

# Leeds Parks Car Park Charges: Objection Report

Date: 25<sup>th</sup> October 2024

Report of: Chief Officer, Climate, Energy & Green Spaces

Report to: Chief Officer (Highways and Transportation)

Will the decision be open for call in?  Yes  No

Does the report contain confidential or exempt information?  Yes  No

## Brief summary

The principle of the introduction of charges was approved by Executive Board in December 2023 and January 2024.

Following the approval of the introduction of car parking charges in 5 public parks by the Chief Officer (Climate, Energy and Green Spaces), a draft Parking Places Order was advertised and attracted 671 formal objections.

This report requests the Chief Officer (Highways and Transportation) to consider the objections received and the detailed responses, and seeks approval to the recommendation to overrule the reported objections to the advertised Leeds City Council Off Street Parking Order 2024 to allow the Parking Places Order to be made, without modification.

## Recommendations

The Chief Officer (Highways and Transportation) is requested to:

- a) Consider the full list of objections and responses in Appendix A and over-rule the objections raised to Leeds City Council Off Street Parking order 2024; and
- b) Request the City Solicitor to make, seal and implement Leeds City Council Off Street Parking order 2024 as advertised; and
- c) Request the City Solicitor to write to the objectors informing them of the decision.

## What is this report about?

- 1 This report details the objections received to the proposed Parking Places Orders that form a package of works for the improvement of car parks at Chevin Forest park, Middleton park, Golden Acre park, Roundhay park and Temple Newsam, as approved by the Director of Communities, Housing and Environment on 17 July 2024 (decision reference D57556).

- 2 The Chief Officer (Highways and Transportation) is requested to consider and over-rule the objections received and give approval to implement the Parking Places Order as advertised.

### What impact will this proposal have?

- 3 The principle of charging was agreed at Executive Board: –

[Revenue Savings Proposals Cover Report Appendices 041223.pdf](#) (page 206)

[Revenue Budget Council Tax Cover Report Appendices 290124.pdf](#) (page 160 to 166)

- 4 In July 2024, the Chief Officer Climate Energy and Green Spaces and Chief Officer, Elections and Regulatory, approved the decision in a report to introduce car parking charges in five car parks in Leeds ([Council and democracy \(leeds.gov.uk\)](#)).
- 5 This was then further scrutinised on 31st July 2024, minutes can be found at the link below: [Council and democracy](#)
- 6 The purpose of the introduction of charges is to generate a sustainable income to deliver a programme of essential investment in the car parks and related facilities at the sites to make them more welcoming, accessible, safer and easier to navigate and park in.
- 7 As part of this decision, the Chief Officer (Highways and Transportation) gave approval to advertise a Parking Places Order and Traffic Regulation Order and subject to no objections being received to make and seal these as advertised.
- 8 In September 2024 the Parking Places Order was advertised and attracted 671 objections. These are summarised in Appendix A.
- 9 The Chief Officer (Highways & Transportation) is requested to consider these objections and the accompanying comments, to over-rule the objections and to instruct the City Solicitor to make and seal the Parking Places Order as advertised and to inform the objectors of the decision.

### How does this proposal impact the three pillars of the Best City Ambition?

Health and Wellbeing

Inclusive Growth

Zero Carbon

- 1 Generating a sustainable income to improve and maintain car parks will allow the Council to invest in safety, for example, by marking out the recommended direction of travel, parking bays, 'no parking' areas and pedestrian routes.
- 2 The proposal supports health and wellbeing by nudging people towards using active travel such as walking and cycling to get to parks, rather than cars. The reduction in car use that could result as an outcome of this proposal would also contribute to cleaner, healthier air in the city. Parking for blue badge holders will remain free of charge.
- 3 In addition, by encouraging people to use sustainable transport options such as walking, cycling and taking the bus for journeys to the park instead of cars this proposal is supporting the Zero Carbon ambition. Cycle parking will be added at the car parks as part of the scheme and electric vehicle charging infrastructure will be considered and implemented where possible.

### What consultation and engagement has taken place?

Wards affected: Roundhay, Temple Newsam, Middleton, Otley and Yeadon, Adel and Wharfedale.

Have ward members been consulted?

Yes

No

- 4 Large scale informal consultations on the proposed car parking charges were undertaken in 2023/2024 and reported earlier in 2024 (see background papers a and b).
- 5 Formal Consultation was undertaken thereafter with Statutory notices being placed on lighting columns on the affected roads and within the affected car parks on 13<sup>th</sup> September until 10<sup>th</sup> October 2024 detailing the proposed Parking Places Order and Traffic Regulation Order, to invite representations. The notice was also published in the press and online.
- 6 Ward Members were emailed on 16 September 2024 informing them of the legal advertisement of the TROs and PPOs, along with a copy of the notice and plans of the proposals.
- 7 A total of 671 objections were received to the Parking Places Order. Details of the objections can be found in Appendix A with each point of objection summarised and a response provided.
- 8 The Interim Director of City Development and Executive Member for Economy, Transport and Sustainable Development have been consulted on the content of this report and the recommendations.
- 9 The Chief Officer (Highways and Transportation) is requested to consider the objections received and the detailed responses in Appendix A, and seeks approval of the recommendation to overrule the objections to allow the Parking Places Order to be made, without any modifications.

### **What are the resource implications?**

- 10 The resource implications relating to the PPO and TRO are detailed in the approval report of July 2024.

### **What are the key risks and how are they being managed?**

- 11 Key risks relate to the objections received. If these are not resolved then the benefits outlined in the approval report dated July 2024 cannot be fully achieved.

### **What are the legal implications?**

- 12 As a key decision (ref D57556) has already been made in relation to this scheme, it is not subject to call in.
- 13 All requirements relating to the advertisement and consideration of objections are undertaken in line with the requirements of the Local Authorities' Traffic Orders (Procedure) (England and Wales) Regulations 1996.
- 14 There are no further legal implications beyond the above and those set out in the approval report of July 2024.

## **Options, timescales and measuring success**

### **What other options were considered?**

- 15 The option to withdraw the advertised PPO was considered. As set out in the approval report charging has been determined to be the only viable option to improve the sites and sustain funding for their ongoing maintenance.

### **How will success be measured?**

- 16 Subject to approval of the recommendations in this report success will be measured by the implementation of the proposed charging and the consequent maintenance of parks as detailed in the approval report of July 2024.

## **What is the timetable and who will be responsible for implementation?**

17 Subject to approval of the recommendations in this report it is expected that the car parking charges will be implemented from January 2025. The Chief Officer (Climate, Energy and Green Spaces) will be responsible for implementation.

## **Appendices**

- Appendix A – List of objections and responses by site.
- Appendix B – EDCI Assessment

## **Background papers**

None.

## **Previous Reports**

- a) Car Park Charges Golden Acre and Otley Chevin  
<https://democracy.leeds.gov.uk/ieDecisionDetails.aspx?ID=57065>
- b) Car Park Charges Middleton Park, Roundhay and Temple Newsam  
<https://democracy.leeds.gov.uk/ieDecisionDetails.aspx?ID=57267>
- c) Decision reference D57556 Car Park Charges - Golden Acre Park, Middleton Park, Roundhay Park, Otley Chevin and Temple Newsam: [Council and democracy \(leeds.gov.uk\)](https://democracy.leeds.gov.uk/)