

Appendix F

Free Parking Days Proposal

The recommendation is for four free parking days per annum; split two days to be designated to Christmas by Buckinghamshire Council and two days to be designated to the Community Boards to be used as will.

These recommendations will continue to provide an offering of free parking, but in a fair and balanced way. They also ensure sufficient mechanisms are in place to manage overall supply and demand and provide a net cost to the Council, whilst equally supporting the high street and local communities.

Two Days - Community Boards

Designate the Community Boards (where car parking charges are in place) with two free parking days per calendar year to be used at will for their areas:

- Free parking to apply to the designated car parks listed in Appendix F.
- For fairness and consistency, the designated car parks list has been created with the need to support turnover of parking space whilst recognising the supply levels in each area:
 - 4x car parks or less in an area: 1x car park designated for free parking.
 - 5x car parks in an area: 2x car parks designated for free parking.
 - 6x car parks or more in an area: 3x car parks designated for free parking.
- Each free parking day to apply to all car parks simultaneously within the area. For example, an area that has two designated car parks, each 'free day' will apply to both car parks simultaneously.
- Designated car parks are to be used for their primary intended purpose.
- Parking Services to email Community Boards at the start of the calendar year to seek dates for the two free parking days. The process on how the Community Boards will decide which two days to designate as free is to be worked through in due course.
- Notice to customers.
To reduce the level of resources required it is proposed that the machines are not bagged on the free allocated days. Instead, Parking Services to place signage in the car parks approximately two weeks ahead of a free parking day to inform customers, with each sign stating the specific date/car park that the free parking applies to, along with the reason.
- Community Boards may purchase additional free parking days. These would be charged at the rate of income that would be lost for the day, along with a small administration fee to support implementation.
- Additionally, Town and Parish Councils to also have flexibility to purchase free parking days

Two Days - Buckinghamshire Council. Christmas:

- Designate free parking to the 2nd and 3rd Saturday in December. This approach enables both free days to take place in December and before Christmas on a year on year basis.

- Free parking to apply to all BC chargeable car parks that support the High Street. Excluded are car parks that predominantly serve leisure centres, along with the Handy Cross Park and Ride car park, and Amersham Multi-Storey car park. Appendix B provides a list of car parks that are included/excluded.
- Free parking to apply to vehicles arriving after 10am. Members have raised that the majority of the parking spaces where Christmas free parking has been in place previously have been taken by commuters/local workers. Thus, free parking not having the intended benefit for the high street and their customers.
- Comms to be via the Council's standard stakeholder channels.

