



Northumberland County Council

All Town and Parish Council Clerks
Via Email

Your ref:
Our ref:
Enquiries to: Budget Consultation
Email: budget@northumberland.gov.uk
Tel direct: (0345) 600 6400
Date: 23 November 2018

Dear Clerk

Consultation on Car Parking Charges at Selected Coastal and Railway Car Parks

I refer to the email from Cllr Glen Sanderson, Cabinet Member for Environment & Local Services dated 7th November 2018, in which he informed you of the Council's latest investment plans for improvements to parking that will result in hundreds of new parking spaces being created across Northumberland as the council continues its £10 million pound programme of traffic improvements.

In his email Cllr Sanderson also highlighted that in order to help fund these raft of improvements and address other budget pressures the Cabinet were considering proposals to reintroduce charges at a number of the busier tourism and railway station car parks at their meeting on Tuesday 13th November 2018.

I can now confirm that Cabinet gave their approval to undertake consultation on the introduction of charges at the most heavily used tourist/visitor and railway car parks. Details of the car parks affected by the proposals and the proposed tariffs at these car parks are listed in Tables 1 to 3 appended to this letter. A full copy of the Cabinet report that sets out the wider investment plans and details of the charges can be found on the NCC website at <http://committee.northumberland.gov.uk/Meeting.aspx?MeetID=9119>

It is considered that the introduction of charges at these busy car parks will help manage demand, make the maintenance and management of parking services more financially sustainable and generate income that will assist in financing future investment in parking services, whilst at the same time help safeguard key front-line services that ensure the county remains an attractive place to live, work in or visit.

For the avoidance of doubt the proposal **does not** include introducing car parking charges in our town centre car parks and these will continue to be free to support the local economy. The proposals also include keeping the first hour free at the more urban coastal

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car parks, to ensure that local residents who regularly visit these sites for short walks would not be significantly affected by the proposals.

If the car park affected by the charging proposals is located within the administrative area of your Town & Parish Council and you would like a face to face meeting with Council staff to discuss the proposal before responding to the consultation, then please do not hesitate to contact my colleague Carole Beswick-Lisle on telephone 01670 620148 or via Email: Carole.Beswick-lisle@northumberland.gov.uk, who will make the necessary arrangements.

The Council would welcome your feedback in respect of the proposals. If you wish to respond to the proposals then please do so by **Monday 7th January 2019** so your feedback can be considered before any final decisions are made by the County Council when setting it's overall revenue budget in February 2019.

All responses to this consultation should be submitted in writing to:-

Budget Consultation
Northumberland County Council
County Hall
Morpeth
Northumberland
NE61 2EF

Or

Email: budget@northumberland.gov.uk

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'P Jones', written in a cursive style.

Paul Jones
Service Director - Local Services

TABLE 1 - Proposed Increase to Existing Parking Charges

Parking Place	Current tariff	Proposed tariff
Chare Ends, Holy Island	3 hours - £2.40 All Day - £4.40	Subject to negotiations regarding renewal of lease
Green Lane, Holy Island	4 hours - £4.00 (coaches) All Day - £6.00 (coaches)	4 hours - £6.00 (coaches) All Day - £8.00 (coaches)
Station Yard, Seahouses	1 hour - Free 2 hours - £1.80 3 hours - £2.40 4 hours - £3.00 All Day - £3.50 4 hours - £4.00 (coaches) All Day - £6.00 (coaches)	1 hour - Free 3 hours - £3.50 All Day - £5.50 4 hours - £6.00 (coaches) All Day - £8.00 (coaches)
Craster	1 hour - £0.50 2 hours - £1.00 3 hours - £1.50 All Day - £2.00	3 hours - £3.00 All Day - £4.00
Newton Steads, Newton by the Sea	1 hour - £0.50 2 hours - £1.00 3 hours - £1.50 All Day - £2.00	1 hour - £1.00 2 hours - £2.00 3 hours - £3.00 All Day - £4.00
Low Newton, Newton by the Sea	1 hour - £0.50 2 hours - £1.00 3 hours - £1.50 All Day - £2.00	1 hour - £1.00 2 hours - £2.00 3 hours - £3.00 All Day - £4.00
Berwick Rail Station	All day £3.50	No change

Table 2: Charging Proposals at Coastal/Tourism Car Parks that are Currently Free

Parking Place	Proposed Tariff
Links Road, Bamburgh	3 hours - £3.50 All day - £5.50 4 hours - £6.00 (coaches) All day - £8.00 (coaches)
Beadnell (including Overflow)	3 hours - £1.50 All Day - £3.00
Beachway, Blyth	1 hour - Free 3 hours - £1.50 All Day - £3.00
Mermaid, Blyth	1 hour - Free 3 hours - £1.50 All Day - £3.00
The Ranch, Blyth	1 hour - Free 3 hours - £1.50 All Day - £3.00
Fountain Head, Seaton Sluice	1 hour - Free 3 hours - £1.50 All Day - £3.00
Cresswell	1 hour - Free 3 hours - £1.50 All Day - £3.00

Table 3 - Charging Proposals for Railway Station Car Parks and Tyne Riverside Country Park	
Parking Place	Proposed Tariff
Alnmouth Railway Station (Northbound)	£1.50/day
Morpeth Railway Station (South)	£3/day
Haltwhistle Railway Station	£3/day
Prudhoe Railway Station	£3/day
Prudhoe Country Park	1 hour - Free 2 hours - £1.60 All day - £3

Note: At the present time residents can purchase an annual parking permit (Northumberland Pay and Display Parking Permit) for £130 year (or £48 for 3 months and £70 for 6 months) that is valid at all NCC pay and display car parks. It is estimated that regular daily commuters using railway station car parks are likely to incur a cost of ~£690 per year based on the daily rate of £3/day (~£395 if using Alnmouth). It is therefore proposed that the charge for the annual pass should be increased to **£225**, with the 3 month pass being increased to **£80** and 6 month pass to **£120**, which is considered still offers good value for money for regular commuters.