity for shoppers and visitors. Parking charges apply in all other East Herts car parks, including in large capacity and high occupancy car parks, some serving shopping centres in Hertford and Bishop's Stortford.</p>
<p>The 'All Day' parking tariff will make it impossible for residents to keep their cars</p>	<p>Residents must arrange to park their vehicles on or off street in a manner that complies with the controls in place or make suitable arrangements.</p>

<p>It will make it unaffordable for local workers to pay to park</p>	<p>There is no guarantee of free parking for motorists. The council has a policy in place that the driver should contribute towards the parking service provided. It is therefore not appropriate for taxpayers to subsidise parking to the detriment of other services.</p>
<p>The charges are excessive and out of keeping with the rural feel of a small village</p>	<p>The council believes the pricing structure is appropriate for this busy High Street to ensure the appropriate management and turnover of parking spaces.</p>
<p>Residents without parking cannot afford £1,500 annually to park their vehicle</p>	<p>There is no duty on East Herts to provide parking to residents. It is the responsibility of residents to consider the parking options available. The car park has for an extended period been subsidised by the local sponsor French & Jupps corporate. This arrangement ended and therefore it is reasonable and appropriate to seek payment from the user of the service, including residents.</p>
<p>It will negatively impact the local community</p>	<p>A well-regulated car park will ensure adequate capacity for residents, shoppers, visitors and business owners.</p>
<p>Reduction from the current 3 hours free to 30 minutes is an error of judgement</p>	<p>30 minutes is considered adequate to cater for short term parking demands. Additional time may be purchased (1,2,3,4,5 and All Day) to cater for a variety of needs.</p>
<p>An inconvenience for residents to pay to park daily. Reduced cost residents' permits sought</p>	<p>The council has not offered residents the option of permit parking in the proposal. Residents must arrange to park their vehicles in the car park in a manner that complies with the controls in place.</p>

<p>An additional financial burden during the Cost of Living time</p>	<p>East Herts Council incurs operating costs in this car park including CCTV, cleansing, enforcement, and maintenance. It is financially essential that East Herts Council receives an income in the form of contributions from those customers using the service.</p>
<p>Any changes to the car park should prioritise the needs and concerns of residents</p>	<p>There is no statutory duty for East Herts to provide free parking. The proposal seeks to balance the needs of all car park customers and to provide a tariff structure that enables the efficient and effective use of the facility.</p>
<p>30 minutes free parking proposed is inadequate for customers visiting beauty salons</p>	<p>Customers may pay to park for 1 or more hours should they wish. Relative to the cost of beauty treatments, the tariffs are considered reasonable and unlikely to deter visitors. Customers will have the option to use the 'Check in & Check out' facility that is currently available via the pay and display machines. This feature allows the customer to park and on return to pay for the time that they have used (to the nearest hour).</p>
<p>Elderly people will find it difficult to use public transport as it is unreliable currently</p>	<p>The new parking charges will not deter or prevent elderly people from using the car park. Elderly people will have the option to drive and pay to park in the car park for more than the 30 minutes free parking time offered. Blue badge holders can park without charge.</p>