

Report of: The Transport & Parking Business Manager

To: Executive Board

Date: 19<sup>th</sup> March 2007

Item No:

Title of Report : Changes To The Daytime Parking Period and Parking  
Tariffs in the City centre car parks.



### Summary and Recommendations



Purpose of report: To change the start time of the evening charge at  
City centre car parks and to increase some of the  
parking tariffs in the city centre car parks.



Key decision: YES

Portfolio Holder: Councillor Jean Fooks

Scrutiny Responsibility: Finance Scrutiny Committee



Ward(s) affected: Carfax

Report Approved by: Councillor Jean Fooks – Portfolio Holder  
Christopher Kaye – Financial and Asset  
Management



Jeremy Franklin – Legal and Democratic Services



Policy Framework: To improve the environment in which we live,  
improving transport and mobility, reducing  
pollution and improving air quality and maintaining  
financial stability.



Recommendation(s):

1. To change the start time of the evening charge at the Westgate,  
Worcester Street, Gloucester Green Underground, Abbey Place and  
Expens car parks from 6.30pm to 8.00pm
2. To approve the change in tariffs as listed in Appendix 1
3. Formally consult with the County Council and seek its views on the



**proposed option**

- 4. Note that the Head of Legal and Democratic Services has delegated powers to promote off-street parking place Orders and that the Transport and Parking Business Manager has delegated powers to negotiate and determine minor points of objection in relation to advertised car park proposals, and that the delegated powers would be used for the proposals in this report.**

## **SUMMARY**

1. This report proposes changing the start time of evening charges and increase some of the parking tariffs at the Westgate, Worcester Street, Gloucester Green Underground, Abbey Place and Oxpens car parks

## **COUNCIL'S VISION**

2. The proposal supports the Council's vision by improving transport and Mobility, maintaining financial stability, reducing pollution and assisting in improving air quality within the City centre.

## **BACKGROUND**

3. Tariffs were last changed in November 2006 when there was a general increase in the Monday to Sunday daytime and evening tariffs.

## **JUSTIFICATION FOR AN INCREASE IN TARIFFS**

4. As a general rule local authorities should set fees and charges to cover the cost of service provision plus a prudent margin of excess. The exception to this is where charges are set to secure a particular policy objective, when a greater surplus may be budgeted for. In seeking to impose these increases the Council is promoting and achieving the Council's Vision (paragraph 2.1) and the Oxford Transport Strategy (paragraph 4.2).
5. The Oxford Transport Strategy has been endorsed jointly by this Council and the County Council and, put simply, seeks to encourage owners of private vehicles to use other means of transport and to deter commuter or long term parking in the Council's car parks.
6. The increase in some tariff charges is in line with the Retail Price Index since April 2006.
7. The evening charge start time is already at 8.00pm at the Union Street and St Clements car parks and was changed to this time to reflect that shopping hours now extend in many locations to this time. This proposal will bring the City centre car parks in line with this timing period. Council for its part, in the context of the Budget, has agreed that all off-street car parks daytime charges should operate until 8.00pm. Reports will be submitted to area committees for the suburban car parks. The Board is responsible for



the Central Area car parks.

## **PROPOSAL**

8. This report proposes changing the start time of evening charges at the Westgate, Worcester Street, Gloucester Green Underground, Abbey Place and Oxpens car parks from 6.30pm to 8.00pm.
9. Included in the City Council budget for 2007/08 is an increase in general tariffs in line with inflation and the new tariffs are shown in Appendix 1. However, it is more convenient for the public to have tariffs in multiples of 10p, so it is proposed to round them as shown, which new tariffs are estimated, on the basis of usage continuing in the current pattern. These increases would meet the budget requirement agreed at Full Council on February 12<sup>th</sup> 2007.

## **FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

10. This proposed increase in income has been included in the 2007/08 budget process. The estimated additional income in 2007/08 for the change in the evening charge period will be £132K and £143K in a full year. The estimated additional income in 2007/08 for the tariff increases will be £91K and £100K in a full year.
11. The implementation of the increased charges should be during May 2007.

## **PROCEDURES**

12. The Council must promote a car park variation order to change the time period of the daytime charges We are proposing to alter the basis of the charge and not the charge itself. The Order making procedure involves consulting the County Council and obtaining its consent, advertising the proposals at the car parks and considering any representation. As far as altering the tariff charges are concerned we will make these changes by way of a notice of intent.

## **STAFFING IMPLICATIONS**

13. There are no staffing implications as a result of this proposal.

### **Name and contact details of author:**

**Graham Smith**  
**Business manager Transport & Parking**  
**Tel 01865 252352**  
**e-mail [gsmith@oxford.gov.uk](mailto:gsmith@oxford.gov.uk)**

Background papers: None

APPENDIX 1

Westgate, Oxpens, Worcester Street, Abbey Place

Monday to Friday & Sunday 8.00am to 8.00pm

Time Band	Current	3.6% Increase	Rounded to	% Increase
0-1 Hours	1.90	1.97	2.00	5.26
1-2 Hours	3.00	3.11	3.00	0
2-3 Hours	4.80	4.97	5.00	4.17
3-4 Hours	6.00	6.22	6.50	8.33
\$-6 Hours	9.70	10.05	10.00	3.09
6-8 Hours	14.50	15.02	15.00	3.45
8+ Hours	18.20	18.86	19.00	4.4
All other	1.50	1.55	2.00	33.3

Gloucester Green

Monday to Friday and Sunday 8.00am to 8.00pm

Time Band	Current	3.6% Increase	Rounded to	% Increase
0-1 Hours	2.40	2.49	2.5	4.17
1-2 Hours	3.70	3.83	4	8.11
2-3 Hours	5.50	5.70	5.5	0
3-4 Hours	7.20	7.46	7.5	4.17
\$-6 Hours	11.40	11.81	11.5	0
6-8 Hours	16.80	17.40	17.5	0.88
8+ Hours	20.50	21.24	21.0	4.17
All other	2.10	2.18	2.2	2.44