

Appendix F: Comments from the Overview and Scrutiny Committee

Comment from Committee	Reasons from the Committee	Executive Member/Officer Comment	Recommended Action
For Bell Street car park there is an increase over 50% of the current price. Calculations for this car park were requested.	O&S member discussion and comments	The strategy seeks to re-balance and re-define parking charges across the district. Prices in Bell Street car park were abnormally low previously. When the uplift is applied there is potentially an increase in income of approx. £17.5k should transactions be similar to previous years.	A review of all “local car parks” will be considered as part of future developments where it requires further statutory public consultation. No change to pricing proposed following this comment.
Including weekend charging for High Street in Stanstead Abbots doesn't seem to be fairer for residents.	As above	There is no increase in charging at High Street car park (Mon to Sat), there is actually a decrease. Weekend charging has been reviewed, Sundays and public holidays will remain at £1.50 for April 2025 – March 2026.	As above
Library Car park re-naming	As above	Motorists are aware of the car park despite this being out of context of the library no longer being occupied. On balance it is not considered a priority with current resources and plans.	No action
Machines are ageing – they need to be maintained	As above	We are aware of issues with some of our machines and there is an action in the strategy which commits us to: <i>BA9 Conduct a district-wide review of the functionality and operability of all pay and display machines.</i>	Action already covered in strategy action plan.

Need to consider bike storage in car parks	As above	There are live discussions already about some of our car parks being used for bike storage. Car parks will be included in the following action in the strategy. <i>AA1 Promote the use of cycling by improving cycling infrastructure and storage throughout East Herts.</i>	As above
Need to thoroughly consider and review free 30mins parking	As above	This will be picked up as part of a statutory public consultation prior to making any decisions on implementation.	As above
Concept of strategy can be supported. Elm road is priced high however businesses and local workers cannot access Northgate End Car park before 7am.	As above	The price for Elm Road will be reduced from £7.80 to £5 for the all-day rate for April 2025 to March 2026 to support the use of outer town parks to release pressure on short stay inner town centre car parks – previously described as differential parking rates.	We will explore the issues around opening times for NGE
Crown Terrace is near the Hockerill Air Quality Management Area (AQMA). The tariff structure doesn't support the concept of reducing congestion and improving air quality.	As above	This will be explored further with the parking team. Any proposals that require more dynamic pricing would require a long lead in time.	To review tariff structure in the medium term.
RPZ update /timescales	As above	A review has been concluded and officers will consider this in the wider context the strategy. The review can be found in Appendix G. The policy position will be update in the short to medium term.	No further action

<p>Reductions for local people should be considered</p>	<p>As above</p>	<p>The proposals seek to re-balance car parking tariffs based on a new set of principles which recognise the differences in the use and function of car parks. For instance, there is a reduction proposed charges in Stanstead Abbots and price freezes in other areas to reflect the needs which reflect the re-categorisation of car parks.</p> <p>A general reduction for local people does not sit in line with the strategy however we are aware there are some car parks that predominantly serve local people as opposed to workers and visitors. The strategy considers this.</p>	<p>No action</p>
<p>RPZ should be considered for Buntingford</p>	<p>As above</p>	<p>There is a process in place for residents to request an RPZ, this can be found on the Council website.</p>	<p>No action</p>
<p>Concerns around the sale/disposal or commercialisation of car parks</p>	<p>As above</p>	<p>There is currently an over capacity issue in Bishop's Stortford with NGE unoccupied on 2-3 floors at any given time. We have an action that allows us to explore rationalisation should it be required. This is important to ensure we are maximising the use of our assets and minimising on going revenue costs.</p> <p><i>BA2 Review parking tariffs to maximise the use of under-utilised car parks and rationalise car parking where appropriate.</i></p>	<p>No Action</p>

Affordability of emissions-based parking	As above	This featured in the feedback from residents during the engagement sessions. A number of authorities are already doing this for their permit schemes, additional charges range from £3 to £22 a month depending on CO2 emissions in some authorities.	We haven't made a decision on this but would like to explore this through public consultation further.
Check in and check out continues to be positively received	As above	None	No action
Weight of vehicles to be explored.	As above	Size is included	To be considered by officers
Promote Electric charging of NGE	As above	Agreed	To be actioned by officers
More information on car-pooling and car clubs	As above	It is included as a longer-term aspiration to manage officer resources	No action
Promote carers parking more	As above	Agreed	To be actioned by officers – for clarity this is for RPZ schemes
Blue badge charging concerns and displacement.	As above	To be explored as part of wider public consultation on parking initiatives. Displacement onto roads will be considered as part of decision making.	Included in plan for exploration

Consideration of growth through Stanstead Airport developments	As Above	Though this is not part of the strategy we believe there is enough in the strategy to explore any displacement of vehicles parking in the district.	Officers to monitor
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