

CABINET MEMBER FOR TRANSPORT – 3 JUNE 2010

ON-STREET PAY & DISPLAY TARIFF CHANGES.

Report by Head of Transport

Introduction

1. The purpose of this report is to propose changes to the on-street tariffs in the centre of Oxford to bring them into line with those applicable in the city centre car parks and the introduction of a 30 minute tariff for drivers who only need to park for a short time. At present drivers have to pay for one hour regardless of how short a time they need to park.

Background

2. The on-street parking tariffs in the central area of Oxford have remained unchanged since January 2007 though the highest charge for the maximum stay allowed has remained the same since 2002. In this time Oxford City Council has reviewed its car park tariffs on an annual basis. The situation is now that the on-street tariffs are significantly lower than those charged in the car parks.
3. In October 2008 parking charges in the park and ride sites were removed, providing a cost-effective alternative to city centre parking.
4. The increase in parking charges is in accordance with the current Local Transport Plan (LTP2) in which, on page 10, there is reference to influencing travel behaviour by pricing mechanisms. By having on-street parking considerably less expensive than using car parks drivers may tend to drive around the city centre looking for empty parking spaces, adding to congestion and affecting air quality.
5. On street parking is generally considered a premium provision. It is often more convenient than using the car parks and it is anomalous that on-street parking costs less than using a car park.
6. On-street parking is primarily intended for shorter visits to the city centre and to assist in this a new 30 minute tariff is proposed in that area.
7. Increasing the on-street pay and display parking charges was approved in principle by Council in the latest budget setting process. There is no requirement for a consultation process to change pay and display tariffs.

Proposed changes to Tariffs

8. The current tariff in the city centre car parks on weekdays is £2.40 for one hour and £4.00 for two hours. There are higher charges on Saturdays and in Gloucester Green car park.

9. The proposed changes to the on-street pay & display tariffs in the bays in the centre of the city are as follows:

| | 30 minutes | 1 hour | 2 or 3 hours (depending on location). |
|------------------------|--------------|--------------|--|
| Current tariff | n/a | £2.00 | £3.00 |
| Proposed tariff | £1.00 | £2.50 | £4.00 |

10. There are on-street pay and display areas further from the city centre. These tariffs were last revised at the beginning of 2007. It is proposed that these tariffs are changed as follows:

| | 30 minutes | 1 hour | 2 or 3 hours (depending on location). |
|------------------------|--------------|--------------|--|
| Current tariff | n/a | £1.50 | £2.50 |
| Proposed tariff | £1.00 | £2.00 | £3.00 |

The hours of operation are unchanged.

Enforcement

11. In view of the proposed 1 hour tariff being more than twice the 30 minute tariff the restriction on purchasing a second ticket to extend the stay beyond the time first purchased set out in the relevant Traffic Regulation Order will be enforced. As there will now be a shorter stay tariff the time allowed for drivers to obtain a ticket will be reduced to a minimum of 5 minutes.

Affected Streets

12. The following streets have pay and display bays in which the new tariffs will apply.

One Hour maximum stay

- Broad Street (30 minute and 1 hour tariffs only apply)

Two hour maximum stay

- Beaumont Street
- Blackhall Road
- Cromwell Street
- King Edward Street
- Longwall Street
- Merton Street
- Museum Road
- Parks Road
- St Giles
- Woodstock Road
- Wellington Square
- Great Clarendon Street*
- Walton Street*

Three hour maximum stay

- Mansfield Road
- Keble Road
- Saville Road
- Norham Gardens*
- Norham Road*
- Benson Place*
- Bradmore Road*
- Crick Road*
- Fyfield Road*

* Lower tariff areas.

13. The proposed changes, if approved, will be made by means of a notice displayed on street furniture in the affected areas. The information on the pay and display machines will be amended and the council's website will reflect any changes

Financial and Staff Implications

14. Varying the tariff will cost £52 per machine, the total cost including set up costs will be £4232 before VAT. There are no staff implications

RECOMMENDATION

15. **The Cabinet Member for Transport is RECOMMENDED to approve the changes to the on-street parking tariffs.**

STEVE HOWELL
Head of Transport
Environment & Economy

Background papers: Local Transport Plan (LTP2), available on Oxfordshire County Council's website.

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