

Background report:

Parking in Dacorum for 2014/2015 Options for consideration by Cabinet

Report date 20 August 2013

Report for: Cabinet

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Report created by: Steven Barnes

Lead Officer Parking Policy Dacorum Borough Council

1. Background Report

- 1.1 At its meeting on 18 October 2011, Cabinet reviewed car park charges and resolved that Officers report back to Cabinet in Autumn 2013 on the review of charges for 2014/2015
- 1.2 Parking charges in Dacorum have been compared with those charged elsewhere in Hertfordshire and other adjacent Boroughs and districts.

2. Principles Underpinning the Review

- 2.1 There is no statutory obligation on the Council to provide parking facilities. Individuals can make a choice as to whether they use these facilities, use public transport or some other more sustainable method to arrive at their destination. Where charges are not levied, the financial burden of maintaining the car park, its enforcement and other running costs falls to either local council tax payers (who may not have a vehicle or may not use the facility) or customers using car parks in other areas of the Borough. Although the principle that the customer makes some contribution to the costs of providing the car parking facility is valid due to the current economic climate and to support businesses in the Borough's smaller communities no options for charging in currently free to use sites have been included in this report.
- 2.2 In relation to the Council's overall financial position, there is a need to identify budget savings or increased revenue income. The Council faces significant challenges in producing a balanced budget over the next few years. Clearly income from parking charges offers an opportunity for increased income particularly in view of the modest rates currently charged in comparison to other towns. Failure to optimise income could require Members to identify other opportunities for savings or income growth in order that the budget position can be addressed.
- 2.3 In policy terms the Council seeks to encourage greater thought regarding travel choice in line with the longer-term aim of seeing a shift to more sustainable forms of transport. Increased parking charges can certainly influence travel choices however the provision of viable alternatives, particularly for commuters, is a significant and costly challenge which will be difficult to address in the current financial climate.
- 2.4 Additional revenue income can be derived from the Council's owned off-street parking assets and from its on-street parking operations. Cabinet may wish to consider these options as part of its parking strategy for the future:
 - Increasing the period for which charges apply as described in option 7.
 - The introduction of season tickets as described in option 8.
 - Introducing charges into currently free to use off-street sites. With reference to point 2.1 no option for this is included in the report.
 - The variation of on-street parking charges as described in option 11.
 - The introduction of additional on-street pay and display parking areas as described in option 12.
 - Increasing the charges for Controlled Parking Zone residents' permits and or vouchers. No option for this is included in the report.

- 2.5 Savings on the procurement of software for any future tariff changes can be achieved through reducing the number of different tariffs charged across the Borough.
- 2.6 At the time of compiling this report the 2011 census population by town data had not been published therefore data from the 2001 census has been used for comparison purposes.

3. Off-street Parking

Comparison with Neighbouring Areas (Data collected July 2013) Population data from 2001 census

Table 3.01 Town Centre car park tariffs (population 40,000+)

Population	Parking time (hours) → Town ♥	up to 0.5 (30 mins)	0.5 - 1	1 - 2	2 - 3	3 - 4	4 - 5	5 - 6	6 - 7	7 - 8	8 - 10
185,500	Luton (PRIVATE)		£1.00		£1.80	£2.50	£4.00		£8	3.00	
184,500	Milton Keynes	£1.4	0	£2.80	£4.20	£5.60	£7.00	£8.40	£9.80	£11.20	£14.00
121,000	Watford (PRIVATE)	£1.2	0	£1.70	£2.20	£2.70	£5.00	£8.50 £12.50 £17.00			7.00
100,000	Chelmsford	£1.0	0	£1.80	£2.60	£4.30	£7.00	£8.00	£10.00	£14.00	£18.00
83,100	Hemel Hempstead	£0.8	0	£1.30	£1.80	£2.30		£3.50			
82,500	Bedford	£1.1	0	£1.60	£3.00	£3.70		£7.00			
82,400	St Albans	£0.60	£1.20	£2.60		£3.60	•	£9.00			
81,500	Stevenage	£1.5	0	£1.80	£2.80	£3	.00		£7	7.00	
80,600	Harlow		£1.60	•	£1.90	£3.10		•	£7.70		
77,200	High Wycombe	£0.50	£1.00	£1.50	£2.00	£2.50	£3.00	£3.50		£10.00	
69,000	Aylesbury	£0.50	£1.00	£2	.00	£3.50	£5.00		£8	3.00	
55,300	Cheshunt	£0.5	0	£1.00	£2.00	£3.00		•	£4.00		
50,800	Dunstable		£0.50	•	£1.50	£3	.50		£6	5.00	
47,600	Brentwood	£0.40	£1.	30	£2.90	£3.60	£4.40	£5.30 £10.50			
43,500	Welwyn Garden City	£1.0	0	£1.50	£2.50	£3.50	£4.50	£10.00			
41,100	Loughton	£0.10	£0.65	£1.40	£2.80			£	29.00		



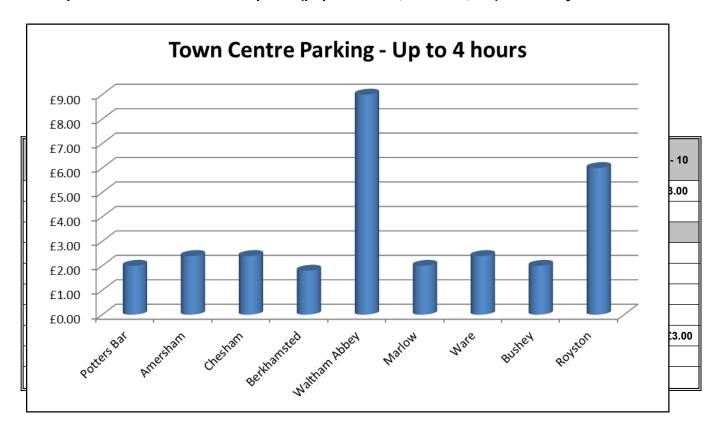
Graph 3.02 Town Centre car parks (population 40,000 to 100,000) short stay tariff



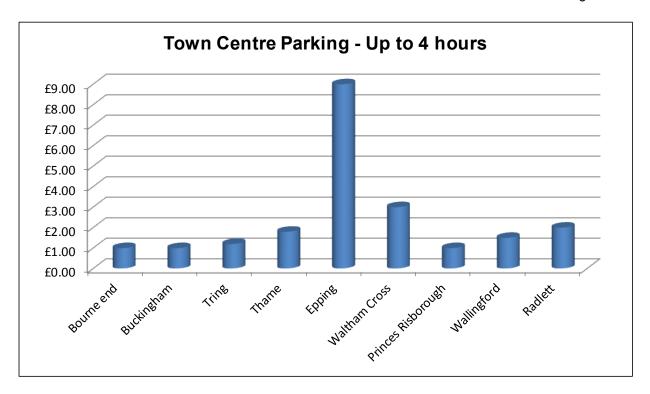


17,700	Waltham Abbey	£0.10	£0.65	£1.40	£2.80			£9.00
17,500	Marlow	£0.40	£0.60	£1.20	£1.50	£2.00	£3.00	£5.50
17,200	Ware	£0.6	0	£1.20	£1.80	£2.40	£3.00	£3.50
17,000	Bushey	£0.5	0	£1.00	£1.50	£2.00	£3.00	£5.00

Graph 3.05 Town Centre car parks (population 22,000 to 14,000) short stay tariffs



Graph 3.08 Town Centre car parks (population 13,000 to 8,000) short stay tariffs



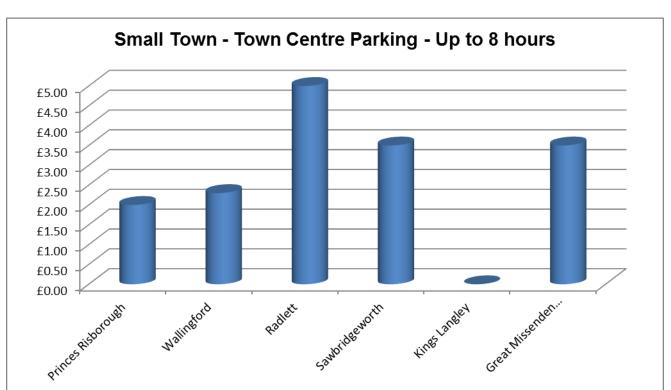
Graph 3.09 Town Centre car parks (population 13,000 to 8,000) long stay tariffs

Table 3.10 Town Centre car park tariffs (population 8,000 to 7,000)

Population	Parking time (hours) → Town Ψ	up to 0.5 (30 mins)	0.5 - 1	1 - 2	2 - 3	3 - 4	4 - 5	5 - 6	6 - 7	7 - 8	8 - 10
8,100	Princes Risborough	£0.30	£0.60	£0	.80	£1.00		£2.0	00		£3.00
8,000	Wallingford	£0.00	0	£0.80	£1	.50	£1.80		£2.30		
8,000	Radlett	£0.0	0	£1.00	£1.50	£2.00	£3.00		£	5.00	
7,700	Sawbridgeworth	£0.0	0	£0.50	£1.00	£1.50	£2.00		£	3.50	
7,400	Wendover	£0.0	0	£0.20							
7,100	Kings Langley					£0.00					
7,100	Great Missenden & Prestwood	£0.0	0	£1.20	£1.80	£2.40			£3.50		

Graph 3.11 Town Centre car parks (population 8,000 to 7,000) short stay tariffs





Graph 3.12 Town Centre car parks (population 8,000 to 7,000) long stay tariffs

Table 3.13 Village Centre car parks (population 5,000 to 2,000) short stay tariffs

Population	Parking time (hours) → Town Ψ	up to 0.5 (30 mins)	0.5 - 1	1 - 2	2 - 3	3 - 4	4 - 5	5 - 6	6 - 7	7 - 8	8 - 10
4,700	Chalfont St Giles	£0.0	0	£1.20	£1.80	£2.40			£3.50		
4,500	Winslow	£0.0	0	£5.00	£0.70	£1.00	£1.50	£1.50 £4.00			
4,000	Goring	£0.0	0	£0.70	£1.80			£3.30			
2,800	Markyate					£0.00					
2,300	Stanstead Abbotts	£0.4	0	£0.80	£1.20			£2.	50		
	Apsley	£0.10	£0.	30	£0.60	£0.90 £1.60					
	Boxmoor	£0.0	0	£0.40	£0.50	£0.60					

Graph 3.14 Village Centre car parks (population 5,000 to 2,000) short stay tariffs

Graph 3.15 Village Centre car parks (population 5,000 to 2,000) long stay tariffs

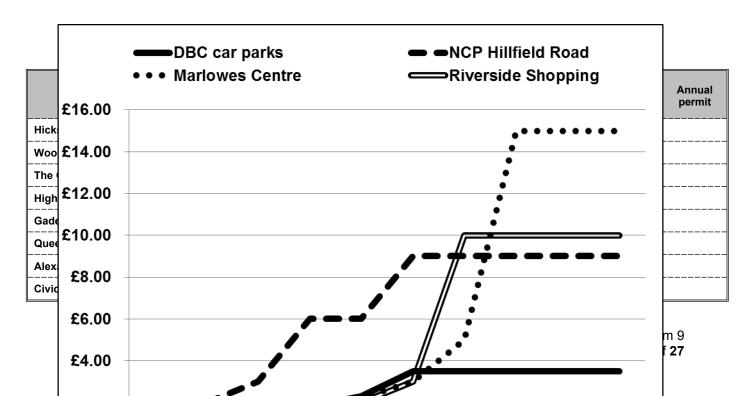
Table 3.16 Car park tariffs in Berkhamsted

Operator	up to 30 mins	0.5 - 1	1 - 2	2 - 3	3 - 4	4 - 5	5 - 6	6 - 7	7 - 8	8 - 10
Dacorum Borough (standard)	£0.	.50	£1.00	£1.40	£1.80	 		£3.30		
Dacorum Borough (premium)	£0.	.50	£1.00	£1.70	£2.30	 				
London Midland					£6.00					
Waitrose (customers only)	£0.00			£1.00	£5.	.00 £25.00				
Waitrose (non-customers)					£25.00)				

Table 3.17 Town centre car park tariffs in Hemel Hempstead

Parking time (hours) → Operator ♥	up to 0.5 (30 mins)	0.5 - 1	1 - 2	2 - 3	3 - 4	4 - 5	5 - 6	6 - 7	7 - 8	8 - 10	
DBC car parks	£0.8	30	£1.30	£1.80	£2.30		£3.50				
NCP Hillfield Road	£2.0	00	£3.00	£6.00	£6.00		£9.00				
Marlowes Centre	£1.50		£1.80	£2.20	£3.00 £5.00 £15.00)			
Riverside Shopping		£1.50		£2.00		£3.00 £10.00					

Graph 3.18 Town centre car park tariffs in Hemel Hempstead



Water Gardens (North) Lower deck	£0	0.80	£1.30	£1.80	£2.30	No Long stay	
Water Gardens (North) Upper deck	£0.80		£1.30	£1.80	£2.30	£3.50	
Water Gardens (South)	£0).80	£1.30	£1.80	£2.30	No Long stay	
Moor End Road				£3.50			
Park Road	£0).50	£0.60	£0.70	£0.80	£2.50	
Cowper Road	Fr	ree	£0.40	£0.50	£0.60	No Long stay	
Durrants Hill	£0.10	£0.30		£0.60	£0.90	£1.60	
The Nap				Free			
Langley Hill				Free			
Water Lane	£0).50	£1.00	£1.70	£2.30	No Long stay	
Lower Kings Road	£0).50	£1.00	£1.40	£1.80	No Long stay	
Canal Fields			Free			No Long stay	
St Johns Well Lane	£0).50	£1.00	£1.40	£1.80	£3.30	
The Forge	Fr	ree	£0.70	£0.90	£1.20	£1.80	412.00
Church Yard				£1.80			
Frogmore Street (East)	Fr	ree	£0.70	£0.90	£1.20	No Long stay	
Frogmore Street (West)				£1.80			
Victoria Hall	Fr	ree	£0.70	£0.90	£1.20	No Long stay	
Old School Yard	Fr	ree	£0.70	£0.90	£1.20	No Long stay	

Table 3.20 Current car park designations

Car park	Current designation
Hicks Road	Any stay
Wood Lane End	Any stay
The Gables	Any stay
High Street	Any stay
Gadebridge Lane	Any stay
Queensway	Any stay
Alexandra Road	Any stay
Civic Centre	Any stay
Water Gardens (North) lower deck	Short stay maximum 4 hours

Water Gardens (North) upper deck	Any stay
Water Gardens (South)	Short stay maximum 4 hours
Moor End Road	Long stay
Park Road	Any stay
Cowper Road	Short stay maximum 4 hours
Durrants Hill	Any stay
The Nap	Any stay
Langley Hill	Any stay
Water Lane	Short stay maximum 4 hours
Lower Kings Road	Short stay maximum 4 hours
Canal Fields	Short stay maximum 4 hours
St Johns Well Lane	Segregated long & short stay
The Forge	Any stay
Church Yard	Long stay
Frogmore Street (East)	Short stay maximum 4 hours
Frogmore Street (West)	Long stay
Victoria Hall	Short stay maximum 4 hours
Old School Yard	Short stay maximum 4 hours

- 3.1 With no changes to charges, they will be overtaken by inflation and in future may require large increases to regain their current/previous value in real terms.
- 3.2 Increases in charges need not be uniform for both long and short stay. Reasons for considering a differential increase would be to promote shoppers' parking whilst seeking to encourage the use of alternative means of travel by long stay commuters.
- For operational reasons any individual tariff requires rounding to amounts which can be accepted by pay and display machines.
- 3.4 Despite the impact of the current recession, over the next five/ten years it is to be expected that congestion in urban areas (especially at peak times) will increase and the development of alternatives to car journeys become more important. For this reason, the level of charge for long stay parking could be increased to give greater incentive to use alternative methods of travel
- 3.5 Cabinet may therefore wish to consider a policy of increasing long stay parking charges proportionately more than short stay, over a period of years, while monitoring public transport improvements.
- 3.6 Cabinet may wish to consider the effect that increased charges may have on the economy of the Borough particularly in view of the current economic climate. Keeping the present charging regime, thereby increasing or maintaining the differential in charges between Dacorum and neighbouring areas, may encourage customers to patronise businesses within the Borough. Increased charges may therefore have a deleterious effect.
- 3.7 All the options maintain the principle of not charging "Blue Badge" holders for using Borough car parks.

- 3.8 Kings Langley is the largest settlement in the Borough which still has free public parking provided by the Council. There are two major car parks in the village; The Nap and Langley Hill. Constraints on management of The Nap car park arising from the terms of the lease for the Village Community Centre makes introduction of charges at this location problematic. The Langley Hill site however is often full to capacity with drivers waiting for a parking opportunity. To discourage long stay parking, increase parking opportunities for the customers of the village's central businesses consideration could be given to change the car park to short stay with or without charging. The potential annual pay and display income is estimated to be approximately £10,000. With reference to section 2.1. Option 4 would introduce a time limit on parking in Langley Hill car park without introducing a parking charge.
- 3.9 Charges were last increased in the Borough in April 2012 when bay designation changes were introduced to simplify the parking regime in some car parks. A pay by phone service was introduced in December 2012
- 3.10 Old School Yard car park is owned by Tring Town Council. Any amendments to tariffs at this site require the agreement of Tring Town Council. Any tariff changes shown in the tables are indicative only to illustrate the impact of changes at Old School Yard in line with the option shown in the rest of the table.
- 3.11 Simplification of car park layouts. In 2003 some car parks were segregated into long and short stay bay areas on the same level which caused confusion with some drivers. This was resolved in 2012 through designating individual car parks as any stay, short stay or long stay. There is now only one site, St Johns Well Lane car park, Berkhamsted which continues operating with the segregated system. St Johns Well Lane car park is the only council site where long stay parking is allowed. The short stay area within the car park has been retained in support of the retailing businesses located close to the car park. Should proposals to introduce a multi storey facility at Lower Kings Road car park come to fruition St Johns Well Lane can be de-segregated.
- 3.12 Savings on the procurement of software for any future tariff changes can be achieved through reducing the number of different tariffs charged across the Borough.
- 3.13 Occupancy in Water Gardens (North) car park, upper deck, has fallen over the last five years. Factors including the economic climate coupled with N.C.P. offering a £2.90 "Early bird" all day ticket (all day ticket in Water Gardens car park is currently £3.50) has impacted on the volume of customers using this site. Option 8 proposes the introduction of discounted season tickets to rebuild the customer numbers and boost income from this site.
- 3.14 Currently the charging period in car parks is from 8am to 6pm. There is, in some sites, a substantial occupancy level after this time. Option 6 proposes that the charging window is extended to 8pm to increase revenue income from these assets.
- 3.15 A range of options have been prepared for consideration by Cabinet which are detailed below:
- 3.16 No changes are proposed to the following:
 - Free parking in all DBC car parks for disabled drivers' badge holders
 - No introduction of overnight tariff
 - Free parking in Gadebridge Lane car park, Hemel Hempstead

- Free parking in The Nap car park and Langley Hill car park, Kings Langley
- Free parking in Hicks Road car park, Markyate
- First hour free in The Forge car park, Victoria Hall car park and Frogmore Street (East) car park, Tring
- First hour free in Cowper Road car park, Boxmoor.
- Free limited stay Parking Canal Fields, Berkhamsted.
- Sundays and public holidays remain free in Old School Yard car park, Tring
- CPZ permit charges
- CPZ visitor voucher charges

The options presented are as follows:

4. Options for Charges, Off-Street

Option 1 No change to current tariffs.

This option is not recommended as if there are no changes to charges, they will be overtaken by inflation and in future may require large increases to regain their current/previous value in real terms.

Table 4.01 No change to current tariffs.

Car park	Up to 30 minutes	Up to 1 hour	Up to 2 hours	Up to 3 hours	Up to 4 hours	4 to 10 hours	Annual permit
Hicks Road				Free			
Wood Lane End	£0.10	£0.	30	£0.60	£0.90	£1.60	

The Gables	£0.	40 £0.50	£0.60	£0.70	£1.50	
High Street	£0.	40 £0.50	£0.60	£0.70	£1.50	
Gadebridge Lane			Free			
Queensway	£0.	60 £0.90	£1.20	£1.50	£2.50	
Alexandra Road	£0.	60 £0.90	£1.20	£1.50	£2.50	
Civic Centre (Weekends & public holidays)	£0.	60 £0.90	£1.20	£1.50	£2.50	
Water Gardens (North) Lower deck	£0.	80 £1.30	£1.80	£2.30	No Long stay	
Water Gardens (North) Upper deck	£0.	80 £1.30	£1.80	£2.30	£3.50	
Water Gardens (South)	£0.	80 £1.30	£1.80	£2.30	No Long stay	
Moor End Road			£3.50			
Park Road	£0.	50 £0.60	£0.70	£0.80	£2.50	
Cowper Road	Fre	ee £0.40	£0.50	£0.60	No Long stay	
Durrants Hill	£0.10	£0.30	£0.60	£0.90	£1.60	
The Nap			Free			
Langley Hill			Free			
Water Lane	£0.	50 £1.00	£1.70	£2.30	No Long stay	
Lower Kings Road	£0.	50 £1.00	£1.40	£1.80	No Long stay	
Canal Fields		Free			No Long stay	
St Johns Well Lane	£0.	50 £1.00	£1.40	£1.80	£3.30	
The Forge	Fre	ee £0.70	£0.90	£1.20	£1.80	412.00
Church Yard			£1.80			
Frogmore Street (East)	Fre	ee £0.70	£0.90	£1.20	No Long stay	
Frogmore Street (West)			£1.80			
Victoria Hall	Fre	ee £0.70	£0.90	£1.20	No Long stay	
Old School Yard	Fre	e £0.70	£0.90	£1.20	No Long stay	

Estimated annual increase in revenue income assuming no drop in occupancy $\mathfrak{L}0$ Cost of implementation $\mathfrak{L}0$

Option 2 Revised DBC car park tariffs

In this option car park tariffs have been revised taking into account the requirement for revenue income balanced against the local economic position

Table 4.02 Revised DBC car park tariffs

Car park	Up to 30 minutes	Up to 1 hour	Up to 2 hours	Up to 3 hours	Up to 4 hours	4 to 10 hours	Annual permit
Hicks Road				Free			
Wood Lane End	£0.10	£0.	30	£0.60	£0.90	£1.60	
The Gables	£0	.50	£0.60	£0.70	£0.80	£1.50	
High Street	£0	.50	£0.60	£0.70	£0.80	£1.50	
Gadebridge Lane				Free			
Queensway	£0	.60	£0.90	£1.20	£1.50	£2.50	
Alexandra Road	£0	.60	£0.90	£1.20	£1.50	£2.50	
Dacorum Way (Weekends & public holidays)	£0	.60	£0.90	£1.20	£1.50	£2.50	DBC
Old Court House (Weekends & public holidays)				Free			DBC
Gadeside (Weekends & public holidays)	 			Free			DBC
Water Gardens (North) Lower deck	£0	.80	£1.30	£2.00	£2.50	No Long stay	
Water Gardens (North) Upper deck	£0	.80	£1.30	£2.00	£2.50	£3.50	DBC
Water Gardens (South)	£0.40	£0.80	£1.30	£2.00	£2.50	No Long stay	
Moor End Road	- 	'	-	£4.00		 	
Park Road	£0	.60	£0.70	£0.80	£0.90	£2.50	
Cowper Road	Fr	ee	£0.40	£0.50	£0.60	No Long stay	
Durrants Hill	£0.10	£0.	30	£0.60	£0.90	£1.60	
The Nap	-			Free	'		
Langley Hill	- 			Free			
Water Lane	£0	.60	£1.20	£1.90	£2.50	No Long stay	
Lower Kings Road	£0	.60	£1.20	£1.90	£2.50	No Long stay	
Canal Fields	 		Free		·	No Long stay	
St Johns Well Lane	£0	.60	£1.20	£1.90	£2.50	£3.50	
The Forge	Fr	ee	£0.90	£1.10	£1.40	£2.00	£416.00
Church Yard	 			£2.00	·		
Frogmore Street (East)	Fr	ee	£0.90	£1.10	£1.40	No Long stay	
Frogmore Street (West)	 			£2.00	·	·	
Victoria Hall	Fr	ee	£0.90	£1.10	£1.40	No Long stay	
Old School Yard	Fr	ee	£0.90	£1.10	£1.40	No Long stay	

Estimated annual increase in revenue income assuming no drop in occupancy £ 70,000 Estimated cost of implementation £13,000

This option is recommended with the objective of maintaining the value of revenue income balanced against the local economic position.

Option 3 Introduction of 30 minute tariff in Water Gardens (South) car park

Water Gardens (South) car park is a surface site close to the central Marlowes retail shops area. Currently there is a £0.80 cost to park for up to one hour. Introducing a 30 minute tariff will allow customers that wish to "pop into town" for one or two items the opportunity to do so and park at a reduced price. It is anticipated that this option will be cost neutral after implementation, the loss in revenue due to the lower price being offset by increased turnover.

This option is recommended with the objective of increasing footfall into the town centre in support of the town businesses.

Option 4 Introduction of four hour maximum stay in Langley Hill car park

The Langley Hill site is often full to capacity with drivers waiting for a parking opportunity. To discourage long stay parking, increase parking opportunities for the customers of the village's central businesses and the local doctors' surgery consideration could be given to change the car park to short stay without charging. With reference to section 2.1, option 4 would introduce a four hour maximum stay time limit on parking in Langley Hill car park without introducing a parking charge.

Table 4.03 Introduction of 4 hour maximum stay in Langley Hill car park

Car park	Proposed designation
Hicks Road	Any stay
Wood Lane End	Any stay
The Gables	Any stay
High Street	Any stay
Gadebridge Lane	Any stay
Queensway	Any stay
Alexandra Road	Any stay
Civic Centre	Any stay
Water Gardens (North) lower deck	Short stay maximum 4 hours
Water Gardens (North) upper deck	Any stay
Water Gardens (South)	Short stay maximum 4 hours
Moor End Road	Long stay
Park Road	Any stay
Cowper Road	Short stay maximum 4 hours
Durrants Hill	Any stay
The Nap	Any stay
Langley Hill	Short stay maximum 4 hours
Water Lane	Short stay maximum 4 hours
Lower Kings Road	Short stay maximum 4 hours
Canal Fields	Short stay maximum 4 hours
St Johns Well Lane	Segregated long & short stay
The Forge	Any stay
Church Yard	Long stay
Frogmore Street (East)	Short stay maximum 4 hours
Frogmore Street (West)	Long stay
Victoria Hall	Short stay maximum 4 hours
Old School Yard	Short stay maximum 4 hours

This option is recommended with the objective of increasing footfall into the town centre in support of the village businesses and to provide additional parking opportunities for customers visiting the local healthcare facilities.

Option 5 Closure of Civic Centre car park and introduction of new sites

The Council's move from the current Civic Centre to other locations will make the "Civic Centre" car park name superfluous and possibly confusing to customers. This option proposes to change the name of the car park to "Dacorum Way".

Concurrently it is proposed to introduce a Traffic Regulation Order to cover the

council owned areas both sides of Dacorum Way to the south of the Civic Centre and to the area both sides of the road to the south of the council building known as Unit B. These car parks are proposed to be named "Old Court House car park" and "Gadeside car park" and are proposed to be designated as shown in table 4.02.

Implementation cost are proposed to be met as part of the Council's move from Civic Centre

This option is recommended with the objective of supporting the process of relocation.

Option 6 Issue of permits for weekday parking in specified sites at the discretion of the council.

The criteria for the issue, withdrawal, control processes, price, etc of permits to be decided by Members.

Civil Enforcement Officers (parking) would be able to enforce the permits subject to the contents of and the display position of permit being described within the Off-street Traffic Regulation Order. Users of permits would be subject to the prevailing terms, conditions and bylaws applicable to all users of DBC car parks. Although the Parking Service can enforce the permits, the service does not have access to the required data to control the issue of these permits.

Valid car parks:

- 1. Water Gardens (North) Upper deck
- 2. Proposed Dacorum Way Current Civic Centre adjacent to the Health Centre (subject to no existing agreement with Health Centre)
- 3. Proposed Old Court House Current police parking area and under court building canopy
- 4. Proposed Gadeside current east & west section of Dacorum Way near unit B

Operational times:

Water Gardens (North) - Upper deck

Charges apply Monday to Sunday 8.00am to 6.00pm DBC permits Monday to Friday 8.00am to 6.00pm Free to use at other times

Proposed Dacorum Way (southern open air section of current Civic Centre car park)

Charges apply Weekends and public holidays 8.00am to 6.00pm DBC permits only Monday to Friday 8.00 am to 6.00pm Free to use at other times

Proposed Old Court House

DBC permits only Monday to Friday 8.00 am to 6.00pm Free to use at other times

Proposed Gadeside

DBC permits only Monday to Friday 8.00 am to 6.00pm Free to use at other times

This option is recommended with the objective of supporting the process of relocation.

Option 7 Extension of charging hours to 8pm

Car park occupancy remains high in some car parks after 6pm. This option proposes that the hours of charging are extended from 8am - 6pm to 8am - 8pm.

Should an average of 50 vehicles per evening purchase a two hour ticket in Hemel Hempstead the additional annual revenue income is estimated at approximately £22,000 (inc. VAT).

Should an average of 50 vehicles per evening purchase a two hour ticket in Berkhamsted the additional annual revenue income is estimated at approximately £16,000 (inc. VAT)

For consistency should this option be considered it is suggested that it would apply to all car parks that charge for parking.

Estimated annual increase in revenue income assuming no drop in occupancy £28,500 Estimated cost of implementation £20,680

Estimated time to recover implementation costs 46 weeks

This option is not recommended as it may be detrimental to the evening economy in some communities.

Option 8 Introduction of season tickets – Water Gardens (North) upper deck

Water Gardens (North) upper deck long stay car park, Hemel Hempstead has experienced a drop in occupancy. Factors that could have attributed to this include the current economic climate and competition from the privately operated car park in Hillfield Road, Hemel Hempstead which offers an "early bird" all day ticket for customers arriving before 8:30am at £2.90 (DBC price currently £3.50) This option proposes introducing season tickets (as are currently available in The Forge car park, Tring) for use in Water Gardens (North) upper deck car park to offer an improved service to our customers, encourage the use of this car park and to increase revenue income.

Consideration may be given to deferring this option or limiting availability as it is currently not known how the occupancy level will be affected by option 7

Table 4.05 Season tickets (based on 260 day year) - Option 8

Site	Daily tariff	52 weeks x 5 days = 260 days	Annual charge at 20% discount	Equivalent daily tariff
Water Gardens (North) upper deck	£3.50	£910.00	£728.00	£2.80
The Forge	£2.00	£520.00	£416.00	£1.60

Estimated annual increase in revenue income assuming no drop in occupancy £9,700 Estimated cost of implementation £6,000

This option is not recommended as the effect on occupancy levels relating to option 6 cannot be established until in operation.

Due to the volatile nature of parking Members should view the projected additional income levels with a degree of caution.

5 Residents' Parking Schemes (Controlled Parking Zones)

Table 5.01 Residents parking schemes – permit cost comparison

Annual resident permit charge (Data collected July 2013 – Local Authority web sites)

	lı	ndividual ch	arge
Town	1st	2nd	3rd
Abbots Langley	£50.00	£100.00	
Aylesbury	£55.00	£70.00	£70.00
Baldock	£84.00		
Basildon	£26.00	£26.00	£26.00
Bedford	£25.00	£73.00	£94.00
Bedmond	£50.00		
Biggleswade	£10.00	£70.00	£90.00
Bishops Stortford	£36.00	£72.00	
Borehamwood	£15.00	£30.00	£60.00
Braintree	£55.00	£70.00	£70.00
Brentwood	£34.00	£34.00	
Bushey	£15.00	£30.00	£60.00
Chelmsford	£23.00	£23.00	
Chorleywood	£44.00	£44.00	
Colchester	£55.00	£70.00	£70.00
Croxley Green	£50.00	£100.00	
Dunstable	£10.00	£70.00	£90.00
Flitwick	£10.00	£70.00	£90.00
Great Missenden	£55.00	£70.00	£70.00
Harlow	£55.00	£70.00	£70.00
Hemel Hempstead	£25.00	£40.00	£40.00
Hertford	£36.00	£72.00	
High Wycombe	£55.00	£70.00	£70.00
Hitchin	£84.00	£84.00	£84.00
Milton Keynes	£0.00	£0.00	
Leighton Linslade	£10.00	£70.00	£90.00
Letchworth	£84.00	£84.00	£84.00
Luton	£48.00	£48.00	£48.00
Maldon	£53.70	£53.70	
Old Hatfield	£25.00	£40.00	£60.00
Potters Bar	£15.00	£30.00	£60.00
Radlett	£15.00	£30.00	£60.00
Rickmansworth	£50.00	£100.00	
Royston	£84.00	£84.00	£84.00
St Albans	£38.00	£132.00	£288.00
Tring	£25.00	£40.00	£40.00
Ware	£36.00	£72.00	
Watford	£22.00	£52.00	
Welwyn Garden City	£25.00	£40.00	£60.00

	С	umulative cha	arge	
Town	I vehicle	2 vehicles	3 vehicles	
Abbots Langley	£50.00	£150.00		
Aylesbury	£55.00	£125.00	£195.00	
Baldock	£84.00			
Basildon	£26.00	£52.00	£78.00	
Bedford	£25.00	£98.00	£192.00	
Bedmond	£50.00			
Biggleswade	£10.00	£80.00	£170.00	
Bishops Stortford	£36.00	£108.00		
Borehamwood	£15.00	£45.00	£105.00	
Braintree	£55.00	£125.00	£195.00	
Brentwood	£34.00	£68.00		
Bushey	£15.00	£45.00	£105.00	
Chelmsford	£23.00	£46.00		
Chorleywood	£44.00	£88.00		
Colchester	£55.00	£125.00	£195.00	
Croxley Green	£50.00	£150.00		
Dunstable	£10.00	£80.00	£170.00	
Flitwick	£10.00	£80.00	£170.00	
Great Missenden	£55.00	£125.00	£195.00	
Harlow	£55.00	£125.00	£195.00	
Hemel Hempstead	£25.00	£65.00	£105.00	
Hertford	£36.00	£108.00		
High Wycombe	£55.00	£125.00	£195.00	
Hitchin	£84.00	£168.00	£252.00	
Milton Keynes	£0.00	£0.00		
Leighton Linslade	£10.00	£80.00	£170.00	
Letchworth	£84.00	£168.00	£252.00	
Luton	£48.00	£96.00	£144.00	
Maldon	£53.70	£107.40		
Old Hatfield	£25.00	£65.00	£125.00	
Potters Bar	£15.00	£45.00	£105.00	
Radlett	£15.00	£45.00	£105.00	
Rickmansworth	£50.00	£150.00		
Royston	£84.00	£168.00	£252.00	
St Albans	£38.00	£170.00	£458.00	
Tring	£25.00	£65.00	£105.00	
Ware	£36.00	£108.00		
Watford	£22.00	£74.00		
Welwyn Garden City	£25.00	£65.00	£125.00	

Chart 5.02 Residents parking schemes – permit cost comparison

5.01 The cost of a first permit in districts around Dacorum ranges from £0.00 to £84.00, the mean average of the first permit price for the places from where data was collected and charges were made was £38.15; the current charge in Dacorum is £25.00. The cost of second permits in districts around Dacorum ranges from £0.00 to £132.00, the mean

average of the second permit price from the places from where data was collected and charges were made was £57.27; the current charge in Dacorum is £40.00.

It is anticipated that a system whereby customers who have access to the internet can purchase "virtual" permits on-line will be introduced within this or next financial year offsetting the increased cost of providing paper permits.

Charges for residents permits have not increased since the first schemes were introduced in 2003.

5.02 Increasing permit charges will not generate significant extra income unless the charges are increased substantially. Table 5.03 shows the potential revenue stream that could be generated from resident permit sales at different levels.

No options for further charge increases are included in this report.

Table 5.03 Residents annual permits
Estimated additional annual income should increased permit charges be considered in the future

Residents permit options	% change	Estimated increase in annual income if no reduction in applications
Resident's permits, no change.	0%	£0
Resident's permits 1st car £30, 2nd & 3rd £50	20% & 25%	£4,470
Resident's permits 1st car £40, 2nd & 3rd £60	60% & 67%	£13,400
Resident's permits 1st car £50, 2nd & 3rd £80	100%	£44,600

5.03 Similarly, increases in charges for visitors' vouchers and weekly permits will not realise significant increases in income unless large percentage increase in charges are applied. Charges for visitor vouchers were increased in 2012 to cover the increased costs from suppliers.

No options for charge increases to permit charges are included in this report as any small to medium percentage increases will not have any significant effect on income and would increase the financial burden on residents within the Controlled Parking Zones.

5.04 Currently all visitor voucher availability is the same in all Controlled Parking Zones irrespective of the amount of hours of enforcement. This can result in residents in zones with longer enforcement hours having to ration their allocation while those in zones with shorter enforcement hours can purchase vouchers in excess of their requirements. Consideration may be given to a system of allocation that would reflect the enforcement hours of the zones. Options 9 and 10.

Table 5.04 Residents annual permits

Current amount of hours that can be purchased by a (standard) CPZ resident = 600 hours annually (all zones)

	Zone	9	Days	Annual Sand		Vouchers	Voucher allowance per			
					Hours			enforcement hour		
Proposed	А	Apsley	Mon - Sun	7	10am - 10 pm	12	84	4368	600	0.14
Operational	В	Beaumayes	Mon - Fri	5	8am - 6pm	10	50	2600	600	0.23
Operational	С	Cotterells	Mon - Sun	7	8am - 8pm	12	84	4368	600	0.14
Operational	Н	Hospital	Mon - Sat	6	8am - 8pm	12	72	3744	600	0.16
Operational	K	Kodak	Mon - Sun	7	8am - 10pm	14	98	5096	600	0.12
Operational	R	Roughdown	Mon - Fri	5	8am - 6pm	10	50	2600	600	0.23
Operational	S	Corner Hall	Mon - Sat	6	8am - 6pm	10	60	3120	600	0.19
Operational	TS	Tring Station	Mon - Sun	7	8am - 6pm	10	70	3640	600	0.16
Proposed	Х	Boxmoor	Mon - Fri	5	9am - 10am	2	10	520	600	1.15

Table 5.05 Charged shared use bay tariffs

Location	Zone	No. of	Please r	ase refer to information sign for days and times				
Location	Zone	spaces	Up to 1 hour	1 to 2 hours	2 to 3 hours	3 to 4 hours		
Alexandra Road (shared use bay, east side near Congregational Church)	Н	11	£0.50	£1.00	£2.00	£4.00		
Cemetery Hill (shared use bay, north side opposite South Hill Church)	С	17	£0.50	£1.00	£2.00	£4.00		
St Johns Road (shared use bays in cul-de- sac)	K	9	£0.50	£1.00	£2.00	£4.00		
Cotterells (shared use, east side alongside Gadebridge Point apartments)	К	6	£0.50	£1.00	£2.00	£4.00		
Cotterells (shared use bay, west side adjacent to school playing field)	К	10	£0.50	£1.00	£2.00	£4.00		

5.05 The tariff for parking in chargeable shared use bays was equalised across all Controlled Parking Zones in 2013. The pricing structure is designed to discourage longer stay parking which is more suited to car parks but allow value short term parking for users of local businesses and other facilities.

No options for increases to on-street shared use bay tariffs are included in this report as recent changes resulted in a significant increase in the cost for parking in some areas.

Residents' Parking Schemes (CPZ, Controlled Parking Zones)
Options for change

Options 9 & 10 Change in allocation of visitor vouchers

Currently all visitor voucher availability is the same in all Controlled Parking Zones irrespective of the amount of hours of enforcement. This can result in residents in zones with longer enforcement hours having to ration their allocation while those in zones with shorter enforcement hours can purchase vouchers in excess of their requirements. Options 9 and 10 offer alternatives that would make visitor voucher availability more equitable based on the enforcement hours of each zone. Option 9 would not reduce the current visitor voucher allocation in any existing zone (Table 6.01)

Option 10 would reduce the current visitor voucher allocation in some existing zones (Table 6.02)

Table 6.01 No reduction in existing zones – Option 9

	Zone)	Days		Days Time		Daily Weekly Annual			Voucher allowance per	
						Hours				enforcement hour	
Proposed	Α	Apsley	Mon - Sun	7	10am - 10 pm	12	84	4368	800	0.18	
Operational	В	Beaumayes	Mon - Fri	5	8am - 6pm	10	50	2600	600	0.23	
Operational	С	Cotterells	Mon - Sun	7	8am - 8pm	12	84	4368	700	0.16	
Operational	Н	Hospital	Mon - Sat	6	8am - 8pm	12	72	3744	600	0.16	
Operational	K	Kodak	Mon - Sun	7	8am - 10pm	14	98	5096	800	0.16	
Operational	R	Roughdown	Mon - Fri	5	8am - 6pm	10	50	2600	600	0.23	
Operational	S	Corner Hall	Mon - Sat	6	8am - 6pm	10	60	3120	600	0.19	
Operational	TS	Tring Station	Mon - Sun	7	8am - 6pm	10	70	3640	600	0.16	
Proposed	Х	Boxmoor	Mon - Fri	5	9am - 10am 2pm - 3pm	2	10	520	100	0.19	

Option 10 Change in allocation of visitor vouchers

Table 6.02 Reduction of allocation in some existing zones

Zone	Days	Time	Daily Weekly Annual Annual			Vouchers	Voucher allowance per
			Hours				enforcement hour
Proposed A Apsley	Mon - Sun 7.00	10am - 10 pm	12	84	4368	800	0.18

Operational	В	Beaumayes	Mon - Fri	5.00	8am - 6pm	10	50	2600	500	0.19
Operational	С	Cotterells	Mon - Sun	7.00	8am - 8pm	12	84	4368	700	0.16
Operational	Н	Hospital	Mon - Sat	6.00	8am - 8pm	12	72	3744	600	0.16
Operational	K	Kodak	Mon - Sun	7.00	8am - 10pm	14	98	5096	800	0.16
Operational	R	Roughdown	Mon - Fri	5.00	8am - 6pm	10	50	2600	500	0.19
Operational	S	Corner Hall	Mon - Sat	6.00	8am - 6pm	10	60	3120	600	0.19
Operational	TS	Tring Station	Mon - Sun	7.00	8am - 6pm	10	70	3640	600	0.16
Proposed	Х	Boxmoor	Mon - Fri	5.00	9am - 10am 2pm - 3pm	2	10	520	100	0.19

If option 9 or 10 is selected, to save costs, the change in visitor voucher allocation can be made effective at the same time as the proposed A or X zone is introduced if one of them is introduced.

Option 9 is recommended over option 10 with the objective of providing customers with an appropriate allocation of visitor vouchers based on zone enforcement hours without reducing the allocation to customers in existing zones.

7 On Street parking

Table 7.01 Current on-street parking tariffs – Hemel Hempstead

		Parkin	g charge b	charge between 8.00am and 6.00pm						
Hemel Hempstead location	No. of spaces	Up to 15 minutes	15 to 30 minutes	Up to 1 hour		1 to 2 2 to 3 hours hours				
Waterhouse Street (certain lengths between Bank Court and bus station)	20	£0.25	£0.50	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A			

Table 7.02 Current on-street parking tariffs – Berkhamsted

		Parking charge between 8.00am and						
Berkhamsted location	No. of spaces	Up to 12 minutes	12 to 24 minutes	24 to 36 minutes	:	48 to 60 minutes		
High Street (20 MPH zone – Maximum stay one hour)	48	£0.10	£0.20	£0.30	£0.40	£0.50		

- 7.01 The current on-street pay and display parking charges have remained the same since 2003
- 7.02 Sunday charges do not apply to on-street pay and display parking outside the Controlled Parking Zones. Sunday charging in car parks was introduced in January 2010.
- 7.03 In some areas the tariff to park on-street is less than to use off-street car parks.

8 On Street parking, options for change

Option 11 Variation in on-street pay and display parking charges

The current on-street pay and display parking charges have remained the same since 2003. In order to encourage drivers to choose to use the off-street car parks, on-street parking tariffs must be higher than those charged in car parks. This option takes on-street charges above those charged in car parks while offering value for very short stay parking.

Table 8.01 Variation in on-street pay and display parking charges Hemel Hempstead

	No. of spaces	Parking charge between 8.00am and 6.00pm						
Hemel Hempstead location		Up to 15 minutes	15 to 30 minutes	Up to 1 hour		2 to 3 hours		
Waterhouse Street (certain lengths between Bank Court and bus station)	20	£0.50	£1.00	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	

Table 8.02 Variation in on-street pay and display parking charges Berkhamsted

		Parking charge between 8.00am and 6.00pm						
Berkhamsted location	No. of spaces	Up to 12 minutes			36 to 48 minutes			
High Street (20 MPH zone – Maximum stay one hour)	48	£0.20	£0.40	£0.60	£0.80	£1.00		

Estimated annual increase in revenue income assuming no drop in occupancy £40,000 Estimated cost of implementation £ 14,000

This option is recommended with the objective of encouraging customers to use off-street parking facilities for longer stays so generating more parking opportunities for short stay parking through increasing on-street charges to above those charged for long stay parking in car parks.

Option 12 Introduction of additional on-street pay and display parking

- 8.03 There is the potential for introducing on street parking charges in the following areas:
 - Hemel Hempstead, Marlowes between Midland Road and Queensway.
 - Kings Langley, High Street
 - Apsley, London Road

Estimated revenue Table 8.03
Estimated installation cost: Table 8.04

Table 8.03 Estimated income from option 12

Location	Estimated
Location	income

Introduction of on-street charging - Marlowes (North), Hemel Hempstead	£7,600
Introduction of on-street charging – High Street, Kings Langley	£8,300
Introduction of on-street charging – London Road, Apsley	£10,000

Table 8.04 Estimated costs to introduce option 11

Location	Estimated installation cost
Introduction of on-street charging - Marlowes (North), Hemel Hempstead	£18,800
Introduction of on-street charging – High Street, Kings Langley	£29,200
Introduction of on-street charging – London Road, Apsley	£22,300

This option is not recommended as the estimated income does not warrant the costs to introduce the option.

9 Penalty Charge Notices

9.01 Levels of compliance have increased which is the desired result of effective enforcement and keeps the roads in Dacorum moving and safer for everyone. It should be noted however that this has resulted in a reduction in revenue which has been compounded by the change to two bands of Penalty Charge Notice introduced by The Traffic Management Act 2004 part 6 (T.M.A.) in April 2008, lower penalty £50, higher penalty £70. Prior to T.M.A. all penalty charge notices attracted the same level of charge, £60.

Table – 9.01- Penalty charge notice issues have fallen due to increased compliance.

Penalty Charge Notices								
Year	2005 2006	2006 2007	2007 2008	2008 2009	2009 2010	2010 2011	2011 2012	2012 2013
Valid PCNs	20605	19724	19072	17960	16183	14137	16844	14387
% Change on 2005/'06		-4.3	-7.4	-12.8	-21.5	-31.4	-18.3	-30.2
% Change on previous year		-4.3	-3.3	-5.8	-9.9	-12.6	19.1	-14.6

10 Pay and display machines.

10.01 The stock of pay and display machines across the estate are basic offering very little data on occupancy levels, peak demand, machine faults, etc. most are over ten years old, they have, however, proved to be reliable and relatively straightforward to service and repair.

The machines will require replacement in the medium term and it has been suggested that improved data availability would enhance the capability to manage the car parks more efficiently therefore more sophisticated machines offering real-time information should be procured. Modern machines can also improve our customers' experience through providing additional methods of payment such as debit and credit card.

Option 13 Replacement of pay and display machine to be included within the tender for the next parking management contract.

The current parking management contract is due to terminate in 2018. Option 13 would include the replacement of our current machines within the negotiations for renewal.

This option is recommended with the objective of improving our customers' parking experience, improving data collection and spreading the cost of replacing the existing stock across the life of a contract.

11 Parking Management Contract

- 11.01 Under previously agreed arrangements, Dacorum "buys in" its parking management services from Watford Borough Council who tender the service on behalf of three partnering Authorities; Watford, Dacorum and Three Rivers.
- 11.02 Due to expiry of the existing contract, Watford re-tendered the service on behalf of the three Authorities and in consultation with Dacorum and Three Rivers, awarded the contract to VinciPark. The new contract commenced in February 2008. The contract itself is based on the model contract produced by the British Parking Association and reflects current best practice in the industry

12 Continuous improvement

12.01 Between 2008 and 2010 seven of our car parks achieved ParkMark status, Since then a further ten have been given this prestigious award.

The Borough now has 17 car parks with ParkMark accreditation. If the infrastructure of car parks is not maintained to a good standard it may not be possible to maintain or increase the number of sites. Inclusion of refurbishment sites in the capital programme going forward will help address this issue.

Table 11.01 Refurbished sites

Car park	Refurbishment
High Street	✓
Queensway	Planned
Park Road	Planned
Durrants Hill	✓
Water Lane	✓
St Johns Well Lane	✓
The Forge	Planned
Church Yard	✓
Frogmore Street (East)	✓

Table 11.02 ParkMark certified car parks

Car park	ParkMark
Hicks Road	
Wood Lane End	
The Gables	
High Street	✓
Gadebridge Lane	✓
Queensway	
Alexandra Road	
Civic Centre	
Water Gardens (North)	✓
Water Gardens (South)	✓
Moor End Road	✓
Park Road	
Cowper Road	✓
Durrants Hill	✓
The Nap	✓
Langley Hill	✓
Water Lane	✓
Lower Kings Road	✓
Canal Fields	✓
St Johns Well Lane	✓
The Forge	✓
Church Yard	
Frogmore Street (East)	✓
Frogmore Street (West)	✓
Victoria Hall	

12 Maintenance costs

- 12.01 The ability to enforce parking restrictions both on street and in Council car parks is directly linked to the quality and completeness of signs and lines. Deficiencies in these areas inevitably results in the loss of enforceability as experience at independent adjudication appeals has shown that the Adjudicator will not uphold a PCN if lining and signing is either incomplete or faded.
- 12.02 There is approximately 360 km of lining to maintain in the Borough (source Hertfordshire Highways). Contractors expect yellow lines to last between two and five years depending on traffic conditions (source TCL Ltd). The cost of replacement is approximately £0.90 per metre at today's prices (single yellow line). Assuming that all lining achieves its maximum life of five years maintenance of lines alone would cost approximately £324,000 excluding inflation. The Required annual cost to maintain lining in good condition is £64,800. The 2013/2014 budget to maintain the general condition of lines and signs is £35.000.