

Off-Street Amendment Order Response summary

The below summaries the responses associated with the Off-Street Amendment Order consultation which took place between 10th July 2024 & 31st July 2024.

A total of 146 responses to the proposals were received. Of these responses, two stated no objection to the proposals and 14 objections are considered invalid.

The number of objections received at each location are summarised below:

Location	Number of Objections
Berkhamsted (General)	34
Lower Kings Road, Berkhamsted	21
St John's Well Lane, Berkhamsted	4
Hemel Hempstead (General)	8
High Street, Hemel Hempstead	3
Dacorum Way, Hemel Hempstead	3
Water Gardens (North)	1
Kings Langley	29
Tring (General)	12
Frogmore Street	1
Not Specified	14
Total	130

Berkhamsted:

A total of 59 objections to the proposals were raised in Berkhamsted. 34 of these objections did not state which car park in Berkhamsted they were objecting to, 21 stated an objection to the Lower Kings Road Car Park and 4 stated an objection to St John's Well Lane. The themes of the objections for each car park are summarised below:

Berkhamsted (General):

Key Theme	Number of Objections
Changes will impact business	20
Cost	8
Parking Migration	6

Lower Kings Road:

Key Theme	Number of Objections
Changes will impact business	5
Cost	10
Inconvenience	1
Parking Migration	5

St John's Well Lane:

Key Theme	Number of Objections
Changes will impact business	1
Cost	2
Parking Migration	1

The objections relating to the changes impacting businesses centered around parking costs already being too high and that further increasing costs will drive people away from shopping in the town to out of town/online locations, as the price rises are unaffordable. It is stated that these proposals will cause businesses to close as a result of lower footfall.

The objections regarding cost stated that the price rises were unacceptable, unaffordable, too large and not in line with inflation. Objectors also stated that the council had forgotten there is a cost-of-living crisis and that it should be doing more to help people than hinder them further. Many objections also stated that it appeared Berkhamsted had disproportionately higher increases in parking charges compared with other locations in the borough.

The objection relating to the inconvenience caused by the proposals stated that increasing the minimum parking period to 2 hours was inconvenient, as it meant one has to pay more even for a short trip into Berkhamsted. They question why one should have to pay for 2hrs for a quick trip into Berkhamsted.

The objections regarding the potential for parking migration stated that the proposals would cause vehicles to migrate into nearby unrestricted/less restricted roads to avoid parking charges. They stated this would cause potential issues for nearby residents and cause street congestion.

Hemel Hempstead:

A total of 16 objections to the proposals were raised in Hemel Hempstead. 8 of these objections did not state which car park in Hemel Hempstead they were objecting to, 3 stated an objection to the High Street Car Park, 3 stated an objection to Dacorum Way, and one to Water Gardens (North). The themes of the objections for each car park are summarised below:

Hemel Hempstead (General):

Key Theme	Number of Objections
Changes will impact business	6
Cost	2

High Street Car Park:

Key Theme	Number of Objections
Cost	3

Dacorum Way:

Key Theme	Number of Objections
Changes will impact business	1
Cost	2

Water Gardens (North):

Key Theme	Number of Objections
Changes will impact business	1

The objections relating to the changes impacting businesses centered around parking costs already being too high and that further increasing costs will drive people away from shopping in the town to out of town/online locations, as the price rises are unaffordable. It is stated that these proposals will cause businesses to close as a result of lower footfall.

The objections regarding cost stated that the price rises were unacceptable, unaffordable, too large and not in line with inflation. Objectors also stated that the council had forgotten there is a cost-of-living crisis and that it should be doing more to help people than hinder them further. At Dacorum Way objectors questioned how a road could be treated as a car park and that this area should be left, as it is as it is affordable and provides residents with parking.

Kings Langley:

A total of 29 objections to the proposals were made in Kings Langley. The themes of the objections are summarised below:

Kings Langley (General):

Key Theme	Number of Objections
Changes will impact business	3
Inconvenience	15
Parking Migration	11

The objections relating to the changes impacting businesses centered around the introduction of a 4 hour time limit which is stated to prevent people from being able to utilise businesses in Kings Langley all day and will result in driving shoppers from Kings Langley to out of town/online locations. It is stated that these proposals will cause businesses to close as a result of lower footfall.

The objections relating to the inconvenience stated the restrictions would cause problems for visitors to Kings Langley and residents. Residents questioned where they would be able to park given that the car parks would not provide all day parking. Workers of Kings Langley also questioned where they would park in order to go to work.

The objections regarding the potential for parking migration stated that the proposals would cause vehicles to migrate into nearby unrestricted/less restricted roads to allow them to park all day. They stated this would cause potential issues for nearby residents and cause street congestion.

9 objections were raised to introducing charging to these locations. The objections are considered invalid as it not proposed to introduce charging here.

Whilst this cannot be considered as part of this formal process, it is also worth noting that a petition with 3,840 signatures has been delivered to Dacorum Borough Council relating to the parking proposals in Kings Langley.

Tring:

A total of 13 objections to the proposals were made in Tring. 12 of these objections did not state which car park in Tring they objected to, however, one stated an objection to Frogmore Street (West) Car Park. The themes of the objections for each car park are summarised below:

Tring (General):

Key Theme	Number of Objections
Changes will impact business	6
Cost	6

Frogmore Street (West):

Key Theme	Number of Objections
Parking Migration	1

The objections relating to the changes impacting businesses centered around parking costs already being too high and that further increasing costs will drive people away from shopping in the town to out of town/online locations, as the price rises are unaffordable. It is stated that these proposals will cause businesses to close as a result of lower footfall.

The objections regarding cost stated that the price rises were unacceptable, unaffordable, too large and not in line with inflation and unjustified. Objectors stated the Long Stay Parking charge increases and to the breakdown of “Long Stay” durations would result in them being unable to afford to park in Tring for a long stay, such as workers in Tring. They quoted some of the prices rises were over 200% higher and that this is not the 28% increase stated online. Objectors also stated that the council had forgotten there is a cost-of-living crisis and that it should be doing more to help people than hinder them further.

The objection to Frogmore Street (West) stated that the car park losing its free hour would put more pressure on Frogmore Street (East) and nearby streets. They stated that the proposals would cause vehicles to migrate into nearby unrestricted/less restricted roads to allow them to park all day. They stated this would cause potential issues for nearby residents and cause street congestion.

Location not specified:

A total of 14 objections were stated to the proposals but could not be specified to a specified location. The number of responses by the theme of the objections are summarised below:

Key Theme	Number of Objections
Changes will impact business	7
Cost	6
Parking Migration	1

The objections relating to the changes impacting businesses centered around parking costs already being too high and that further increasing costs will drive people away from shopping in the town to out of town/online locations, as the price rises are unaffordable. It is stated that these proposals will cause businesses to close as a result of lower footfall.

The objections regarding cost stated that the price rises were unacceptable, unaffordable, too large and not in line with inflation and unjustified. Objectors stated the parking charges in Dacorum are higher than neighboring boroughs. They quoted some of the prices rises were over 200% higher and

that this is not the 28% increase stated online. Objectors also stated that the council had forgotten there is a cost-of-living crisis and that it should be doing more to help people than hinder them further. The objectors also stated the charges on Sundays should be reduced and for less hours given shops cannot open for as long on Sundays and that the proposals would affect church goers disproportionately.

The objection regarding the potential for parking migration stated that the proposals would cause vehicles to migrate into nearby unrestricted/less restricted roads to allow them to park all day. They stated this would cause potential issues for nearby residents and cause street congestion.

To summarise, a total of 130 objections have been made to this TRO. The number of objections by key themes of the objection at each location has been discussed above. An additional 14 objections have been received which are assumed to be across the entire proposed scheme, as no location was stated within the objection response.