

# Cabinet

## DOCUMENTS FOR THE MEMBERS ROOM

Tuesday, 28th January, 2025  
at 4.30 pm

MEMBERS ROOM DOCUMENTS ATTACHED TO THE  
LISTED REPORTS

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# MEMBERS ROOM DOCUMENTS

- 8 **BUILDING SAFETY RESIDENT ENGAGEMENT STRATEGY** □ (Pages 1 - 32)
- 9 **INVESTMENT OF RIGHT TO BUY MONIES** □ (Pages 33 - 50)
- 10 **SCHOOL TRAVEL SERVICE POLICY FOR CHILDREN OF COMPULSORY SCHOOL AGE 2025-2026 AND POST-16 TRAVEL SERVICE POLICY STATEMENT FOR YOUNG PEOPLE AND YOUNG ADULTS TO SUPPORT EDUCATION AND TRAINING 2025-2026** □ (Pages 51 - 72)
- 12 **CHANGE IN PARKING TARIFFS AND CHARGING HOURS IN SUBURBAN CAR PARKS** (Pages 73 - 258)

Monday, 20 January 2025

Director of Legal and Governance



## Equality and Safety Impact Assessment

The **Public Sector Equality Duty** (Section 149 of the Equality Act) requires public bodies to have due regard to the need to eliminate discrimination, advance equality of opportunity, and foster good relations between different people carrying out their activities.

The Equality Duty supports good decision making – it encourages public bodies to be more efficient and effective by understanding how different people will be affected by their activities, so that their policies and services are appropriate and accessible to all and meet different people’s needs. The Council’s Equality and Safety Impact Assessment (ESIA) includes an assessment of the community safety impact assessment to comply with Section 17 of the Crime and Disorder Act and will enable the Council to better understand the potential impact of proposals and consider mitigating action.

<b>Name or Brief Description of Proposal</b>	Building Safety Resident Engagement Strategy 2024 – Consultation version
<b>Brief Service Profile (including number of customers)</b>	
<p>According to the Building Safety Act 2022, Southampton City Council must prepare a resident engagement strategy for residents and owners of residential units in high-rise residential buildings. This strategy expands the scope to include all residents and owners of residential units in all Council-owned residential flats and maisonettes. The strategy sets out how the Council will engage residents in building safety decisions in all Council-owned flats and maisonettes.</p> <p>All high-rise residential buildings must have an identifiable accountable person, known as the principal accountable person. A principal accountable person owns or is legally responsible for the repair of the exterior and ensuring that fire and structural safety is managed properly for the whole building. Southampton City Council is the principal accountable person and accountable person for high-rise Council-owned buildings.</p> <p>Southampton City Council owns 15,833 residential council-owned dwellings (2021/22) across 1934 buildings. There are 2108 leasehold properties and 98 Shared Ownership properties. Southampton City Council is responsible for the building safety of these buildings.</p>	
<b>Summary of Impact and Issues</b>	
The strategy aims to ensure all residents and owners of residential units in	

Council-owned residential buildings:

- are informed about the building safety information we will provide;
- understand what we may ask them about building safety;
- know how we will contact them and their feedback to influence decisions;
- understand how we will measure and review our engagement methods;
- feel safe in their own home.

The Council will engage with residents in several ways, including letters, email, social media, focus groups and events. According to the Office of National Statistics, there are certain communities which are less likely to access information digitally. Therefore, some residents may be excluded from information or engagement methods carried out digitally. This includes information posted on the Council website or social media. The Council will make sure to engage with residents in various forms, including non-digitally.

Some residents may require specific forms of communication, which can be requested from Council officers. Residents can change information on the website into different formats like an accessible PDF or large. They can contact the building safety team or visit our accessibility page on the website for more information.

**Building safety:** [buildingsafety@southampton.gov.uk](mailto:buildingsafety@southampton.gov.uk) or

**Visit our accessibility page:** <https://www.southampton.gov.uk/contact-us/accessibility/>

**Potential Positive Impacts**

The aim of the strategy is for residents and owners of residential units in Council-owned housing to be better informed about building safety measures. They will also know how to suggest changes and make improvements. Understanding the building safety measures, and how to improve them will help improve the health and wellbeing of tenants and community safety.

<b>Responsible Service Manager</b>	Matthew Luik
<b>Date</b>	08/02/2024
<b>Approved by Senior Manager</b>	Jamie Brenchley
<b>Date</b>	16/02/2024

## Potential Impact

<b>Impact Assessment</b>	<b>Details of Impact</b>	<b>Possible Solutions &amp; Mitigating Actions</b>
<b>Age</b>	<p>According to the Office for National Statistics, since 2011 adults over the age of 65 years have consistently made up the largest proportion of the adult internet non-users. Therefore, some tenants may find it difficult to access information about building safety decisions which is shared online or through social media posts. They may also be unable to access the strategy document online.</p>	<p>The strategy sets out other forms of communication which will also be used to engage with tenants. This includes letters, surveys by posts, focus group meetings, events, block notice boards and engagement with officers of the Council. Residents can request specific forms of communication which suits them best (such as large format) from officers of the Council. The Council's website and the strategy explain how residents can access information in alternative formats. Residents can change information on the website into different formats, like an accessible PDF, by contacting <b>Building safety</b>: <a href="mailto:buildingsafety@southampton.gov.uk">buildingsafety@southampton.gov.uk</a> or</p> <p>Visit our accessibility page: <a href="https://www.southampton.gov.uk/contact-us/accessibility/">https://www.southampton.gov.uk/contact-us/accessibility/</a></p>

Impact Assessment	Details of Impact	Possible Solutions & Mitigating Actions
		Information on the website can also be translated into different languages. The strategy can also be provided as a paper copy if requested.
<b>Disability</b>	Some forms of communication used to share building safety information may be difficult for residents with a disability to access. According to the Office for National Statistics, across all age groups, disabled adults make up a large proportion of adult internet non-users. In 2017, 56% of adult internet non-users were disabled. The strategy is published online, so it may be difficult for some residents to access it.	There will be various forms of communication used to share building safety information and engage with residents with a disability. This includes non-digital forms such as letters, papers surveys, meetings, or events. Residents can request specific forms of communication which suit them best (such as easy read or braille) from officers of the Council. The Council's website and the strategy explain how residents can access information in alternative formats. Residents can change information on the website into different formats, like an accessible PDF or large print. Information on the website can also be translated into different languages. The strategy can also be provided as a paper copy if requested. Contact <b>Building safety:</b>

Impact Assessment	Details of Impact	Possible Solutions & Mitigating Actions
		<p><a href="mailto:buildingsafety@southampton.gov.uk">buildingsafety@southampton.gov.uk</a> or</p> <p>Visit our accessibility page:  <a href="https://www.southampton.gov.uk/contact-us/accessibility/">https://www.southampton.gov.uk/contact-us/accessibility/</a></p>
<b>Gender Reassignment</b>	None of the changes proposed should have any impact on a person because of their gender reassignment.	N/A
<b>Care Experienced</b>	None of the changes proposed should have any impact on a person because of their care experience.	N/A
<b>Marriage and Civil Partnership</b>	None of the changes proposed should have any impact on a person because of their marriage or civil partnership status.	N/A
<b>Pregnancy and Maternity</b>	None of the changes proposed should have any impact on a person because of their pregnancy and maternity.	N/A
<b>Race</b>	For some tenants, English may not be their first language. Therefore, they may not understand building safety information, or be able to engage easily with building safety decisions. Some tenants may not be able to read the strategy.	Residents can request communication and the strategy in a different language from the Council. They can request this from Council officers. Information on the Council's website (including the strategy) can also be translated using various tools. The Council's website and strategy explains which tools can be used to translate information on a website: <a href="#">Translating our webpages (southampton.gov.uk)</a>

<b>Impact Assessment</b>	<b>Details of Impact</b>	<b>Possible Solutions &amp; Mitigating Actions</b>
<b>Religion or Belief</b>	None of the changes proposed should have any impact on a person because of their religion or belief.	N/A
<b>Sex</b>	None of the changes proposed should have any impact on a person because of their sex.	N/A
<b>Sexual Orientation</b>	None of the changes proposed should have any impact on a person because of their sexual orientation.	N/A
<b>Community Safety</b>	This strategy should provide a positive impact on community safety. This is because it sets out how the Council and residents will engage to improve building safety.	N/A
<b>Poverty</b>	According to the Office for National Statistics, among working-age adults, a higher proportion of the economically inactive are internet non-users than those with economic activities. Moreover, the percentage of households with an internet connection increases with income. Therefore, it may be challenging for some people who have less income to access the building safety information and the strategy digitally.	The strategy sets out other forms of communication which will also be used to engage with tenants. This includes letters, surveys by posts, focus group meetings, events, block notice boards and engagement with officers of the Council. The strategy also sets out how a resident can also request a specific form of communication. Tenants will also be given the option of having a paper copy of the strategy.
<b>Health &amp; Wellbeing</b>	The strategy focuses on improving engagement with residents about building safety. The Council is determined to make sure that residents are informed about building safety and know how to raise concerns about building safety. Therefore, the strategy should have a positive impact on the health and well-being of residents.	N/A



<b>Impact Assessment</b>	<b>Details of Impact</b>	<b>Possible Solutions &amp; Mitigating Actions</b>
<b>Other Significant Impacts</b>	No other significant impact was identified.	N/A

DRAFT

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# Draft Building Safety Resident Engagement Strategy Consultation

## Full results summary

- [Introduction](#)
- [Methodology and promotion](#)
- [Background](#)
- [Respondents](#)
- [Proposed Commitments](#)
- [How we will listen and learn](#)
- [Reading the draft strategy](#)



Southampton City Council undertook a public consultation on a Draft Building Safety Resident Engagement Strategy.

This consultation took place between **19/02/2024 – 17/03/2024** and received **43** responses.

The aim of this consultation was to:

- Communicate clearly to residents and stakeholders the proposals for the Draft Building Safety Resident Engagement Strategy Consultation;
- Ensure any resident, business or stakeholder in Southampton that wished to comment on the proposals had the opportunity to do so, enabling them to raise any impacts the proposals may have, and;
- Allow participants to propose alternative suggestions for consideration which they feel could achieve the objectives of the strategy in a different way.

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The primary method of gathering feedback for this consultation was via online questionnaire. Physical paper versions of the questionnaire were also made available, and respondents could also email [yourcity.yoursay@southampton.gov.uk](mailto:yourcity.yoursay@southampton.gov.uk) with their feedback, as well as respond by post.



Southampton City Council is committed to consultations of the highest standard and which are meaningful and comply with the *Gunning Principles*, considered to be the legal standard for consultations:

1. Proposals are still at a formative stage (a final decision has not yet been made);
2. There is sufficient information put forward in the proposals to allow ‘intelligent consideration’;
3. There is adequate time for consideration and response, and;
4. Conscientious consideration must be given to the consultation responses before a decision is made.



## Rules: The Gunning Principles

They were coined by Stephen Sedley QC in a court case in 1985 relating to a school closure consultation (R v London Borough of Brent ex parte Gunning). Prior to this, very little consideration had been given to the laws of consultation. Sedley defined that a consultation is only legitimate when these four principles are met:

1. **proposals are still at a formative stage**  
A final decision has not yet been made, or predetermined, by the decision makers
2. **there is sufficient information to give ‘intelligent consideration’**  
The information provided must relate to the consultation and must be available, accessible, and easily interpretable for consultees to provide an informed response
3. **there is adequate time for consideration and response**  
There must be sufficient opportunity for consultees to participate in the consultation. There is no set timeframe for consultation,<sup>1</sup> despite the widely accepted twelve-week consultation period, as the length of time given for consultee to respond can vary depending on the subject and extent of impact of the consultation
4. **‘conscientious consideration’ must be given to the consultation responses before a decision is made**  
Decision-makers should be able to provide evidence that they took consultation responses into account

These principles were reinforced in 2001 in the ‘Coughlan Case (R v North and East Devon Health Authority ex parte Coughlan<sup>2</sup>), which involved a health authority closure and confirmed that they applied to all consultations, and then in a Supreme Court case in 2014 (R ex parte Moseley v LB Haringey<sup>3</sup>), which endorsed the legal standing of the four principles. Since then, the Gunning Principles have formed a strong legal foundation from which the legitimacy of public consultations is assessed, and are frequently referred to as a legal basis for judicial review decisions.<sup>4</sup>

<sup>1</sup> In some local authorities, their local voluntary Compact agreement with the third sector may specify the length of time they are required to consult for. However, in many cases, the Compact is either inactive or has been cancelled so the consultation timeframe is open to debate

<sup>2</sup> BAILII, England and Wales Court of Appeal (Civil Division) Decisions, Accessed: 13 December 2016.

<sup>3</sup> BAILII, United Kingdom Supreme Court, Accessed: 13 December 2016

<sup>4</sup> The information used to produce this document has been taken from the Law of Consultation training course provided by The Consultation Institute



The agreed approach for this consultation was to use an online questionnaire & paper questionnaire as the main route for feedback; questionnaires enable an appropriate amount of explanatory and supporting information to be included in a structured way, helping to ensure respondents are aware of the background and detail of the proposals.

Respondents could also write letters or emails to provide feedback on the proposals: emails or letters that contained consultation feedback were collated and analysed as a part of the overall consultation.

The consultation was promoted in the following ways:

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- Housing social media
- Block reps and LHOs – block reps were informed
- Mailing list to tenant engagement team
- All tenants on Tenant Engagement Team’s mailing list were invited to two focus groups and building safety group
- SCC website
- Leaflets

All questionnaire results have been analysed and presented in graphs within this report. Respondents were also given opportunities throughout the questionnaire to provide written feedback on the proposals. All written responses and questionnaire comments have been read and then assigned to categories based upon sentiment or theme.

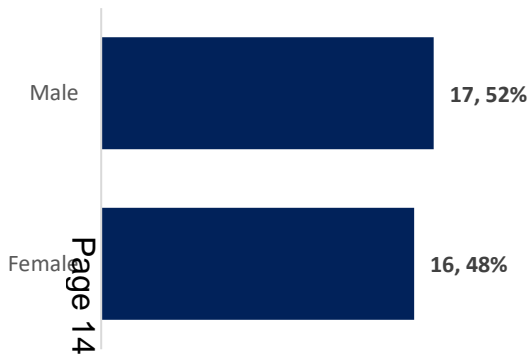


## Total responses

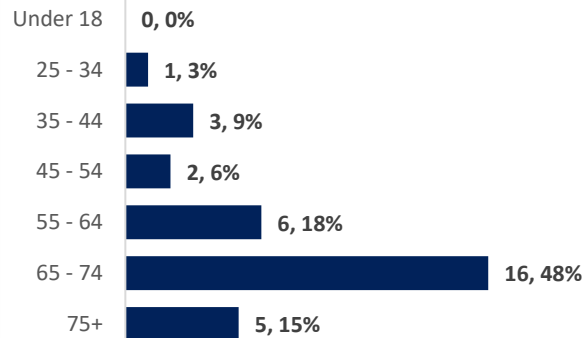
39 survey responses  
4 email/letter/focus group responses  
43 total

Graphs on this page are labelled as percentage (count).

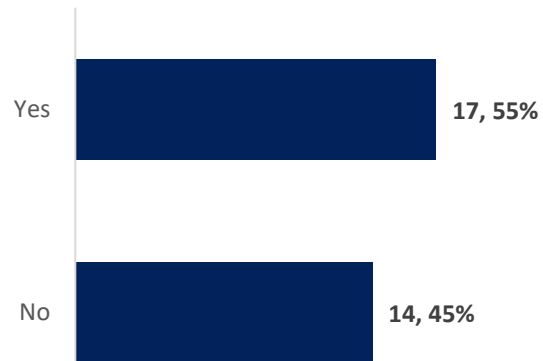
### Sex



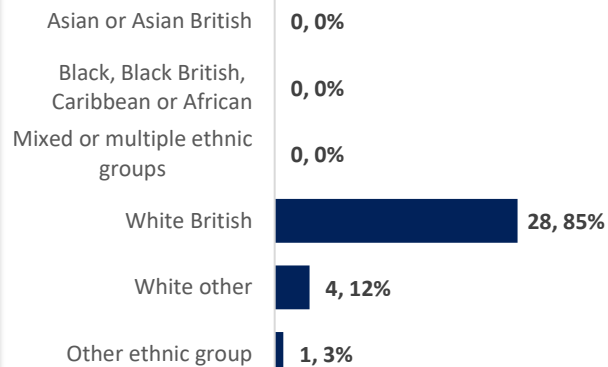
### Age



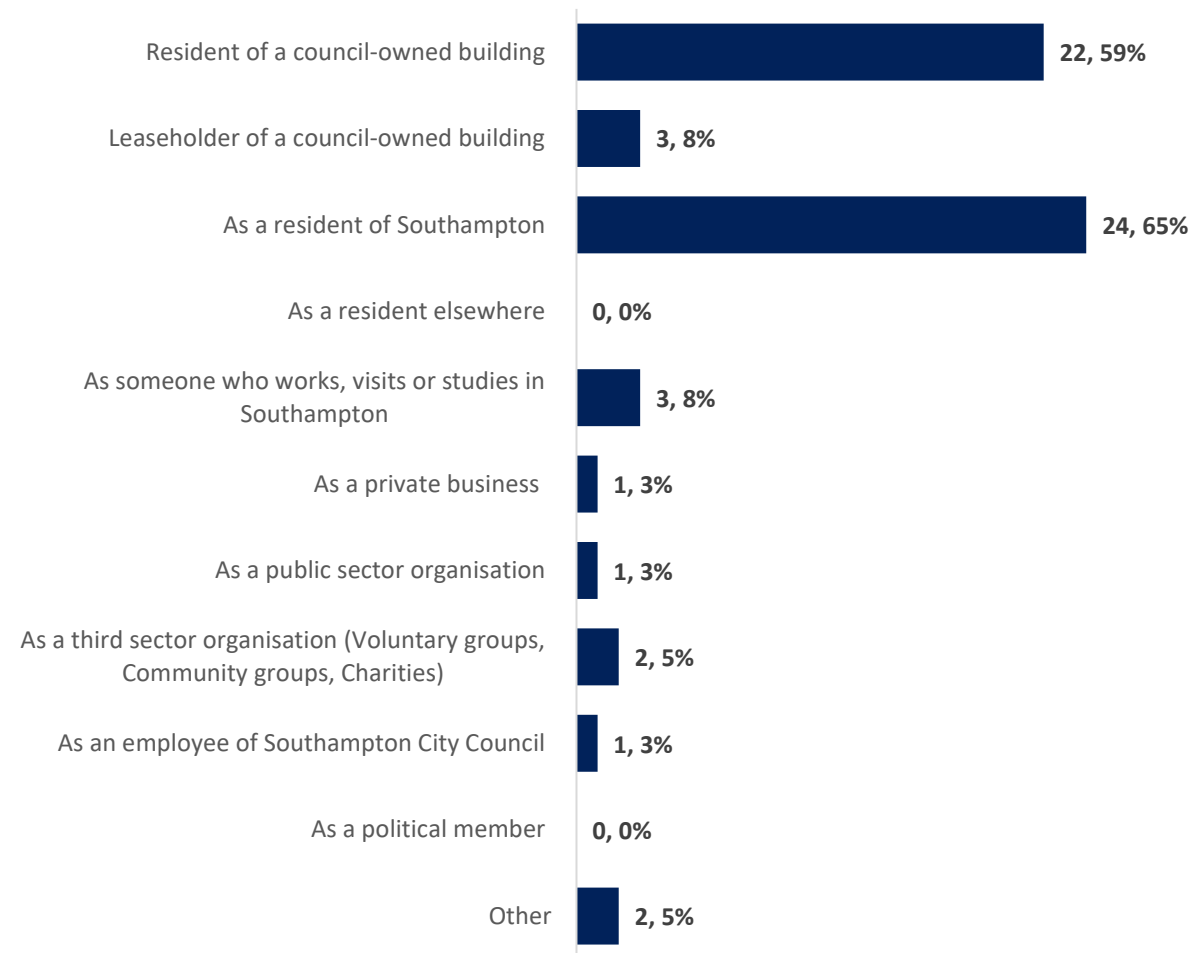
### Disability



### Ethnicity



## Interest in the consultation







# Consultation feedback

## Proposed Commitments



Southampton City Council manages building safety in Council-owned residential buildings. Building safety refers to the measures that are in place to protect tenants in buildings. Building safety measures reduce and mitigate risks, such as the spreading of a fire, structural failures and gas and electric hazards. The building safety measures aim to reduce the seriousness of an incident if one occurs.

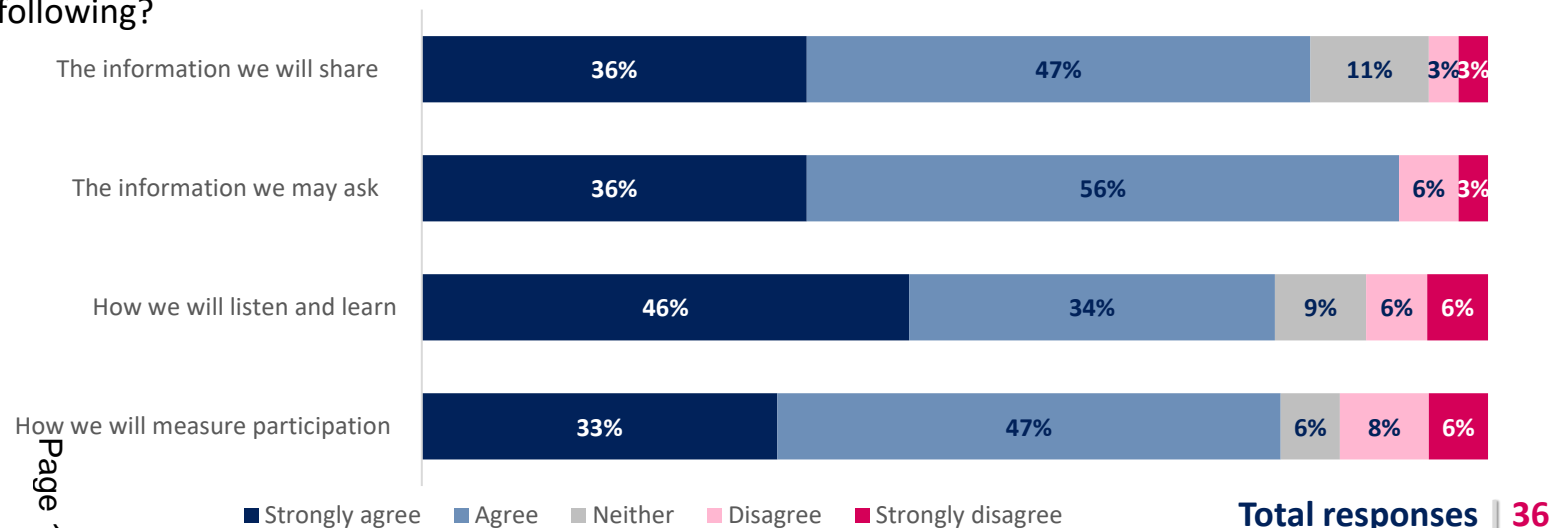
As residents, and leaseholders in Council-owned buildings, you have a say in building safety decisions. This draft strategy sets out how we will involve you in building safety decisions.

Our proposed commitments within the Resident Engagement Strategy include:

- **Information we will share:** We will make sure to provide key information that you need to know about building safety. This means we will continue to keep you informed through channels including, but not limited to, notice boards, tenant handbooks, letters and emails and publishing key information on our website, social media and Tenants Link.
- **Information we may ask:** We want to hear your views about how we can keep you safe in your building, and to help us make building safety decisions we may ask you questions, including but not limited to whether you feel safe, how easy you find it to report issues or raise safety concerns and what information would you like us to provide to help you feeling safe.
- **How we will listen and learn:** We want to make sure we engage with you about building safety decisions in a way that suits you best. This can include through letters, surveys, email, social media and meetings for examples.
- **How we will measure participation:** We will regularly monitor and review how we engage with you about building safety decisions. If there is a lack of satisfaction and participation, we will change our engagement methods.

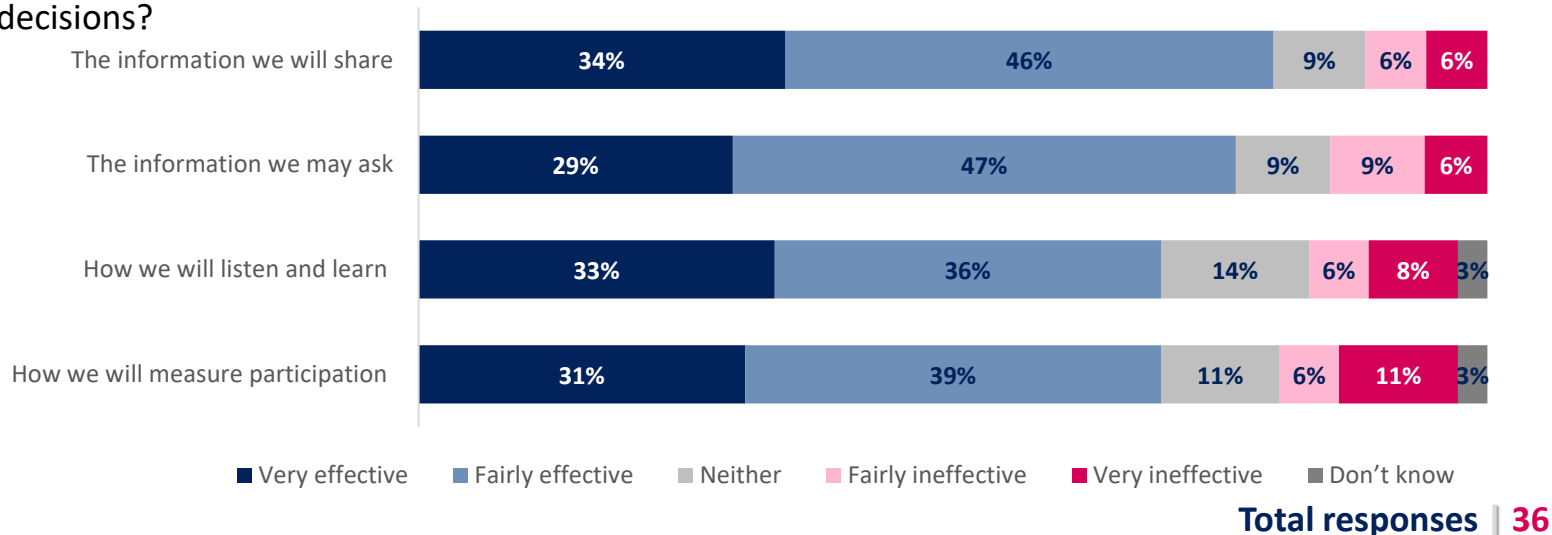


**Question 1** | To what extent do you agree or disagree with our proposed commitments for the following?



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**Question 2** | How effective would these be in making sure you are involved in making building safety decisions?

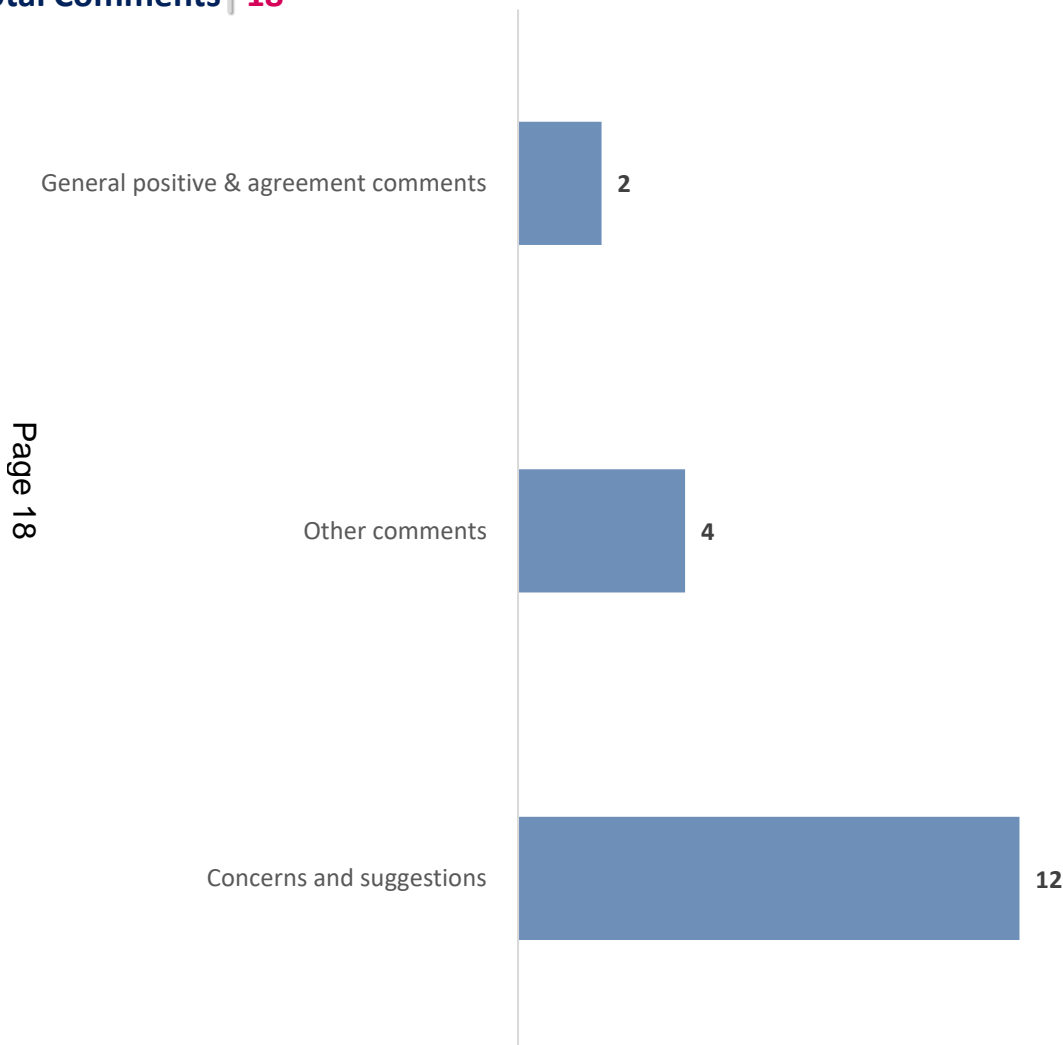


## Key findings

- **'The information we may ask'** received the **highest level of agreement** with **92%**. While **'How we will measure participation'** got the highest level of **disagreement** from respondents (**14%**).
- **'The information we will share'** would be **most effective** in making sure there is involvement in the making of **building safety decisions (80%)**.



Total Comments | 18



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**General positive & agreement comments (2)**

*"I agree with what you say."*

*"This all sounds very good."*

**Other comments (4)**

*"The Council is regularly doing these consultations, but we have learned that often the Council has already made the decisions before doing the consultation but want to appear to be listening. As a result, little confidence in any commitments."*

*"Ps. When are my bins going to be emptied?."*

*"Still no resolution to Holyrood heating charges??Though not!"*

*I want to see Coxford Rd from Lordswood Rd down to Tremona Road be no Parking for Cars. Saturday is the worst. The Road is not Wide enough. Ive seen a 4x4 Truck car force a Ambulance on Blue Light over. If there was no Parking. Buses a Lorries have Difficulties I see Vehicles drive in the Bus Lane. Not wanting to Stop at the Lights The road seems a lot cleaner. I know there has been no Bin Collect Its a hard job Keeping Southampton Clean an Tidy. Wishing all the Staff a fine 2024. One point not happy with. Why Blue Star Buses took off the £15 wkly tick. I use the Bus because i have a Heart Condition. I believes Southampton is a Better City Shops Change over the years. I know one thing. Cars are parking on Double yellows. I even saw one on the Pavement. Lorries need to Deliver Along Coxford Rd there need to be more patrols. People are parking in the Zone are. Not wanting to pay parking Charges. Worst bit is the blind bend in the road before Arcadia Close. All in all Southampton is a Lovely City Its Changed since i moved here. I feel part of the City. Would love to help more. I spoken to Councillors from Conservatives an Labour. Thank you for making Southampton a City for all people.*



## Concerns and Suggestions (12)

*"The stay in your flat should change."*

*"Too many variables. Stay put policy to change."*

*"With staffing cutbacks is this truly realistic."*

*"The Council never gives us a choice?."*

*"Will you really listen and then take action . Or carry on not really listening and doing what you want or doing nothing."*

*"I hope tenant's suggestions will be fully considered, but there will always be policy, budgetary and legislative constraints."*

*"Waste of money again."*

*"Suggestions and opinions don't seem to matter to housing as you will do what you want anyway. You can't even resolve complaints properly. "*

*"Some tenants will do the right thing, but many won't. One only has to look around and see the lack of residents abiding by tenancy rules etc .Nothing gets done owing to councils reply "oh it takes a long time ?? How long is a piece of string ? Forever .Does not inspire me at all."*

*"Honest upfront info and the disruption it will cause to us residents once again .It was dreadful and stressful first time around and to be honest no one wanted to know what our thoughts were !!!! It was only a few holding back that we were spoken to and properly engaged as to what was happening in our homes .As we all age, we don't need the stress .One comment was oh it's not that bad !!! ( that was because she didn't live in a tower block ) another was "well it's going to happen, so you have to put up with it !!" Not great, is it ?"*

*"I will wait and see. From.my point of view I prefer online contact. It saves on paper and post charges and I have been in the internet since 1997."*

*"What is said and what happens is two different things, my only issues are the selective safety conditions, if any safety issues out side those listed in the councils eyes won't matter. If I don't feel safe my feelings are validated and shouldn't be dismissed because it's not on your tick box, not everything is black and white."*



Total Comments | 38

<i>"It mentioned that fire safety information is available at the back of the doors, but tenants are told that they are not allowed to keep anything on the for and all the notices have been taken down."</i>
<i>"Fire safety email – out of office message said that they would respond in 10 working days – this should be changed."</i>
<i>"Keep referring to "tower blocks" in the strategy – but council is committed to strategy for all the blocks – this should be changed."</i>
<i>"Need contact details for PAP and AP (and named person)."</i>
<i>"AP – not clear either."</i>
<i>"PAP: is there are name and contact for PAP. Not clear who is PAP and how to contact them."</i>
<i>"What is "commonhold"."</i>
<i>"Need to listen when people raise concerns."</i>
<i>"Explain what is "significant number of people" in the strategy."</i>
<i>"Can you clarify a bit better what "mandatory occurrence report" is. Mandatory occurrence should be changed."</i>
<i>"Would like strategy reviews 1x year."</i>
<i>"How will you know how many people reported building safety issues if tenants are reporting to different places – need central reporting ."</i>
<i>"Change wording on the Tenant participation: add coma on point 5."</i>
<i>"How can people request information in different formats if they are unable to read the information in the first place?"</i>
<i>"Could hold events 1x year in tower blocks." "Engage children and young people about building safety."</i>
<i>"Is there fire safety and building safety strategy? Both should be available online."</i>
<i>"Tenants want phone numbers."</i>
<i>"Need to get the emergency contact for out of hours building safety reporting."</i>
<i>"People do not know how to report Building safety issues at the moment."</i>



<i>"Get paper copies available for the vulnerable people."</i>
<i>"What about the leaseholders."</i>
<i>"Clarify what we deem to be "vulnerable" people."</i>
<i>"Would like to see the results of this consultation published in Tenants Link and send via Tenant Engagement email."</i>
<i>"Are consultation paper copies available in libraries?"</i>
<i>"The tenants wanted to know if there is a Building Safety Strategy? Fire Safety Strategy and if there is one – can they see it?"</i>
<i>"Need to change the "stay put" policy/advice – tenants are not convinced this is the best advice."</i>
<i>"Would like tenants' Building safety group to become a sounding board for the council – but would the council listen."</i>
<i>"The draft strategy unclear about who is the principal responsible person (name) and who is the responsible person for the individual blocks."</i>
<i>"Should have specific meetings for bigger blocks – when specific block issues come up. The meetings should be in the evening."</i>
<i>"It would be good that some competent SCC staff install electrical staff (like stoves) as tenants cannot afford one – maybe to have a pool of qualified staff that tenants can call upon for the "private" work – this would ensure the work is done to SCC standard."</i>
<i>"Would be good to produce a video of the strategy – with simplified information/summary of the strategy and to have an accessible version of the strategy. Develop a video portal to inform tenants of the consultation results (any consultations) – with bite sized information on issues."</i>
<i>"Should have a follow up meeting to update everyone who took part in focus groups on the results of the consultation: what has changed."</i>
<i>"Excessive questions in monitoring forms? Do you really need to know all that for the consultation on Building safety TE strategy?"</i>
<i>"Is there a separate Building safety Strategy and Fire safety strategy? Tenants would like to be able to see them both."</i>
<i>"How much is all this going to cost? Has someone calculated the costs?"</i>
<i>"Draft strategy: not clear how will the council "listen and learn"</i>
<i>"Doubtful. Council do not listen to the consultation recommendations. Do you really listen – or you just file it somewhere as a tick boxing exercise. If the suggestions not accepted, should tell us why. Need to be a two way process. Mass communication: consultation and then more heightened down – how is it going to be managed."</i>
<i>"Would like to receive the feedback in variety of ways – via emails definitely; would also like to get a feedback and the report of this consultation. Could use Notice boards with QR codes to report this back. And via email, and the meeting."</i>



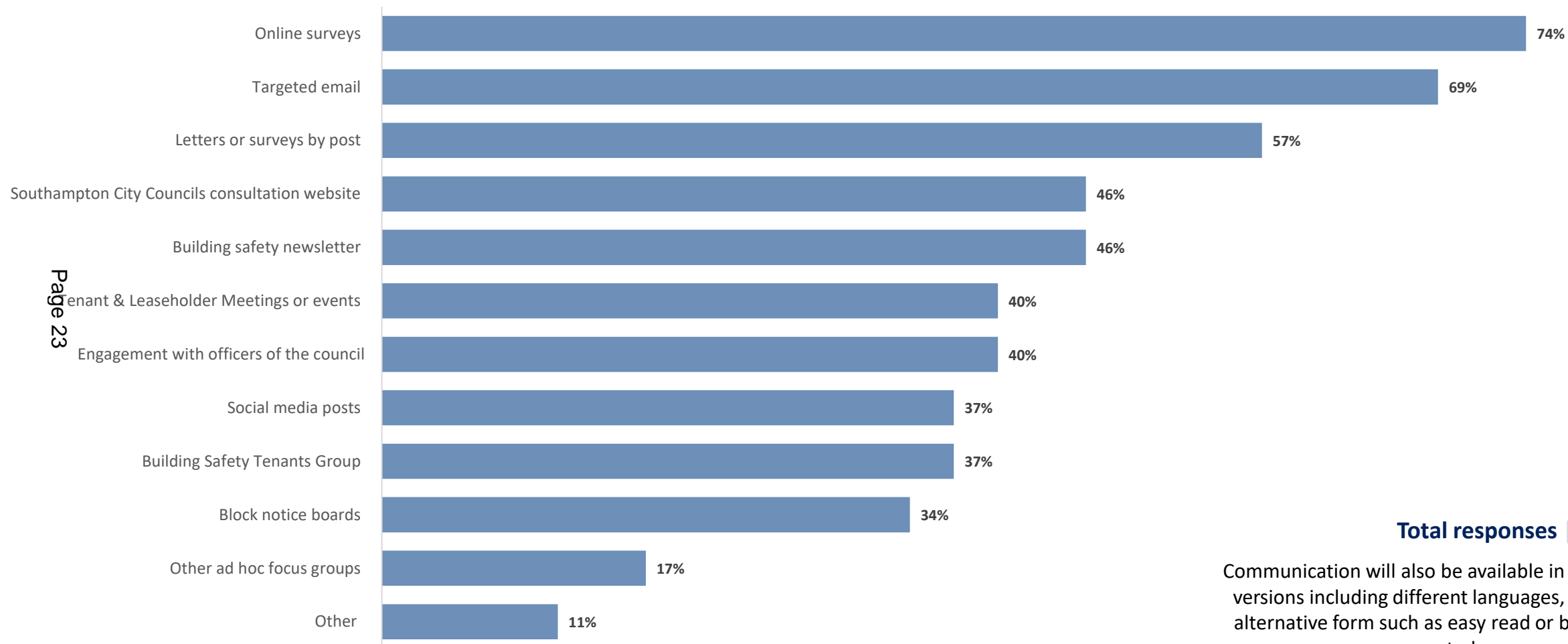
# Consultation feedback

How we will listen and learn





### Question 3 | Please let us know how best we can communicate with you about building safety decisions. (Please tick all that apply)



Total responses | 35

Communication will also be available in different versions including different languages, or in an alternative form such as easy read or braille, if requested.

### Key findings

- 74% of respondents selected 'Online surveys' followed by 'Targeted email' with 69% and 'Letters or surveys by post' with 57% as the best communication methods regarding building safety decisions.



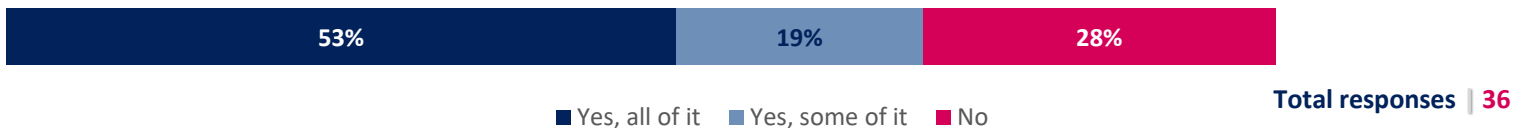
# Consultation feedback

## Reading the draft strategy





## Question 4 | Have you read the proposed draft strategy?

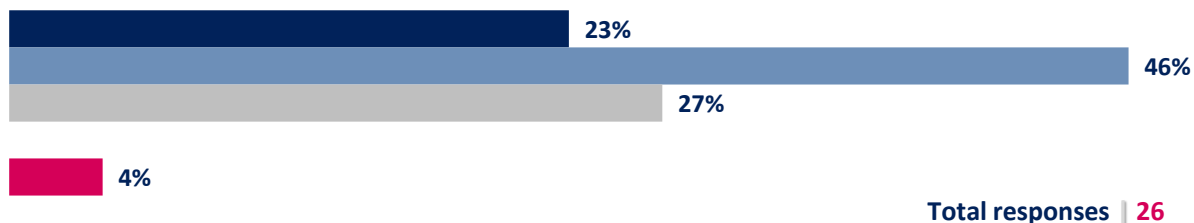


## Question 5 | If you have read the proposed draft strategy, to what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements?

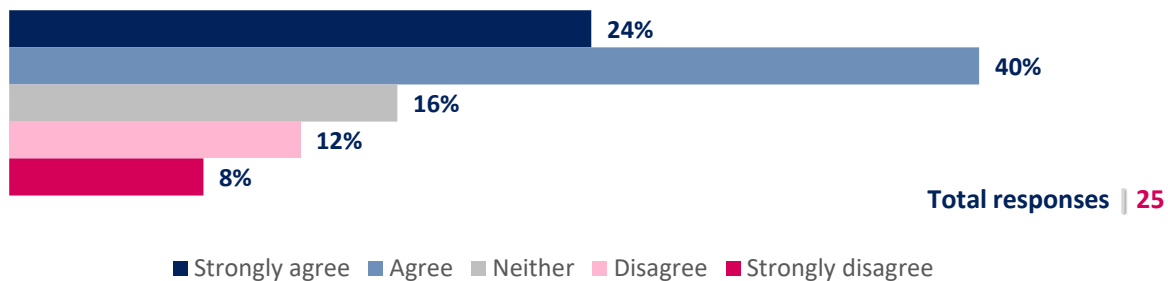
*Asked if "Yes, all of it" or "Yes, some of it" response to question 4.*

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The draft strategy is easy to understand"



"The draft strategy provides sufficient information"



Legend: Strongly agree, Agree, Neither, Disagree, Strongly disagree

## Key findings

- Of the **72%** of respondents who either read all the proposed draft strategy or some or it, **69% agreed** it was **easy to understand with just 4% disagreeing**.
- 20%** of those who responded said they **disagree** that the **draft strategy provides sufficient information**, while **64%** said they **agree**.

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# Your feedback, and our responses, about Building Safety Engagement Strategy

At Southampton City Council, we value your feedback. Here's how we've acted on what you've told us. The information is based on some of the responses from the consultation which took place between 19<sup>th</sup> February - 17<sup>th</sup> March 2024 and feedback given by people who attended our Building Safety Tenant Engagement Strategy consultation focus group meeting on the 27<sup>th</sup> of February 2024 and 7<sup>th</sup> March 2024.

### You Said...

### We Did

<p>Want copy of the Building Safety Strategy and Fire Safety Strategy and for them to be reviewed yearly</p>	<p>The strategies are in development and will be available on our website once they have been agreed. If you cannot access the strategy online, let us know and we will ensure you are given a copy.</p> <p><b>Email:</b> <a href="mailto:buildingsafety@southampton.gov.uk">buildingsafety@southampton.gov.uk</a>  <b>Warden:</b> speak to your warden and they can provide a copy  <b>Phone:</b> 023 8083 3006 (option 7)</p> <p>The strategies will be reviewed every two years or as required in order to comply with legislation.</p>
<p>Building Safety Group to become a Sounding Board for the council.</p>	<p>The building safety group is there to challenge the council on issues regarding building safety &amp; we commit to sharing policies &amp; strategies with them for feedback before they go live.</p>
<p>Change 'Stay Put' policy/advice</p>	<p>The 'Stay Put' policy remains the best one in case of a fire in your Residential building– if the fire is in your own, or an immediate neighbour's flat, get out, shut your front door and phone the fire service. If the fire is in another that is not</p>

	<p>immediate to your flat then stay put, close your windows and doors; if you need to leave the building, then the emergency services will tell you what you have to do.</p> <p>Please read your building specific fire action instruction which can be found on the Noticeboard within your block.</p>
Clarify what 'mandatory occurrence report' is and change it.	<p>As a result of the Building Safety Act 2022, Southampton City Council must report certain fire and structural safety issues to the Building Safety Regulator. This is called mandatory occurrence reporting. The things we report includes but not conclusive to, flammable cladding on the outside of the building or failure of the building's structure such as parts of the building collapsing or issues that may increase the risk of fire spreading.</p> <p>Mandatory occurrence reporting only relates to high-risk buildings. This is included in our strategy because we want our residents and leaseholders help us in keeping you and our building safe. So, if you feel that there are fire and/or structural building issues relating to the block you live in, please complete our online form: <a href="https://southampton.gov.uk/safety-concerns">Safety concerns about a council high rise building (southampton.gov.uk)</a></p> <p>We will investigate it and where appropriate we will report this to the Building Safety Regulator.</p>
Need central reporting for building safety issues & need emergency contact for 'out of hours' building safety reporting.	<p><b>For non-emergency building safety concerns:</b></p> <p>The response time is 24 hours. Please email: <a href="mailto:buildingsafety@southampton.gov.uk">buildingsafety@southampton.gov.uk</a></p> <p><b>For building safety emergency:</b> Please call 999.</p>

	<p><b>General repairs:</b> Please use the online form: <a href="https://www.southampton.gov.uk/housing/your-home/repairs/report-a-repair-new/">https://www.southampton.gov.uk/housing/your-home/repairs/report-a-repair-new/</a></p> <p><b>Emergency repairs:</b> please call us on: 02380 833 006</p> <p><b>Emergency repairs out of hours:</b> please call us on: 02380 233 344</p> <p><b>Fire safety general queries/non urgent</b> Please report this to <a href="mailto:firesafety.works@southampton.gov.uk">firesafety.works@southampton.gov.uk</a></p> <p><b>Reporting a high-rise building safety concerns</b> Please use our online form: <a href="#">Safety concerns about a council high rise building (southampton.gov.uk)</a></p>
<p>The council could listen by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- holding yearly events in Tower Blocks</li><li>- engage children &amp; young people about building safety</li><li>- have specific meetings when block issues come up</li><li>- hold meetings in the evening</li></ul>	<p>The Tenant Participation &amp; Engagement team work to provide opportunities for residents to have their voice heard &amp; hold SCC to account.</p> <p>Throughout the year, the team support various <a href="#">panels, forums &amp; groups</a> aimed at scrutinising SCC's housing services. These include forums for high-rise residents and a <a href="#">building safety group</a></p> <p>The <a href="#">Junior Neighbourhood Wardens</a> are part of Tenant Engagement Team. This scheme co-ordinates a wide range of activities for young people including, but not limited to, <a href="#">fire safety events</a></p>

	<p>If you want to become involved in your housing service in any capacity, then we have a way for you to have your say. You can <a href="#">let us know</a> how you would like to get involved. You can also contact the Tenant Engagement team directly:</p> <p><b>Phone:</b> 023 8083 3185  <b>Email:</b> <a href="mailto:tenant.engagement@southampton.gov.uk">tenant.engagement@southampton.gov.uk</a>  <b>Web:</b> <a href="https://www.southampton.gov.uk/tenant-engagement">Tenant engagement (southampton.gov.uk)</a></p>
<p>Would like to see the results of this consultation &amp; recommendations (period 19/02 – 17/03/24) published in: Tenants Link, send via Tenant Engagement email, Notice boards with QR codes, at meetings, libraries &amp; paper copies available for the vulnerable people</p>	<p>Consultation results and final strategy will be shared through the You Said, We Said, Tenant’s Link article and the strategy will be made available on our website once approved.</p>
<p>Develop a video portal to inform tenants of the consultation results (any consultations) – with bite sized information on issues.</p>	<p>There are no plans to develop a video portal. However, we will provide a summary of the consultation results along with the changes and make this available via our website for you to view. You can request hard copy.</p>
<p>Excessive questions in monitoring forms? Do you really need to know all that for the consultation on Building safety TE strategy?</p>	<p>We asked monitoring questions so we can consider how policy will impact different groups of tenants, to get a wide range of views.</p>
<p>Have a follow up meeting to update everyone who took part in focus groups on the results of the consultation: what has changed.</p>	<p>Those who attended focus groups will be contacted regarding the scheduling of a follow up meeting.</p>
<p>Draft strategy unclear about;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Principal Accountable Person (PAP) and Accountable person (AP);</li> <li>• who is the responsible person for the individual blocks;</li> </ul>	<p>The PAP or AP is Southampton City Council. The Responsible person to Building Safety Regulator contact details is the Chief Executive of Southampton City Council. <a href="https://www.southampton.gov.uk/Executive-Management-Team">Executive Management Team (southampton.gov.uk)</a>.</p>



<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>definition of terms such as vulnerable people, commonhold, significant number of people.</li> </ul>	<p>The responsibility for individual blocks is Southampton City Council.</p> <p>There is no one single definition for vulnerable or vulnerability. However, the definition provided is based on the findings in the Grenfell Tower Inquiry report and the excerpt for which we have taken: <b><i>‘Residents whose ability to evacuate the building without assistance may be compromised (such as persons with reduced mobility or impaired cognition)’</i></b>. See paragraph 113.79 and 113.81 of the Grenfell Tower Inquiry report on vulnerable people<sup>1</sup>: <a href="#">GRENFELL TOWER INQUIRY: Volume 7</a></p> <p>Appropriate to this strategy, we will ensure the terms mentioned are clearly defined in the strategy under ‘Appendix - 3 Definitions’.</p>
<p>Would be good to produce a video of the strategy – with simplified information/summary of the strategy and to have an accessible version of the strategy.</p>	<p>Unfortunately, we are unable to do a video version of the strategy, but this will be made available via our website. If you search <i>‘building safety engagement strategy’</i> on the search engine on our website, you would be able to find all our strategies and policies. See <a href="#">Key strategies, plans and policies (southampton.gov.uk)</a></p> <p>If you do not have access to the internet, please email the building safety team and we can provide a hard copy for you.</p>
<p>“Tower blocks” should be changed to all the blocks in the strategy because the council is committed to all blocks.</p>	<p>The ‘Scope’ within the strategy refers to all blocks.</p>
<p>What about the leaseholders</p>	<p>The strategy includes leaseholders.</p>

<sup>1</sup> See excerpt from Grenfell Tower Inquiry report on vulnerable people below in Appendix 2: Definition

<p>Have competent SCC staff install electrical stuff (like stoves) as tenants cannot afford one – maybe to have a pool of qualified staff that tenants can call upon for the “private” work – this would ensure the work is done to SCC standard.</p>	<p>We currently do not offer that facility. However, you can make improvements to your home provided you ask us, and we have given you written agreement before you start.</p> <p><a href="https://www.southampton.gov.uk/making-improvements-to-your-home">Making improvements to your home (southampton.gov.uk)</a></p>
<p>How much is all this going to cost? Has someone calculated the costs?</p>	<p>The creation of this strategy is at no additional cost to our residents, shared owners or leaseholders. The work carried out in this consultation is covered by existing resources with a view to ensuring we meet legislative requirement.</p>
<p>Change the response time from 10 working days for <a href="mailto:firesafety.works@southampton.gov.uk">firesafety.works@southampton.gov.uk</a> 'out of office' email</p>	<p>This turnaround time is necessary to ensure that we are able to answer to your enquiry properly. The 10-day response time also reflects the fact that this is <b>NOT</b> a route to report emergencies. It is instead for general enquiries. The automatic response to this e-mail address provides advice regarding the best point of contact for different issues.</p> <p><b>Always call 999 in the event of a fire or structural emergency.</b></p> <p><a href="https://www.southampton.gov.uk/safety-concerns-about-a-council-high-rise-building">Safety concerns about a council high rise building (southampton.gov.uk)</a></p>



## Equality and Safety Impact Assessment

The **Public Sector Equality Duty** (Section 149 of the Equality Act) requires public bodies to have due regard to the need to eliminate discrimination, advance equality of opportunity, and foster good relations between different people carrying out their activities.

The Equality Duty supports good decision making – it encourages public bodies to be more efficient and effective by understanding how different people will be affected by their activities, so that their policies and services are appropriate and accessible to all and meet different people’s needs. The Council’s Equality and Safety Impact Assessment (ESIA) includes an assessment of the community safety impact assessment to comply with Section 17 of the Crime and Disorder Act and will enable the Council to better understand the potential impact of proposals and consider mitigating action.

<b>Name or Brief Description of Proposal</b>	COUNCIL RIGHT TO BUY RECEIPT PROPOSALS AND APPROVAL TO SPEND
<b>Brief Service Profile (including number of customers)</b>	
<p>The Government has introduced temporary flexibilities for the expenditure of Right to Buy Receipts which can be applied during 2024/25 and 2025/26. These allow the Council to apply Right to Buy Receipts to cover 100% of the cost of acquiring additional properties to the Council’s affordable housing stock.</p> <p>This paper seeks consent to use those flexibilities for a programme of property purchases to provide additional properties to alleviate Housing Register and Temporary Homeless accommodation pressures.</p> <p>Based on an assumption of an average property purchase cost of £200k, plus a 15% on cost allowance, the Council could buy up to 78 properties under this initiative. This would impact on up to 78 households through provision of additional affordable accommodation.</p>	
<b>Summary of Impact and Issues</b>	
<p>The Council has a very long Housing Register (people waiting for affordable accommodation), which stands at 8,186 households as at 10/09/24.</p> <p>There is also currently an unprecedented level of demand for temporary accommodation, with 172 households in temporary accommodation and 195 in emergency accommodation, with around 150 households awaiting offers of long-term housing before they can transition out. This equates to approximately 120 families in B&amp;B or nightly paid accommodation.</p> <p>This level of housing need has a devastating impact on those families waiting for accommodation, particularly those in emergency accommodation.</p> <p>Also, B&amp;B or nightly paid accommodation is very expensive for the Council to</p>	

provide, and can only legally be used for a maximum of 6 weeks for any given family.

Unspent Right to Buy Receipts have to be paid to MHCLG with interest if they are not spent within set time limits. The Council currently holds £5.515m which will have to be paid to MHCLG along with £1.498m interest if it is not spent by 31/03/25.

**Potential Positive Impacts**

Using the Right to Buy Receipts to provide additional affordable accommodation will provide much-needed accommodation to meet housing need in the city.

If the monies are successfully spent in full, it will avoid the need to pay £1.498m in interest to MHCLG for the first year of the project, with further interest to be saved in future years if the money is spent.

The use of the temporary flexibilities for the expenditure of Right to Buy Receipts is especially attractive, as currently the Council can apply the Receipts to 100% of the costs of providing replacement properties (usually, only a much lower percentage of the costs can be applied).

The ability to reduce the use of B&B or nightly paid accommodation results in considerable savings for the Council. It also improves the options available to families in need of emergency accommodation, having a positive impact on the lives of those families.

Although this programme of purchases would only have a very minor impact on the availability of affordable housing stock in the city, given the length of the Housing Register, any additional properties are helpful to meet need.

<b>Responsible Service Manager</b>	Sue Jones
<b>Date</b>	08.10.24
<b>Approved by Senior Manager</b>	
<b>Date</b>	

**Potential Impact**

<b>Impact Assessment</b>	<b>Details of Impact</b>	<b>Possible Solutions &amp; Mitigating Actions</b>
<b>Age</b>	N/A	
<b>Disability</b>	N/A	
<b>Gender Reassignment</b>	N/A	
<b>Marriage and Civil Partnership</b>	N/A	
<b>Pregnancy and Maternity</b>	N/A	
<b>Race</b>	N/A	
<b>Religion or</b>	N/A	

<b>Impact Assessment</b>	<b>Details of Impact</b>	<b>Possible Solutions &amp; Mitigating Actions</b>
<b>Belief</b>		
<b>Sex</b>	N/A	
<b>Sexual Orientation</b>	N/A	
<b>Community Safety</b>	N/A	N/A
<b>Poverty</b>	The provision of additional affordable homes should have a positive impact on those families to whom they are allocated.	All properties purchased under this programme will provide affordable housing.
<b>Health &amp; Wellbeing</b>	<p>The provision of better options for emergency family accommodation will offer improved health &amp; wellbeing outcomes for families.</p> <p>The provision of additional affordable accommodation with security of tenure will have a positive impact on people to whom they are allocated.</p>	<p>A number of the properties to be purchased under this programme will be used to provide additional emergency family accommodation.</p> <p>All properties will add to the city's affordable housing stock.</p>
<b>Other Significant Impacts</b>	N/A	N/A

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<b>DECISION-MAKER:</b>	<b>CABINET</b>
<b>SUBJECT:</b>	<b>COUNCIL RIGHT TO BUY RECEIPT PROPOSALS AND APPROVAL TO SPEND</b>
<b>DATE OF DECISION:</b>	<b>29 OCTOBER 2024</b>
<b>REPORT OF:</b>	<b>COUNCILLOR FRAMPTON CABINET MEMBER FOR HOUSING</b>

<b><u>CONTACT DETAILS</u></b>			
<b>Executive Director</b>	<b>Title</b>	Executive Director of Resident Services	
	<b>Name:</b>	Debbie Ward	Tel: 023 80833351
	<b>E-mail</b>	debbie.ward@southampton.gov.uk	
<b>Author:</b>	<b>Title</b>	Development and Regeneration Consultant	
	<b>Name:</b>	Fiona Astin	Tel: 07775 834347
	<b>E-mail</b>	fiona.astin@southampton.gov.uk	

<b>STATEMENT OF CONFIDENTIALITY</b>
NOT APPLICABLE

<b>BRIEF SUMMARY</b>
This report sets out the current flexibilities that have been introduced for Right to Buy (RTB) receipt rules for expenditure, and the Council's proposals and guiding principles for a pilot programme to use those flexibilities to acquire properties during the 2024/25 and 2025/26 financial years.

<b>RECOMMENDATIONS FOR CABINET:</b>		
	(i)	That Cabinet approve the expenditure of up to £5m of the Right to Buy receipts collected in 2019/20 on a pilot programme of property purchases under the temporary flexibilities granted by Government during the 2024/25 and 2025/26 financial years.
	(ii)	That Cabinet grant delegated powers to the Director of Housing after consultation with and the Executive Director of Enabling Services, Executive Director of Growth and Prosperity, the Director of Legal and Governance and the Cabinet Member for Housing, to agree and approve the detail of the pilot programme of purchases in line with the details set out in this paper.

<b>REASONS FOR REPORT RECOMMENDATIONS</b>	
1.	To utilise the Council's pooled Right to Buy Receipts, taking advantage of the temporary flexibilities granted by Government, to acquire properties to help alleviate housing need in Southampton.
2.	To allow sufficient delegated authority to enable properties to be secured efficiently and mitigate the risk of delays beyond the spend deadline which would trigger payment of Right to Buy monies with interest to government.

3.	This pilot programme has the potential do deliver estimated savings of £657k per annum, based on the purchase of 24 properties saving £27,375 per annum each. If the pilot programme is successful, there is potential to seek further approval(s) from Council or Cabinet to extend the programme and delivery greater savings.
4.	This proposal would help to reduce the annual expenditure on emergency accommodation, increase the Council's affordable housing stock, improve the quality of service provided and move towards delivering services within the confines of the cash limited budget.
<b>ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED AND REJECTED</b>	
5.	The Council could decide not to spend its pooled Right to Buy Receipts. Any Right to Buy Receipts not utilised need to be paid to Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG) with interest within the annual deadlines set out. Given that the Council has an extensive housing waiting list and unprecedented demand for emergency homeless families' accommodation, this would be a missed opportunity to meet a small proportion of that need.
<b>DETAIL (Including consultation carried out)</b>	
6.	Since 2019-2020, the number of homeless households approaching the council as homeless has surged by 64%, with a further 14% rise in the past 12 months. This escalation, compounded by economic disruptions, has resulted in a 61% increase in households requiring emergency accommodation. The current demand for housing in the city far exceeds the available supply. This heightened demand, shows no sign of slowing, is significantly impacting the council's ability to prevent homelessness, and, where it cannot be prevented, making it a rare, brief, and non-recurrent experience. This has led to the current operating model at the Council becoming financially unsustainable.



7. Housing Need in Southampton

The housing register in Southampton as at 10 September 2024 stands at 8,186, made up as follows:

- 1 bed – 4,617 (this includes approx. 1,500 eligible for age designated accommodation)
- 2 bed – 1,675
- 3 bed – 1,587
- 4+ bed – 307

The increasing demand placed requires the Council to modify the existing delivery model, which includes maximising financial resources and strategic investments to expand the availability of emergency accommodation to address the growing demand effectively. This is one of 3 work programmes set out in the homelessness prevention transformation programme.

The average waiting times for people on the Housing Register by property sizes are as follows (correct as at June 2024):-

Property size	Waiting time (with no priority)	Waiting time (with priority)
1 bed	4.3 years	2.8 years
2 bed	4.9 years	2.4 years
3 bed	11.5 years	9 years
4 bed +	12.6 years	10.1 years

8. The vast majority of Council tenants have the Right to Buy their property within a set of rules and a set discount formula. The money the Council receives from Right to Buy sales is held by the Council (pooled Right to Buy receipts), which has the opportunity to spend it on re-providing affordable homes. If they do not do so within set time limits, they are required to pay the money to MHCLG with interest.

9. There are also a set of rules and an agreement between Councils and MHCLG which govern how the money is spent. Flexibilities have recently been introduced to these rules which are covered in Section 14 of this paper. This paper proposes to that the Council use the current Right to Buy Monies flexibilities to invest in additional affordable housing provision. This would help to reduce the annual expenditure on emergency accommodation, increase the Council’s affordable housing stock, improve the quality of service provided and move towards delivering services within the confines of the cash limited budget.

10. Bed and Breakfast (B&B) accommodation is used by the Council out of necessity when it has no other accommodation available to accommodate families to whom it owes a legal duty to house. B&B is acknowledged to be an unsuitable form of temporary accommodation for families. Legally B&B is only allowed to

	be used for homeless families in an emergency, and even then, for no longer than 6 weeks. Apart from being very expensive in itself, with an average cost of £27,375 per annum per property, there is an ongoing risk of the Council being required by the Housing Ombudsman to compensate families in B&B over 6 weeks financially, which would further add to costs.						
11.	Homelessness has a profound human cost, particularly for families living temporarily in B&B accommodation. These environments often lack the space, privacy, and stability needed for children to thrive. The uncertainty and disruption can lead to emotional distress, affecting their mental health, education and development. Frequent moves and cramped conditions can leave children feeling isolated, struggling to form friendships, and falling behind in school. This instability can also strain family relationships, exacerbating the stress already felt by parents trying to navigate an uncertain future.						
12.	<p>The council currently has:-</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Number of Households</th> <th>Type of Accommodation</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>172</td> <td>Temporary Accommodation</td> </tr> <tr> <td>150</td> <td>Emergency Accommodation</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>Those 150 households in emergency accommodation are waiting for a move into temporary accommodation.</p>	Number of Households	Type of Accommodation	172	Temporary Accommodation	150	Emergency Accommodation
Number of Households	Type of Accommodation						
172	Temporary Accommodation						
150	Emergency Accommodation						
13.	If approved, the proposals in this paper would help to alleviate housing need from the Housing Register, and provide better quality emergency facilities for homeless families, assist the Council in meeting its legal duties, and reduce the costs of using B&Bs and nightly paid accommodation.						
14.	<p><u>Temporary Flexibilities for the Spend of Right to Buy Receipts</u></p> <p>The Council received a letter from MHCLG dated 30/07/24 (a copy of that letter can be found at Appendix 1 to this report) confirming that they were immediately introducing temporary flexibilities to how Right to Buy receipts can be spent which would apply to the financial years 2024/25 and 2025/26:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Local authorities can now use up to 100% of their retained receipts to fund replacement affordable housing, a significant increase from the previous 50%.</li> <li>The Government has confirmed that Right to Buy receipts may be used alongside S.106 contributions.</li> <li>The cap on the percentage of replacements delivered as acquisitions each year (which has been capped at various percentages over the years, but most recently at 50%) has been lifted and it is for the authority to decide the percentage of retained Right to Buy receipts they will use to fund purchases rather than new build.</li> </ul> <p>MHCLG issued updated guidance entitled “Retained Right to Buy receipts and their use for replacement supply” on the same date.</p>						

	They undertook to update the retention agreements made with local authorities under Section 11(6) of the Local Government Act 2003 over the summer to reflect these changes and an updated agreement would be issued to local authorities. The Council has not received this as yet.																																
15.	<p>Retained receipts can be used to supply:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Homes for social or affordable rent</li> <li>• Homes for shared ownership sale</li> <li>• Homes for sale as First Homes</li> </ul> <p>There is no requirement for replacement homes to be of the same type, size, location, or tenure as the homes they replace.</p>																																
16.	<p>Southampton City Council currently holds the following Right to Buy receipts. If these are not spent by the specified year, they are payable to MHCLG along with interest calculated using a set formula.</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Year of receipt</th> <th>Year repayable</th> <th>Amount to repay</th> <th>Interest cost estimate</th> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <th>£M</th> <th>£M</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>2019/20</td> <td>2024/25</td> <td>5.515</td> <td>1.498</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2020/21</td> <td>2025/26</td> <td>1.515</td> <td>0.706</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2021/22</td> <td>2026/27</td> <td>3.310</td> <td>1.274</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2022/23</td> <td>2027/28</td> <td>5.406</td> <td>2.135</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2023/24</td> <td>2028/29</td> <td>2.342</td> <td>1.261</td> </tr> <tr> <td><b>Total</b></td> <td></td> <td><b>18.086</b></td> <td><b>6.874</b></td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>The Council can spend the above monies during the financial years 2024/25 and 2025/26 using the current flexibilities. The Government has signalled that there will be further reforms to Right to Buy in due course, although they do not intend to abolish it completely (see Appendix 1).</p> <p>This report seeks approval to spend <b>up to £5m</b> of the Right to Buy monies <b>accumulated in 2019/20</b> (the row shaded in green in the table above).</p>	Year of receipt	Year repayable	Amount to repay	Interest cost estimate			£M	£M	2019/20	2024/25	5.515	1.498	2020/21	2025/26	1.515	0.706	2021/22	2026/27	3.310	1.274	2022/23	2027/28	5.406	2.135	2023/24	2028/29	2.342	1.261	<b>Total</b>		<b>18.086</b>	<b>6.874</b>
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17.	<p><u>What Right to Buy Receipts Can be Spent On</u></p> <p>Please see Appendix 2 to this paper, which sets out exactly what the Right to Buy monies can be spent on, taken directly from the relevant guidance. This is split out under the heads of Acquisition, Works and On Costs.</p> <p>N.B. With the temporary flexibilities introduced, this means that the Council can recover 100% of the above costs associated with acquiring properties.</p>																																

	<p>The Council's current Retention Agreement states that monies can only be regarded as spent if the works or services for which the money has been (or is about to be) paid have actually been carried out. Otherwise, the money cannot be included in the total. A contractual commitment to spend the resources is not sufficient. Depending on the progress of any property purchases, it may be necessary to approach MHCLG to seek waivers. If, for example, there are some properties at an advanced stage in the purchase process but are unlikely to be able to complete before the end of March 2025 for any reason, MHCLG would be approached to seek consent to retain the relevant amount of Right to Buy monies to complete the purchases beyond the usual deadline date.</p>
18.	<p><u>Acquisition Strategy</u></p> <p>It is proposed that the Council maximise the number of properties it can acquire in the timescale and given the budget available from the Right to Buy funds it holds. Therefore, if the average property price was £200k, plus an allowance of 15% for on costs and bringing each property up to standard, the Council could purchase up to 24 properties with £5m.</p> <p>This pilot programme has the potential do deliver estimated savings of £657k per annum, based on the purchase of 24 properties saving £27,375 per annum each. If the pilot programme is successful, there is potential to seek further approval(s) to extend the programme and delivery greater savings.</p> <p>The number of properties that can be purchased will also be dependent on the number of suitable properties on the market, and which properties can be acquired in the timescale given the legal works involved.</p>
19.	<p><u>Types of properties proposed for purchase</u></p> <p>In order to have the best chance of securing properties within the time available, the approach would need to involve the purchase of batches of newly built properties. If these were flats, it would need to be an entire block to avoid the complications of leaseholds where the Council is not in control of the whole building. The resource and timescale involved in the purchase of a number of individual properties would be significant and not achievable in this financial year.</p> <p>The approach to the purchases will need to respond to what is available on the market.</p> <p>Whilst the strong preference is for newly built properties as set out above, the following other types of properties could also be considered in the longer term over the two years if necessary:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ex-local authority flats in blocks where the Council owns the freehold</li> <li>• Ex-local authority houses</li> <li>• Modern second-hand houses preferably built since 1990 (or 1970 at the earliest)</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Modern second-hand flats preferably built since 1990 (or 1970 at the earliest, provided that the Council can acquire the entire block if it does not already own the freehold)</li> <li>• Properties that have been identified by the Council as Empty Homes</li> </ul> <p>Ideally, all properties should be acquired within 4 miles of Southampton City Council Civic Centre as the crow flies. However, should suitable property availability prove difficult, this range could be extended to enable suitable purchases, at the discretion of the Director of Housing. This is because the Council is permitted to buy properties outside of its boundaries, but it is prudent to limit how far beyond those boundaries properties are purchased for efficiency of management and maintenance.</p> <p>All eligible expenditure to be on homes must be “for the benefit of the authority’s area”. This does not mean that the homes must be physically in the authority’s area or owned by the authority, but if they are not in its area, then the Authority must either own the properties or have nomination rights over them.</p> <p>All properties to be acquired should be within 85% of Nationally Described Space Standards (NDSS) where possible. These are guidance for floor area sizes for new dwellings built in England.</p> <p>Properties will be assessed for their location in relation to access to schools (primary and secondary), supermarkets, public transport, doctors’ surgeries and playground / amenity space.</p>				
20.	<p><u>Properties to be avoided:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Properties that cannot be exchanged and completed before the relevant end of March purchase deadline date.</li> <li>• Properties that are in a ‘chain’ of transactions (to avoid risk of unacceptable completion delays)</li> <li>• Properties with tenants in occupation (to avoid risk of unacceptable completion with vacant possession delays)</li> <li>• Flats in blocks where the Council does not already own the freehold (unless the Council can acquire the entire block)</li> <li>• Properties which cannot be brought up to Decent Homes standards within a maintenance spend of £25k (to maximise the number of properties that can be acquired)</li> <li>• Properties with an EPC rating of lower than C, or that cannot be brought up a minimum C rating without the need for extensive or prohibitively expensive works.</li> </ul>				
21.	<p>The aim will be to purchase a mix of bedroom sizes, the below provides an indication of the aspirations as set out by the Service Lead for Housing Needs and Welfare:</p> <table border="1"> <tr> <td>1 bedroom</td> <td>10%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2 bedroom</td> <td>80%</td> </tr> </table>	1 bedroom	10%	2 bedroom	80%
1 bedroom	10%				
2 bedroom	80%				

	3 bedroom	10%																	
	<p>However, this mix may be altered to suit circumstances as the programme progresses. It may be necessary to buy properties for General Needs use, then substitute the equivalent number of properties from the Council's existing General Needs stock for Temporary Homelessness use. This will be at the discretion of the Director of Housing.</p>																		
22.	<p>A clear process will be devised in order to ensure that the properties purchased are properly inspected and conveyancing instructed at the appropriate time. The project will be managed by a consultant working in the Corporate Estate and Assets Team.</p>																		
23.	<p>In all cases, the consultant working in the Corporate Estate and Assets Team will visit properties to assess their suitability before considering whether any offer should be made.</p>																		
24.	<p>The consultant will make the offers on the properties, with those offers will be subject to the necessary due diligence, which may need to be commissioned outside the authority.</p>																		
25.	<p><u>Project Programme</u></p> <p><u>If approved, the aim would be to allow a programme of property purchases to commence as soon as possible after the Cabinet meeting on 29/10/24 (allowing for call-in of decision).</u></p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th colspan="5"><b>OUTLINE TIMETABLE FOR PROPOSALS TO SPEND RIGHT TO BUY RECEIPTS</b></th> </tr> <tr> <th></th> <th><b>Date Start</b></th> <th><b>Date Finish</b></th> <th><b>Task</b></th> <th><b>Detail</b></th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>1</td> <td>As soon as possible after the Council's decision on this paper (allowing for any call-in of decision )</td> <td>28/11/24</td> <td>Preparation for purchases</td> <td> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Desktop review of properties available for purchase</li> <li>• Initial visits by the consultant to properties with potential to meet the Council's requirements</li> </ul> </td> </tr> </tbody> </table>				<b>OUTLINE TIMETABLE FOR PROPOSALS TO SPEND RIGHT TO BUY RECEIPTS</b>						<b>Date Start</b>	<b>Date Finish</b>	<b>Task</b>	<b>Detail</b>	1	As soon as possible after the Council's decision on this paper (allowing for any call-in of decision )	28/11/24	Preparation for purchases	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Desktop review of properties available for purchase</li> <li>• Initial visits by the consultant to properties with potential to meet the Council's requirements</li> </ul>
<b>OUTLINE TIMETABLE FOR PROPOSALS TO SPEND RIGHT TO BUY RECEIPTS</b>																			
	<b>Date Start</b>	<b>Date Finish</b>	<b>Task</b>	<b>Detail</b>															
1	As soon as possible after the Council's decision on this paper (allowing for any call-in of decision )	28/11/24	Preparation for purchases	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Desktop review of properties available for purchase</li> <li>• Initial visits by the consultant to properties with potential to meet the Council's requirements</li> </ul>															

	2	As soon as possible after the Council's decision on this paper (allowing for call-in of decision)	28/11/24	Securing suitable external resources to expedite project	Procure / appoint the following external resources: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Red Book valuations</li> <li>• Conveyancing services</li> <li>• Property inspections</li> </ul>
	3	28/11/24	20/12/24	Property inspections and valuations of properties	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Instruct inspections and valuations of suitable properties as and when initial offers accepted.</li> <li>• Revise offers in line with inspections and valuations if necessary.</li> </ul>
	4	02/12/24	20/12/24	Conveyancing instructed on properties	Issue conveyancing instructions to Legal Services as and when each offer is accepted.
	5	06/01/25	31/03/25	Purchase completions of First Tranche properties	Property purchases complete up until funding deadline

## RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

### Capital/Revenue

26.	The capital costs of purchasing the properties, the association on costs of those purchases, and the cost of any repairs required to bring them up to a lettable standard are all eligible to be paid for from the Council's pooled Right to Buy monies. The Council's criteria of 'Purposeful Investment' will be applied when reviewing the proposed acquisitions. This is to ensure each purchase is focused on delivering the optimum value for money for the council.
27.	Given that the capital costs are all covered by the Council's pooled Right to Buy monies, there will be no on-going financing costs associated with the acquisitions. The Council can let the acquired properties out at either Social Rents or Affordable Rents. The rental income generated will cover the additional management and maintenance costs of the acquired properties creating a net operational benefit. The financial impact of the acquisitions will be incorporated into the next iteration of the HRA business plan for 2025/26 onwards.

28.	It is estimated that every property purchase that ultimately goes on to release property that could be used as temporary accommodation for homeless families would generate an ongoing saving of £27,375 per year to the General Fund, which links to the Homelessness Transformation programme.
<b><u>Property/Other</u></b>	
29.	Given the necessity to meet tight deadlines on this project, the availability of internal resources has been considered. The conclusion is that it will be necessary to access external resources for several areas of the process as outlined below. The cost of these resources can be covered from the pooled RTB receipts.
30.	Legal Services have confirmed that it may be necessary to seek external support for the purchase transactions. A framework agreement is available and prices are being sought by Legal Services. Further, the Council's Service Manager for Procurement has confirmed that there are alternative framework agreements that can be accessed quickly for such services should that be necessary.
31.	Red Book Valuations – the Council has recently undertaken a procurement exercise to obtain this service, and it has been confirmed that the framework wording is suitable to cover this project. An exploratory conversation with the successful provider has established that they have the capacity to handle this project in a timely fashion without detriment to the main purpose of the framework, which is to deal with land and property disposals.
32.	Property Inspections – these could also be provided via the same framework as the Red Book Valuations set out above. The provider has confirmed that these too can be delivered without detriment to the land and property disposals programme.
33.	If the Red Book Valuations and Property Inspections cannot be provided through the new framework for any reason, then the separate procurement of these services could pose a significant risk to the successful delivery of the project, as there are insufficient internal resources available to carry them out internally.
34.	Officers are currently seeking clarity from the framework provider(s) as to their ability to undertake property inspections and red book valuations without any detriment to the land and property disposal programme. If this presents problems, then the Council's Service Manager for Procurement is aware of this project and will be approached to assist in identifying an alternative solution, and has already confirmed that a suitable framework already exists for the provision of site inspection services.
35.	The overall project will be managed by the Corporate Estate and Assets Division, delivering the project to, and in consultation with, the Directorate of Wellbeing and Housing. The project will be delivered by a consultant reporting to the Estate Regeneration and Development Services Manager.
36.	If they are not already, the properties purchased will need to be brought up to a lettable standard after purchase and before first lets. The Asset Management team will be involved in deciding what works are necessary, and meeting Decent Homes standards will be a priority in preparing any work specification.
37.	The properties will be held within the Housing Revenue Account and will be managed by Housing Management. Compliance will be dealt with by the Councils Asset Management Team.



<b>LEGAL IMPLICATIONS</b>	
<b><u>Statutory power to undertake proposals in the report:</u></b>	
38.	The Council's power to acquire property for housing purposes is pursuant to Section 17 Housing Act 1985. The Council also has the right of first refusal to purchase a RTB property for the first 10 years after the sale pursuant to Section 156A HA 1985.
39.	RTB receipts must be applied in accordance with relevant legislation and guidance and particularly the Local Authorities (Capital Finance and Accounting) (England) Regulations 2003 (as amended) and the terms of any retention agreement reached under section 11(6) of the Local Government Act 2003 modifying the applicability of the regulations.
40.	Under Section 11(6) of the Local Government Act 2003, local authorities are required to spend retained Right to Buy receipts within three years, and for the receipts to fund no more than 30%* of the cost of a replacement unit. Where a local authority is unable to spend receipts within three years they have to be returned to the MHCLG, together with interest (currently 4% above base rate). However, the Government has immediately introduced temporary flexibilities for how Right to Buy receipts can be spent which would apply to the financial years 2024/25 and 2025/26.  *This percentage has changed from time to time, and according to the letter from MHCLG at Appendix 1, had most recently been set at 50%.
41.	The council has a duty under the Local Government Act 1999 to make arrangements to secure continuous improvement in the way in which its functions are exercised, having regard to a combination of economy, efficiency and effectiveness-the best value duty.
42.	Under Section 3 of the Local Government Act 1972 the Council has the power to do anything incidental to the exercising of any of its functions.
43.	The general power of competence under section 1 of the Localism Act 2011 gives local authorities a broad range of powers "to do anything that individuals generally may do" subject to limits within other legislation.
<b><u>Other Legal Implications:</u></b>	
	N/A
<b>RISK MANAGEMENT IMPLICATIONS</b>	
44.	The main risk is that the Council will not be able to acquire sufficient properties to spend all available Right to Buy receipts within the deadlines, which would trigger the need to pay the monies to MHCLG with interest. This will be challenging, and will depend on what suitable properties are available and how quickly purchases are able to progress. The intention will be to identify, have offers accepted and instruct conveyancing work by Christmas 2024 in order to have the best chance of completing the purchases by 31 March 2025 (seeking a suitable extension from MHCLG if required).
45.	Risk Items:  1. Lack of suitable properties available

	<p>2. Works needed are excessive</p> <p>3. The properties available do not meet the Council's criteria</p> <p>4. Tenants are not able to move out in the timescale</p> <p>5. Agreement cannot be reached on a price</p> <p>6. Legal progress cannot be completed in the timescales</p> <p>7. The timescales involved in the appointment of additional resources</p>
<b>POLICY FRAMEWORK IMPLICATIONS</b>	
46.	Southampton City Council Corporate Plan (2022-2030 updated 2024) sets out a commitment to deliver safe and stable home environments recognising a safe place to call home should be a fundamental right for everyone. The acquisition programme will support this objective by providing residents of Southampton who have no place to call home a safe, good quality interim offer of accommodation which will provide the foundation from which they can begin to rebuild their lives.
47.	The Council's Homelessness and Rough Sleeping Strategy (2024-2029) sets out a vision- "A city where everyone has a safe place to call home" Where homelessness cannot be prevented it is imperative that the council can intervene with a suitable good quality and affordable accommodation option.

<b>KEY DECISION?</b>	<b>Yes</b>
<b>WARDS/COMMUNITIES AFFECTED:</b>	ALL
<u>SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION</u>	
<b>Appendices</b>	
1.	Letter from MHCLG regarding 30 July 2024 regarding "Right to Buy receipts: increased flexibilities"
2.	What Right to Buy receipts can be spent on (extract from relevant guidance)
3.	Equality and Safety Impact Assessment (ESIA)

#### **Documents In Members' Rooms**

1.	
2.	

#### **Equality Impact Assessment**

<b>Do the implications/subject of the report require an Equality and Safety Impact Assessment (ESIA) to be carried out.</b>	<b>No</b>
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#### **Data Protection Impact Assessment**

<b>Do the implications/subject of the report require a Data Protection Impact Assessment (DPIA) to be carried out.</b>	<b>No</b>
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#### **Other Background Documents**

**Other Background documents available for inspection at:**

<b>Title of Background Paper(s)</b>	<b>Relevant Paragraph of the Access to Information Procedure Rules /</b>
-------------------------------------	--

		Schedule 12A allowing document to be Exempt/Confidential (if applicable)
1.		
2.		

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## Equality and Safety Impact Assessment



The **Public Sector Equality Duty** (Section 149 of the Equality Act) requires public bodies to have due regard to the need to eliminate discrimination, advance equality of opportunity, and foster good relations between different people carrying out their activities.

The Equality Duty supports good decision making – it encourages public bodies to be more efficient and effective by understanding how different people will be affected by their activities, so that their policies and services are appropriate and accessible to all and meet different people’s needs. The Council’s Equality and Safety Impact Assessment (ESIA) includes an assessment of the community safety impact assessment to comply with Section 17 of the Crime and Disorder Act and will enable the Council to better understand the potential impact of proposals and consider mitigating action.

<b>Name or Brief Description of Proposal</b>	School Travel Service Policy for Children of Compulsory School Age 2025-2026 and Post-16 Travel Service Policy Statement for Young People and Young Adults to Support Education and Training 2025-2026
<b>Brief Service Profile (including number of customers)</b>	
<p>The School Travel Service manages the provision of travel support for children of compulsory school age and Post-16 students (young persons of sixth form age and adult learners (over the age of 19 and under the age of 25)), to support their attendance at school or at education setting. The Service works with the Council’s Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) team to agree eligibility and the most suitable form of travel support, such as Independent Travel Training, Personal Travel Budgets (PTB), bus passes and transport (taxis, minibuses and Wheelchair Accessible Vehicles (WAV)).</p> <p>There are currently approximately 660 mainstream children and 1,025 SEND children for whom the Council provides travel support.</p> <p>The School Travel Service manages the service delivery in accordance with the council’s School Travel Service Policy and Post-16 Travel Service Policy Statement which aligns to National Statutory Guidance.</p> <p>The School Travel Service Policy and Post-16 Travel Service Policy Statement sets out Southampton City Council’s approach to the operation of the School Travel Service in Southampton. It sets out the Council’s statutory requirements along with local policy, including the criteria for eligibility, the type of travel support the Council may provide and how to appeal a decision.</p> <p>The legal responsibility for ensuring a child’s attendance at school rests with the child’s parent or carer. For most children, parents and carers are</p>	

generally expected to provide travel arrangements for their child to travel to and from school.

Under the 1996 Education Act, Southampton City Council has a statutory duty to provide free of charge travel arrangements to facilitate the attendance at school of eligible children within the Council's administrative boundary. The Education Act 1996 requires that travel support is provided to children of compulsory school age who attend their nearest suitable school and:

- live more than the statutory walking distance from that school, or
- could not reasonably be expected to walk to that school because of their special educational needs, disability or mobility problem, even if they were accompanied by their parent or carer, or
- would not be able to walk to that school in reasonable safety, even if they were accompanied by their parent or carer, or
- meet the 'extended rights' criteria for children from low-income households.

There is no legal requirement for local authorities to provide travel support to Early Years children.

The School Travel Service policy includes the statutory provision for children under the age of sixteen, as well as enabling applications to request travel support for exceptional circumstances.

The School Travel Service Policy and Post-16 Travel Service Policy Statement also includes a statement specifying the arrangements for the provision of travel or other support to facilitate the attendance of all Post-16 persons of sixth form age and adult learners (over the age of 19 and under the age of 25) receiving education or training (including those with an Education, Health and Care plan).

There is no legal requirement for local authorities to provide travel support to Early Years children or Post-16 students. However, local authorities must adhere to the National Statutory Guidance on Post-16 travel support and the Equalities Act 2010 when developing and publishing travel policy statements for Post-16 students.

The School Travel Service Policy and Post-16 Travel Service Policy Statement applies to children and students whose permanent home address is within the administrative boundaries of Southampton City Council. Children and students studying in, but not resident in, Southampton should refer to the relevant transport policies issued by the local authority in their resident area.

### **Summary of Impact and Issues**

School Travel Service Policy for Children of Compulsory School Age 2025-

2026 and Post-16 Travel Service Policy Statement for Young People and Young Adults to Support Education and Training 2025-2026 will update the current School Travel Service and Post-16 Travel Service Policy 2024-2025.

To achieve this, the following proposed changes are included:

- Update wording and terminology to improve clarity.
- Separate the Post-16 Travel Service Policy Statement for Young People and Young Adults to Support Education and Training from the School Travel Policy for Children of Compulsory School Age to make two separate documents to align with national statutory guidance.
- Updated Personal Travel Budget.
- Add a post-16 travel grant option, and a contribution charge where vehicle transport is provided.
- Add that the maximum travel support provision is for attendance of 18 hours over three days for eligible post-16 students.
- Evidence requirement for post-19 travel support (that other options for travel support / funding have been explored).
- Removal of travel support eligibility post-house move where parents and Carers want their children to remain at the same school.
- Reduction in the notice period given if travel support is awarded in error.
- Removal of privilege places.
- Increase the number of suitable schools that families must list on mainstream application forms if they wish to apply for travel support.

In addition, other proposed changes as a result of consultation feedback include:

- Where transport is provided, due to the GCSE results being issued in August followed by enrolment planning, vehicle transport will be available from October to allow time to put the transport routes in place. Parents and Carers will need to make their own arrangements in September with mileage claimable.
- Include information in the School Travel Policy for Children of Compulsory School Age about decelerated children and their entitlement to travel support to year 11.

#### **Potential Positive Impacts**

The policy has been drafted to be fair and transparent and more closely aligned to National Statutory Guidance.

The wording of the policy has been reviewed to make the travel service offer clearer and ensure terminology used in the policy is consistent and in line with the way the service operates. This means the draft policies are now a more accurate reflection of the service offer.

A clear 'hierarchy' of travel support options for Post-16 students has been set out to clearly indicate to students the travel support offer and the order in which different forms of travel support will be considered, to increase transparency about the operation of the School Travel Service.

There is a stronger focus on independent travel to better support children and students' future outcomes.

An updated Personal Travel Budget offer may increase the uptake and the ability for parents or carers to be able to take their children to and from school.

<b>Responsible Service Manager</b>	Annamarie Hooper, Service Manager – Service Delivery and Compliance
<b>Date</b>	20/08/2024
<b>Approved by Senior Manager</b>	Pete Boustred, Head of Transport & Planning
<b>Date</b>	20/08/2024

### Potential Impact

<b>Impact Assessment</b>	<b>Details of Impact</b>	<b>Possible Solutions &amp; Mitigating Actions</b>
<b>Age</b>	<p>The School Travel Service impacts children of compulsory school age, post-16 students; young people of sixth form age and adult learners (up to age 25 where they are continuing on a course started before their 19th birthday).</p> <p>A change to the travel provision is proposed for Post-16 students towards a more sustainable and/or independent travel offer through a hierarchy of travel support. Students may be required to make their own travel arrangements with the support of independent travel training or by the provision of a travel grant, or required to contribute towards the cost of</p>	<p>A full public consultation for seven weeks and consultation events will take place at the start of the consultation period, including specific events for Parents/Carers and Young People and Schools and Colleges.</p> <p>Consultation events for parents/carers and young people have been arranged in conjunction with the Southampton Parent Carer Forum who will be hosting some of the events.</p> <p>Business Change Manager in place to support active</p>



Impact Assessment	Details of Impact	Possible Solutions & Mitigating Actions
	<p>the service where transport is provided.</p>	<p>engagement with parents/carers and young people to support the management of any culture shift, facilitate better communication and understanding of the impact of the changes, and to support the School Travel Service to ensure that policy changes are implemented fairly and consistently.</p> <p>Draft Policy for Post-16 students proposes that any contribution will be means tested.</p> <p>Students can be supported with independent travel training provision.</p>
<p><b>Disability</b></p>	<p>There are approximately 1,025 children with Special Educational Needs and Disability (SEND) for whom the School Travel Service provides travel support.</p> <p>Travel support for Post-16 students; young people of sixth form age and adult learners (up to age 25 where they are continuing on a course started before their 19th birthday) with Special Educational Needs and/or Disabilities will be provided based on assessed need.</p> <p>A change to the travel provision is proposed for Post-16 students towards a more sustainable and/or independent travel offer through a hierarchy</p>	<p>A full public consultation for seven weeks and consultation events will take place at the start of the consultation period, including specific events for Parents/Carers and Young People and Schools and Colleges.</p> <p>Consultation events for parents/carers and young people have been arranged in conjunction with the Southampton Parent Carer Forum who will be hosting some of the events.</p> <p>Business Change Manager in place to support active engagement with</p>

<b>Impact Assessment</b>	<b>Details of Impact</b>	<b>Possible Solutions &amp; Mitigating Actions</b>
	<p>of travel support. Students may be required to make their own travel arrangements with the support of independent travel training or by the provision of a travel grant, or required to contribute towards the cost of the service where transport is provided.</p>	<p>parents/carers and young people to support the management of any culture shift, facilitate better communication and understanding of the impact of the changes, and to support the School Travel Service to ensure that policy changes are implemented fairly and consistently.</p> <p>.</p> <p>Draft Policy for Post-16 students proposes that any contribution will be means tested.</p> <p>Students can be supported with independent travel training provision.</p>
<b>Gender Reassignment</b>	No identified impact.	N/A
<b>Care experienced</b>	No identified impact.	N/A
<b>Marriage and Civil Partnership</b>	No identified impact.	N/A
<b>Pregnancy and Maternity</b>	<p>Where pregnancy or maternity impacts a parent or carer's ability to support their child's travel to and from school, they may be eligible for travel support under the Exceptional Circumstances criteria.</p>	N/A – no change to policy or provision.
<b>Race</b>	No identified impact.	N/A
<b>Religion or Belief</b>	<p>Children will be eligible for free school travel under 'extended rights' where a pupil is entitled to free school meals, the school</p>	N/A – no change to policy or provision.

Impact Assessment	Details of Impact	Possible Solutions & Mitigating Actions
	is between 2 and 15 miles and is the nearest school preferred on the grounds of religion or belief (aged 11-16).	
<b>Sex</b>	No identified impact.	N/A
<b>Sexual Orientation</b>	No identified impact.	N/A
<b>Community Safety</b>	No identified impact.	N/A
<b>Poverty</b>	<p>According to the Department for Work and Pensions, in 2021/22, 25% of children aged under 16 were living in relative low-income families in Southampton. This is significantly higher than the national average.</p> <p>In the UK, children from lower income families are 50% less likely to do as well at school as their classmates.</p> <p>Travel support for Post-16 students; young people of sixth form age and adult learners (up to age 25 where they are continuing on a course started before their 19th birthday) with Special Educational Needs and/or Disabilities will be provided based on assessed need.</p> <p>A change to the travel provision is proposed for Post-16 students towards a more sustainable and/or independent travel offer through a hierarchy of travel support. Students may be required to make their own travel arrangements with the support of independent travel training or by the provision of a travel grant, or required to</p>	<p>Children may be entitled to free travel support if they have a low family income and they are entitled to free school meals or get the maximum Working Tax Credit and one of the following applies:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• they are aged 8 to 11, go to their nearest suitable school and it is at least 2 miles away from their home address.</li> <li>• they are aged 11 to 16 and go to a school 2 to 6 miles away - if it is one of their 3 nearest suitable schools from their home address.</li> <li>• they are aged 11 to 16 and go to a school between 2 to 15 miles from their home address and is the nearest school preferred on the grounds of religion or belief.</li> </ul> <p>A full public consultation for seven weeks and consultation events will</p>

Impact Assessment	Details of Impact	Possible Solutions & Mitigating Actions
	<p>contribute towards the cost of the service where transport is provided.</p>	<p>take place at the start of the consultation period. including specific events for Parents/Carers and Young People and Schools and Colleges.</p> <p>Consultation events for parents/carers and young people have been arranged in conjunction with the Southampton Parent Carer Forum who will be hosting some of the events.</p> <p>Business Change Manager in place to support active engagement with parents/carers and young people, facilitating better communication and understanding of the impact of the changes.</p> <p>Draft Policy Statement for Post-16 students proposes that any contribution will be means tested.</p> <p>Students can be supported with independent travel training provision.</p>
<b>Health &amp; Wellbeing</b>	No identified impact.	N/A
<b>Other Significant Impacts</b>	No identified impacts.	N/A

# Draft School Travel Policy 2025/26 *and* Draft Post-16 Travel Policy Statement 2025/26 consultation report

## [Introduction](#)

### Methodology & promotion

- [Consultation principles](#)
- [Questionnaire design](#)

### What are the proposals?

- [Proposals 1.1 – 3.1](#)
- [Proposals 3.2 – 6](#)
- [Proposals 7 – 8](#)

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## [Who are the respondents?](#)

### Opinions on the proposals

- [All respondents](#)
- [Parents/carers of recipients of travel support](#)

## [Free-text comments & other suggestions & feedback](#)





- Southampton City Council undertook public consultation on draft proposals to update two related policies: the School Travel Policy 2025/26 and the Post-16 Travel Policy Statement 2025/26.
- This consultation took place between **09 September** and **28 October 2024** and received a total of **95** responses.
- The aim of this consultation was to:
  - Communicate clearly to residents and stakeholders the draft proposals regarding changes to the two policies;
  - Ensure any resident, business or stakeholder who wished to comment on the proposals had the opportunity to do so, enabling them to raise any impacts the proposals may have, and;
  - Allow participants to propose alternative suggestions for consideration which they feel could achieve the objectives in a different way.
- This report summarises the aims, principles, methodology and results of the public consultation; it provides a summary of the consultation responses both for the consideration of decision makers and any interested individuals and stakeholders
- It is important to be mindful that a consultation is not a vote – it is an opportunity for stakeholders to express their views, concerns and alternatives to a proposal; equally, responses from the consultation should be considered in full before any final decisions are made
- This report outlines in detail the representations made during the consultation period so that decision makers can consider what has been said alongside other information



Southampton City Council is committed to consultations of the highest standard, which are meaningful and comply with the *Gunning Principles* (considered to be the legal standard for consultations):

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1. Proposals are still at a formative stage (a final decision has not yet been made)
2. There is sufficient information put forward in the proposals to allow 'intelligent consideration'
3. There is adequate time for consideration and response
4. Conscientious consideration must be given to the consultation responses before a decision is made



New Conversations 2.0  
LGA guide to engagement



## Rules: The Gunning Principles

They were coined by Stephen Sedley QC in a court case in 1985 relating to a school closure consultation (R v London Borough of Brent ex parte Gunning). Prior to this, very little consideration had been given to the laws of consultation. Sedley defined that a consultation is only legitimate when these four principles are met:

1. **proposals are still at a formative stage**  
A final decision has not yet been made, or predetermined, by the decision makers
2. **there is sufficient information to give 'intelligent consideration'**  
The information provided must relate to the consultation and must be available, accessible, and easily interpretable for consultees to provide an informed response
3. **there is adequate time for consideration and response**  
There must be sufficient opportunity for consultees to participate in the consultation. There is no set timeframe for consultation,<sup>1</sup> despite the widely accepted twelve-week consultation period, as the length of time given for consultee to respond can vary depending on the subject and extent of impact of the consultation
4. **'conscientious consideration' must be given to the consultation responses before a decision is made**  
Decision-makers should be able to provide evidence that they took consultation responses into account

These principles were reinforced in 2001 in the 'Coughlan Case (R v North and East Devon Health Authority ex parte Coughlan<sup>2</sup>), which involved a health authority closure and confirmed that they applied to all consultations, and then in a Supreme Court case in 2014 (R ex parte Moseley v LB Haringey<sup>3</sup>), which endorsed the legal standing of the four principles. Since then, the Gunning Principles have formed a strong legal foundation from which the legitimacy of public consultations is assessed, and are frequently referred to as a legal basis for judicial review decisions.<sup>4</sup>

<sup>1</sup> In some local authorities, their local voluntary Compact agreement with the third sector may specify the length of time they are required to consult for. However, in many cases, the Compact is either inactive or has been cancelled so the consultation timeframe is open to debate

<sup>2</sup> BAILII, England and Wales Court of Appeal (Civil Division) Decisions, Accessed: 13 December 2016.

<sup>3</sup> BAILII, United Kingdom Supreme Court, Accessed: 13 December 2016

<sup>4</sup> The information used to produce this document has been taken from the Law of Consultation training course provided by The Consultation Institute





- The agreed approach for this consultation was to use an online questionnaire as the main route for feedback; questionnaires enable an appropriate amount of explanatory and supporting information to be included in a structured questionnaire, helping to ensure respondents are aware of the background and detail of the proposals.
- Respondents could also write letters or emails to provide feedback on the proposals; emails or letters from stakeholders that contained consultation feedback were collated and analysed as a part of the overall consultation.
- The consultation was promoted in the following ways:

- Letters issued to schools, colleges, parents and carers;
- Face-to-face and virtual (MS Teams) events with key stakeholders, including the Southampton Parent Carer Forum;

*Parents/carers*

- > 09 September, Bitterne Precinct
- > 12 September, Civic Centre
- > 18 September, virtual
- > 19 September, Lordshill Community Centre
- > 25 September, Ocean Village
- > 25 September, virtual

*Schools/colleges*

- > 09 September, virtual
- > 17 September, Civic Centre and virtual
- > 18 September, virtual
- > 23 September, virtual

- Advertisement on the School Travel Service webpage;
- Southampton City Council and SEND team social media and e-bulletins, including Schools (Primary and Secondary) and Family Hubs;
- Directly to parents and carers by the Southampton City Council SEND team;
- Availability of an ‘easy-read’ version of the questionnaire to help more people feel able to respond to the consultation;
- Directly to 134 travel suppliers via the Proactis portal (from 09 October);
- Article in the Daily Echo on 12 September;
- Advertisement through the Local Offer;
- Press release on the day of launch (09 September), and;
- On the Southampton City Council website ‘Have Your Say’ pages.

- All questionnaire results have been analysed and presented in graphs within this report. Respondents were given opportunities throughout the questionnaire to provide written feedback on the proposals. In addition, anyone could provide feedback via letters and emails.

## **PROPOSAL 1.1 | Changes to the draft policies to improve clarity and understanding**

We are proposing changes to the draft policies to ensure they are up to date and to make them clearer and easier to understand. For example, we have a travel hierarchy in the current policy to improve transparency and make it clear the order in which travel options are considered. We are proposing to also include a travel hierarchy in the Post-16 Travel Policy Statement 2025-2026 as well to make this clearer for young people and adult learners.

## **PROPOSAL 1.2 | Separating the School Travel Policy and Post-16 Travel Policy Statement into two separate documents**

Currently we have one policy which covers children, young people and adult learners aged 5 – 25 years old.

We are proposing to separate the document into two policies. The first would cover children of compulsory school age (5 – 16). The second would cover young people of sixth form age (16-18 years, over compulsory school age but under 19 years of age) and adult learners (19 – 25 years, where they are continuing a course started before their 19th birthday). The reason for suggesting this is to align with national policy guidance, make it easier for service users to access age related information, and to make it easier to update the policies when required.

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## **PROPOSAL 2 | Improvements to the personal travel budget offer**

Currently, Personal Travel Budgets (PTB) are an option for travel support for children and young people with an Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP). It is currently a mileage allowance that is given to parents and carers for them to use in any reasonable way to get their child to school.

In the future, we are proposing to improve this offer depending on the circumstances for the parent or carer. We are proposing to offer an additional flexible percentage increase of up to 50% depending upon the circumstances for the parent or carer. For example, they may have other children for which additional financial support towards the cost of breakfast and/or after school club or other childcare would enable them to take advantage of the PTB, the school is outside of the city boundary, or an additional person is required to act as a passenger assistant.

## **PROPOSAL 3.1 | Post-16 travel grant option and vehicle contribution charge**

Currently, we offer vehicle transport as a travel option and do not ask for a contribution towards school travel support when we provide a vehicle, that may be a taxi, minibus or wheelchair accessible vehicle (WAV).

In the future, we are proposing to offer a hierarchy of travel support and propose that one of the options will be a distance-based travel grant, and that the provision of vehicle transport will be agreed in exceptional cases only. Where vehicle transport is agreed, we are proposing to ask for a means tested contribution towards the cost based on the distance from the student's home to their education setting.



## **PROPOSAL 3.2 | Maximum 18 hours of travel support over three days a week for eligible post-16 students**

Currently, we do not say how much travel support we will provide to young people over the age of 16.

In the future, for eligible student over the age of 16, we are proposing the eligibility would be for 18 hours over three days a week. Therefore, the travel support option would only be provided for up to 18 hours over three days.

## **PROPOSAL 4 | Requirement for post-19 adult learners to evidence need for travel support**

Currently, adult learners' eligibility for travel support and the type of provision offered is assessed by Southampton City Council and depends on the learners assessed needs as set out in their EHCP.

In the future, we are proposing that as part of this, post-19 adult learners would be required to provide evidence on why it is necessary for Southampton City Council to provide travel support and why the adult learner cannot use other entitlements for their travel. For example, the use of a mobility vehicle, a bursary or discretionary support from an education setting, or whether the student has support from the council's social care service to assist with travel.

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## **PROPOSAL 5 | Removal of eligibility for school travel support if parents or carers move and want their child to remain at the same school**

Currently, if parents or carers decide to move house and want their child to remain at the same school, the council may provide school travel support.

In the future, we are proposing that if parents or carers decide to move and want their child to remain at the same school, the child will not normally be eligible for school travel support. This includes all compulsory school years, including years 10 and 11. Parents and carers are encouraged to consider the cost and distance of travel to the existing school as part of move costs. Exceptional circumstances where we might consider school travel support would be a change to the family structure or employment status.

## **PROPOSAL 6 | Reduction in notice given to families if travel support has been given in error**

Currently, where travel support is found to have been granted in error, one full term of notice is given to allow families time to make other arrangements.

In the future, we are proposing a shorter notice period of either 4 weeks or until the end of the current half term, whichever is the shorter period.

**PROPOSAL 7 | Removal of privilege places**

Currently, a spare place on a contract vehicle may be offered to a child who is not entitled to travel support. This is known as a ‘privilege place’. Privilege places can be withdrawn if they are needed for eligible children. A contributory charge of £750.00 per annum is paid towards the cost of this travel. Currently, there is no one using this service.

In the future, we are proposing to no longer offer spare places known as ‘privilege places’ to any child who is not entitled to travel support. The only time we may consider a request is for a child who lives at the same address as another child who is entitled to travel support and would be travelling on the same vehicle. The privilege place could still be withdrawn if it was needed for eligible children and we would propose to keep the contributory charge of £750 the same.

**PROPOSAL 8 | Increasing the number of nearest suitable schools families can list on school application forms**

Page 66 Currently parents or carers who wish to apply for travel support must list their nearest suitable school on their school application form.

In the future, we will be proposing that parents and carers list their nearest three suitable schools on their school application form. This is to ensure that all three nearest suitable school options can be considered for admission to reduce the number of children who may become entitled to travel support due to distance.





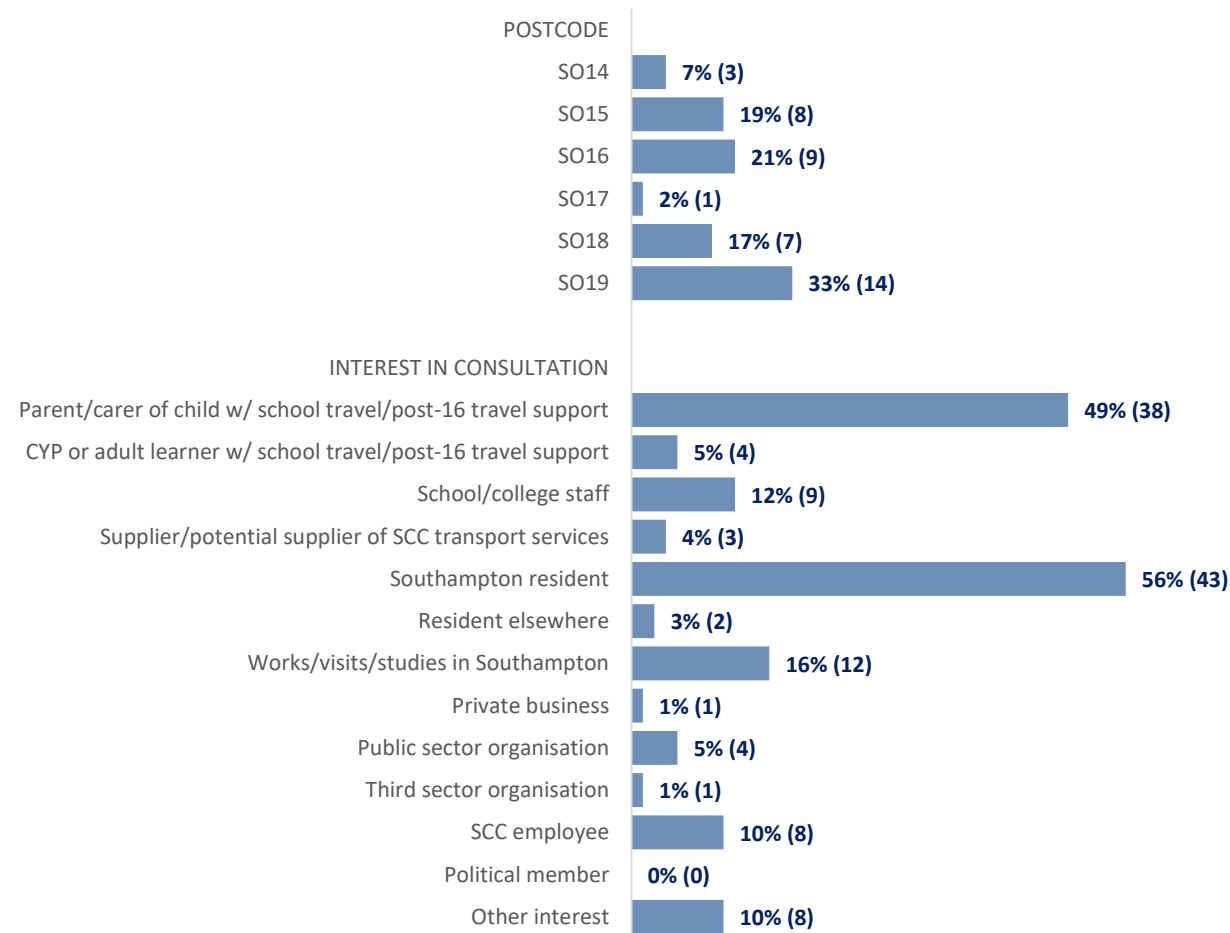
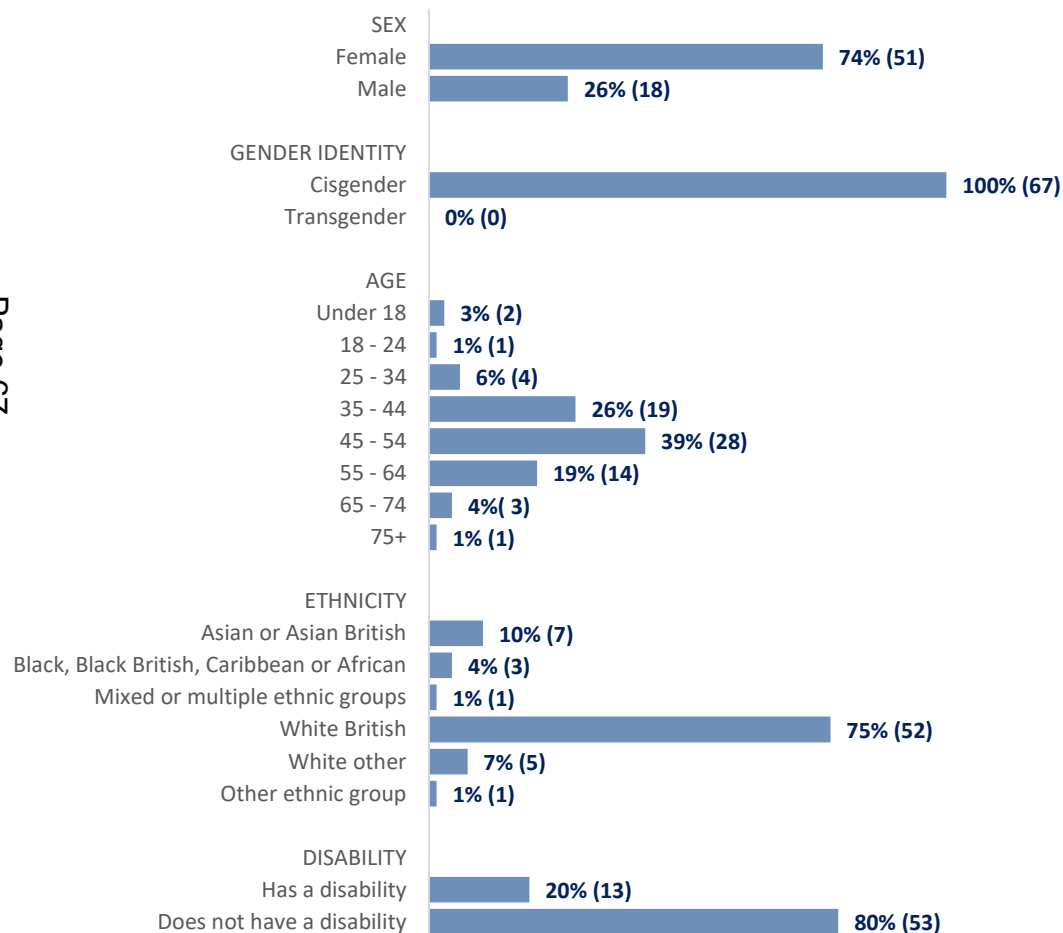
# Who are the respondents?

Total responses

86 by online survey  
10 by email  
96 total

Graphs on this page are labelled as percentage (count).

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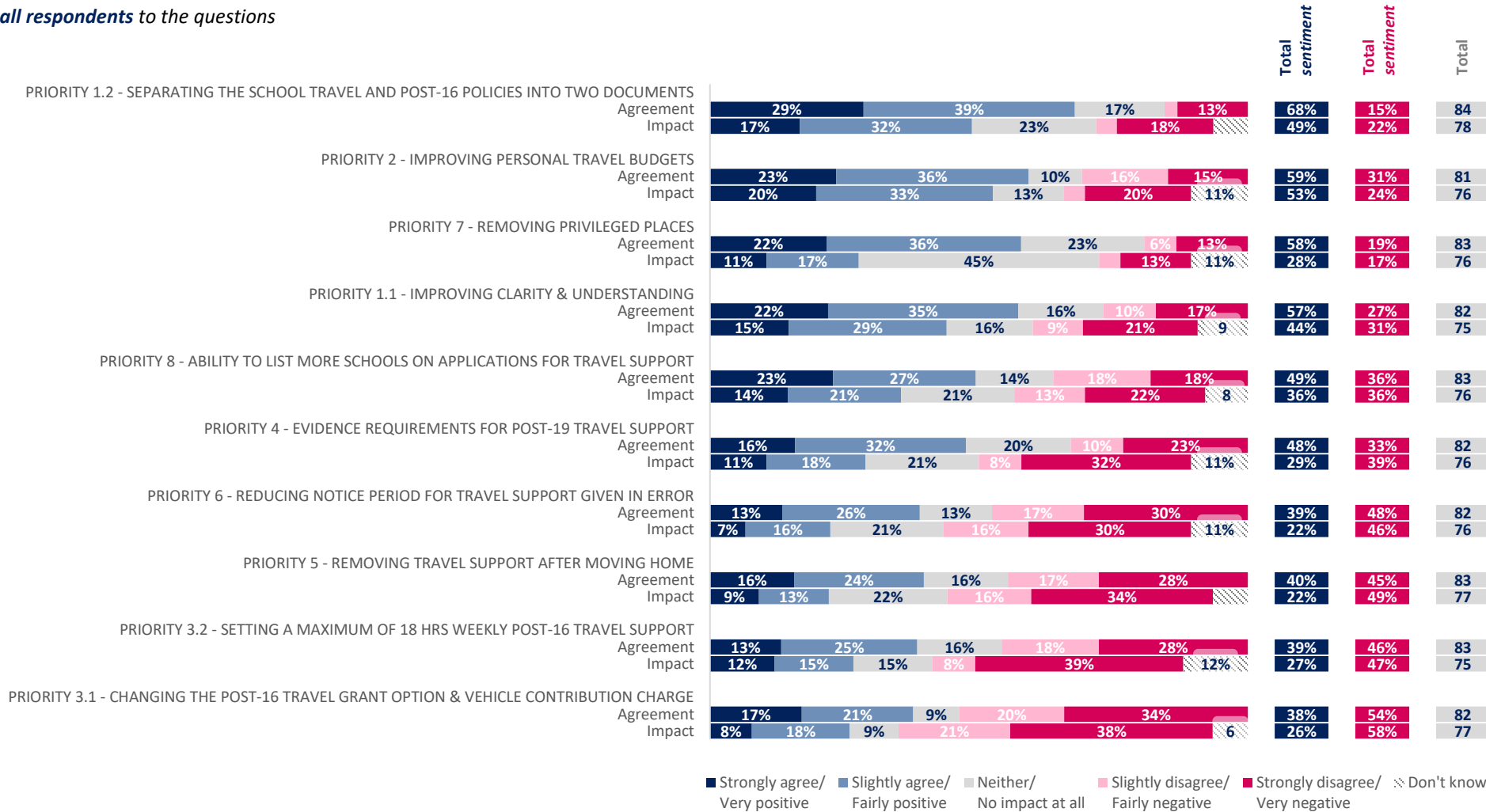


Question | To what extent do you agree or disagree with this proposal?\* compared to

Question | What impact do you feel this may have on you, your business or the wider community?

showing all respondents to the questions

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\*'Don't know' not an option for response to this question.

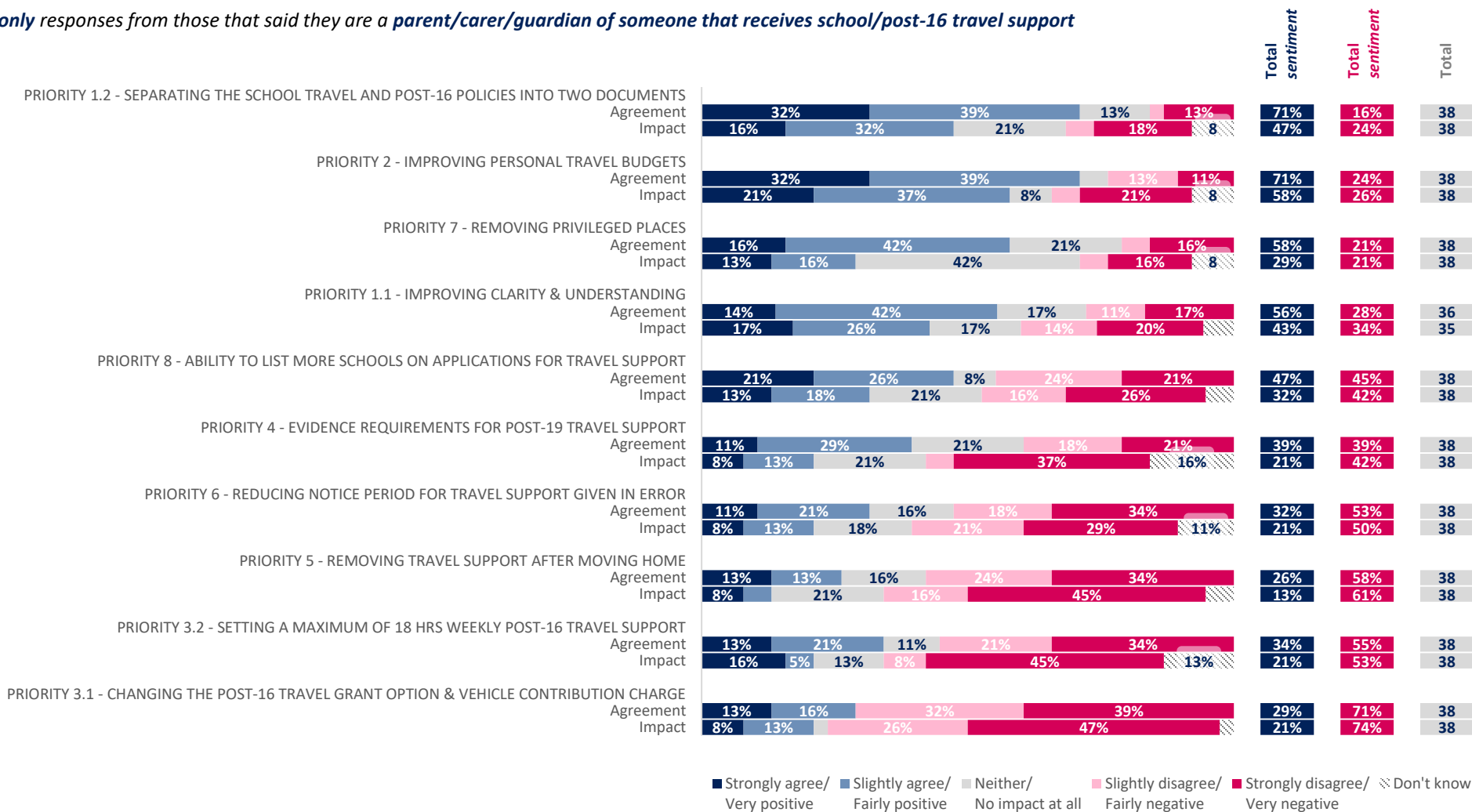


Question | To what extent do you agree or disagree with this proposal?\* compared to

Question | What impact do you feel this may have on you, your business or the wider community?

showing **only** responses from those that said they are a **parent/carer/guardian of someone that receives school/post-16 travel support**

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■ Strongly agree/Very positive  
 ■ Slightly agree/Fairly positive  
 ■ Neither/No impact at all  
 ■ Slightly disagree/Fairly negative  
 ■ Strongly disagree/Very negative  
 ■ Don't know



*\*No. comments per comment theme.*



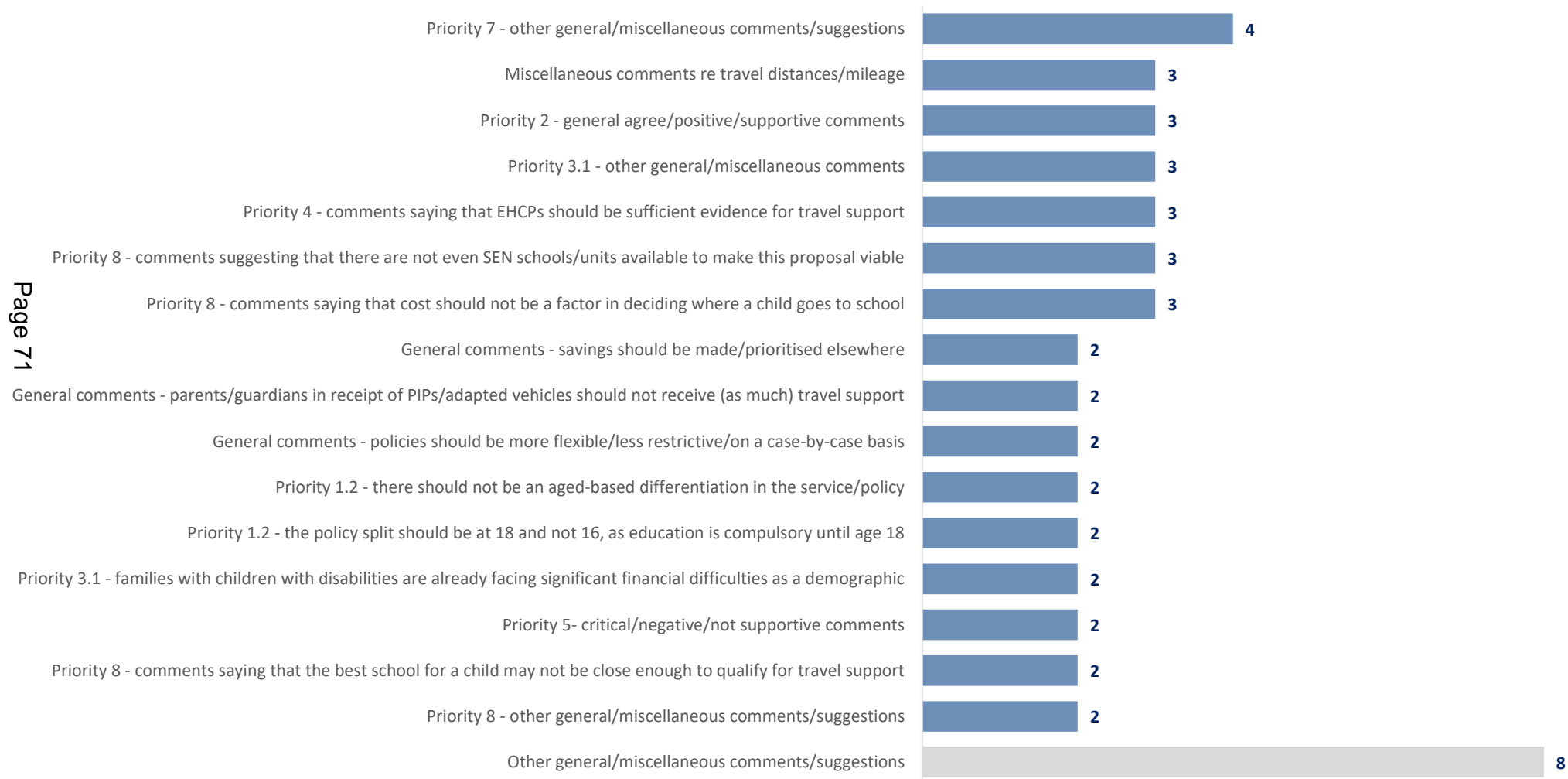
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\*No. comments per comment theme.

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## Appendix 5 – Consultation Responses in Full

I am a regular at “popping” into bitterne for 15-30mins a time, this will mean It will put me off doing this. Also being a paid gym member means I’ve now got to pay for my parking on top! Now free trips to Tash’s my children to the library are going to cost me. Money I save at moment, meaning free fun. Now even that is going to cost

Small businesses need the support.

Once started it will increase as time goes by.

The idea will encourage shoppers to go elsewhere.

By elsewhere it may even mean parking in the residential areas.

Forcing people to use public transport doesn’t work for people needing accessibility unless it’s free for them. At least they won’t be forced onto double yellow lines.

Not everyone has the ability to pay extra nor have cash or smartphones so please consider this if you push ahead to make payments diverse.

It is outrageous to keep charging people parking for areas of common land IE parks etc. How will parents drop children off on school runs? Public transport is a joke and not viable and add too long in journeys, due to walking to and from bus stops etc. Labour council gave wasted so much of the public's money on ridiculous cycle lanes (hardly used), bus lanes which were then removed a year later. There is never a consultation where the people's opinions are heard.

Try dropping your counsellors wages and run the city more efficiently to avoid bankruptcy.

Actually probably too ok ate for that now. People do not want to come to Southampton to shop due to roadworks and charges as it is.

The people pay your wages so try and listen to their views and act accordingly.

This will NOT encourage the use of public transport & will have a detrimental effect on the areas. Stop robbing the motorist !

This is not going to help any local businesses or encourage and new businesses. It’s a deterrent for people to visit the local area. I do not believe that there is an issue with capacity, and I don’t think this will help that matter. People will find alternative residential roads with free parking to park on, making the car parks redundant. This will make the local parking for residents a complete nuisance. I do not live locally to any of these car parks but I do use them. If implemented I shall be seeing alternative free residential parking.

You will kill the trade in a lot of places. Woolston and bitterne for a start. There needs to be facility to park for free for a short amount if time so people actually consider using these shops and cafes etc

It'll reduce the amount of people shopping in already struggling town centres such a Bitterne.

People won't shop at local shops

This will kill of all the little shops, it will certainly stop me popping in. Why don't you give 30 minutes free at least just to pop to one or two shops if you need too. I know it's only 50p for an hour but this adds up.

Do you really want people to visit the suburbs? They won't bother as it is cheaper to go shopping in places like Romsey. You really hate motorists you need to realise that not everyone can travel by bus

Because you are penalising motorists, disregarding the fact that most people have to use their cars and public transport is not fit for purpose unless you live just inside of Southampton. You will kill the local economy, people will resort to online shopping and less social interaction leading to isolation. I want to go shopping, but not have to pay through the nose for parking.

This will have adverse effect on local communities as people will not visit these areas. There is no incentive to visit Southampton with the continuous roadworks, gridlock and this is another nail in the coffin for local businesses which the council should be supporting and this will have the opposite effect.

Makes sense to cover the cost of running the car parks

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This will kill off the already suffering businesses in these areas.

This proposal will kill the shop trade in the district centres, in particular Woolston which already has vacant shop premises. It will also cause even more congested parking in the residential side roads around the district centres.

People who want to use the high street will now either go elsewhere, which will result in the local shops closing, or park in nearby residential streets which will be inconvenient for residents.

If you cannot see that this is only a short term money making idea, then you may need to borrow my glasses.

I use a number of car parks to charge up my EV on YOUR chargers £0.48, it takes 3 hrs to get enough to fill my small EV, but if it were larger it would take even longer. So now along with the £6 it costs for my 12kWh another £4 to charge even when shops are shut.

Let alone the idea that this small shops are for short term shoppers, who will just bypass them and go elsewhere, and therefore reduce the actual income you will make.

Been a Labour voter for years, but this is just madness and will kill off local small businesses/shops. I could say a lot more about this but will hold back and won't be voting Labour next time!

This is just a benefit for the council and not the residents!!! No thought for local business that it will slowly kill off.

How about making a large multi story in Woolston and have a park and ride into town!!!!

We are trying to get to visit the areas by putting charges on it won't help at all.

I am objecting

I live in Bitterne, we walk to school but the car parks are used for school run traffic and if they are made to pay, they will park on residential streets and cause traffic obstruction and make walking the kids to school more dangerous.

Cost of living, people can't afford to add this on to their daily costs.

I work from home and pop out at lunchtime and a lot of older people drive and park here to go to the shops/church so they will be hit financially

We use the car park in Woolston to take my youngest to a community group every Tuesday, we tried getting the bus but too often they don't arrive so we are stuck late on a school night.

This will massively affect local trade, why go to Bitterne or Portswood or Woolston if you have to pay to park, may as well go to Whiteley or Hedge End instead where you are not charged

Really really disappointing and short sighted proposal probably made by someone who has never used the car parks or lived in the area ... please think again

Why do you hate local businesses. Someone wants to pop to the shop and you want to capitalise on it. And to 'fix the pot holes and re line the carparks'. Come on. That should be covered via all the other charges you take from people. Stop trying to make money and just give people what they need. 2 hours free is reasonable. Even reduce to 1 hour is better than nothing. A joke.

Adding parking charges for short parking periods will drive people away from local shopping areas and impact already struggling small businesses.

In a cost of living crisis you are putting people off by increasing parking charges and removing free parking, this will impact local businesses as people will just go to bigger supermarkets as it's free parking.

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If you charge people to use these district car parks, people will drive elsewhere to shop! It's handy to have 2 hours free as you can just pop in as you're out and about.

I wouldn't pay to shop in the districts, I'd just go into Southampton or even Whiteley as it's free!

People will not visit the local shops and will take their business elsewhere.

I wouldn't use Sainsbury's Bitterne no more and would drive to Portswood Sainsbury's who has their own carport thus causing more traffic on the roads.

Also for use of the gym in Bitterne people would now have to pay and would stop using it and would go to Southampton central that has their own car park.

Also parents of children at Bitterne c of e will be charged just to drop and pick up their children. This is a disgusting money grab and as a lifetime labour support which my dad always told me to vote since before Tony Blair this would be the final nail in the coffin for me

As a local resident I visit the shopping areas served by these car parks daily. I would be put off from visiting these shopping areas if I needed to pay for parking. If I am paying to park I will choose to go to a big supermarket or in to Southampton City Centre.

The Lances hill carpark is never full, so the 'Manage the carpark usage', argument doesn't apply. Why not reduce the free period from 2 hours to 1? That way people can still pop in the local shops.

Money is tight as it is and charging me to park where I would normally park for free is going to push me completely away from Southampton and it's free parking suburbs, to shop. This will have a seriously derogatory affect on the local economy and kill of the smaller retailers who are struggling to make a profit already. I will shop away from the city and online in future if this plan goes ahead permanently.

This feels like another money generating exercise. The introduction of charging in car parks on the outskirts of Southampton pushed parking into residential streets, which has resulted in some areas now becoming resident only zones - a money generating scheme as parking permits have to be paid for. Removing the 2 hour free parking will put people off shopping in the smaller shopping areas.

I don't believe there is enough free parking in Southampton, especially in and around Commercial Street area

If you wish to encourage and support local businesses keep the car parks free

Highstreets are suffering due to competition from online retail. Buses in Southampton are atrocious- for example there is still no bus on Hill Lane. Yet the council's solution is to remove shoppers by excluding cars from yet more areas. I agree with the aim of encouraging people to use greener transport methods, but you can't just remove cars before putting those methods in place. Why not look to Oxford for solutions - they have excellent park and rides, bus network and cycling facilities. None of which Southampton have. This will deter people from shopping here.

As already costing enough in tax and parking charges everywhere else

People won't use the community shops any more and the precinct in Bitterne will die.. there doesn't seem to be any evidence that there is a congestion issue that needs sorting... elderly people cannot carry large shopping bags on buses and will go to free out of town shops. I live in Whites Rd.. people will park for free in nearby residential rds,..I don't want to ultimately live in a residents parking area

Any chance of concessions for the volunteers in local charity shops who have no other means of getting there?

The parking charges will discourage people from visiting and encourage online shopping

This is kill the trade to the local shops, the proposed charges are not fair to the locals who support the shops. This is outrageous and will encourage people to shop online and avoid the shops

If car parking charges are enforced people will either park in Whites Road and the surrounding residential streets causing congestion and danger to pedestrians. There will be lack of parking for the residents compounding this the new estate could also impact on residents parking in the surrounding roads.

The other concern is that people will just stop visiting Bitterne and shop elsewhere where they can park for free.

This decision will impact negatively on the Bitterne community .

This will kill Bitterne shops

Absolute joke there's not a problem parking in Woolston or Bitterne I and a lot of other people will not be shopping in these areas as you cannot carry a lot of shopping on a bus that hardly ever runs on time. You are killing this area with your vendetta against the car

Firstly I am not aware of capacity issues in Woolston or Bitterne which I use regularly. Secondly this will encourage me and others to not shop locally or use local facilities and thirdly, and perhaps most importantly for my community, this will push parking and traffic onto already congested estate roads which is unsafe. I would like to invite Cllr Keogh (my local councillor who I only see at election time) to stand on Radstock Road in the morning to see what the recent changes to roads and active travel plans have done. Gridlock for local residents.

New parking costs during high costs for the public currently is poor timing and needs to be postponed until better times

While I support the intention to reduce car traffic into the congested city centre, starting to charge for occasional short visits to the local district centres (Bitterne, in my case) is beyond my understanding. These areas are not congested, there is no shortage of parking and keep people from driving longer distances for shopping. This is a short-sighted measure putting even more pressure on struggling local businesses and users. I could afford these parking charges, but I'm strongly against the principle of normalising parking fees when there isn't a capacity issue.

Local business will suffer, lots of people who use the car parks are supporting local shops, and will just drive to the superstores.

People use the car parking to support local social events/ groups such as the church support groups and these people are often the more vulnerable in society who already struggle with the cost of living, taking a family on the bus is expensive and so you are taking the means away of local areas being used by local people. Bus is also not always an option for some especially if they live a shorter distance away not in a bus route but too far to walk. The council should look at other ways to bring in revenue, such as supporting business to prosper, bringing in more people and visitors to the areas, establishing better public transport links/times at affordable costs for families so that the options are there for people to make better choices. Cleaning up the green spaces, stopping the antisocial behaviours with more police on the beat, rather than continuing to go after the people who just want to go about their business, paying into society, choosing to shop local.

My last comment is that people will not pay the charges and will also just park in the side streets, making residents unhappy, or is the next plans to charge residents for permits! 🤔

Should be free. Absolutely stupid will ruin our highstreets

Shops are closing down, banks shutting. You will be forcing everyone to shop out of town, Whiteley, Hedge End, Segensworth and all the large supermarkets which now are like department stores that sell everything all with free parking. All local shopping should have free parking. Carry on as you are and it will definitely be the end of local shopping. People are struggling with the cost of living now without the added costs of parking.

Short stay free parking means we actually pop into the local shops to support them, this will mean we do that shopping elsewhere such as Whiteley where there is at least 3 hours free parking and a bigger variety of shops that is if we want to actually visit shops or else will get the stuff online. This will be another death nail for local businesses, we already rarely go in to the city centre anymore as do many friends and family of ours.

It will make the side roads congested with parked cars, which will in turn make parking for residents impossible.

The high streets will get less people shopping, with yet more payments wanted for parking. People will shop online

It will make the cost of living even more expensive. And may further make surviving even more difficult for small local traders

It's not necessary and will provoke people away from the local shops, causing an economic decline. If the car parks were constantly full then I would agree but most of the times they are not. Drivers would find alternative ways to find free parking which will most likely be within residential areas around the car parks.

There are no free car parking areas in Southampton  
Is it really necessary to charge people

I feel the proposed new charges are negative, will stop people using local districts, especially Bitterne, which is all ready in turmoil with the badly planned revamp of the precinct ( only 7 years since last revamp, which was adequate for local use, this money spent would have helped subsidised local car parks, ).

People will either go to other free areas, ie, Whiteley, Locks Heath etc, or will park on roads around Bitterne, annoying local residents.

It says it will help users use other means of transport, not all people can ride a bike/scooter etc, not all users are disabled, but still incapable of long walks to shops etc.

Perhaps some of the money wasted on the some what ill conceived local safe roads scheme would be better spent on car park subsidies.

Never a problem to park. Will deter people from shopping locally, impacting local businesses. Cannon Street will impact people using the dentist. Just a money making exercise.

I think it will affect the businesses on Portswood High street

Affordable parking benefits local small businesses

It will negatively impact bitterne precinct - fewer people will shop here

Life is hard enough with costs spiralling out of control. This is unnecessary in some of the areas you're proposing (e.g. bitterne)

This will impact negatively on all the local shops in Bitterne and Woolston. Even a relatively small charge will deter people from visiting.

Many parents rely on parking at Angel Crescent for Bitterne c of e primary school, we work and drop off/collect kids. Introducing payments, however low will massively effect parents using the car parks and find alternatives parking spots, I.e surrounding streets, thus impacting those who reside there. Whilst this will certainly encourage you to introduce parking permits in an already vehicle dense area. Having free parking at Angel crescent also encourages individuals to pop into the ever decreasing shops in Bitterne High Street. Free parking encourages people to stop. Stores will find they loose footfall with a parking fee in place, only for people to travel elsewhere to save money, especially in the current economy. I would urge scc to reconsider due to the huge implications this will have to our already struggling high street, considering scc are spending so much money on doing the place up, only for it to not be used due to a fee. Perhaps reducing it to an hours free parking.

It really puts people off of shopping in places where it isn't easy and free to park.

In all the years I've parked there, parking should stay free. Instead of staying in bitterne for the morning, shopping, will now be a quick walk in and back to car. I believe current shops will lose trade due to this.

This will only hurt the community and serves only to funnel money to a lackluster council.

If this comes in I will stop shopping in bitterne/ Woolston I have to go shopping for my mum and dad who our in the 90s no way I will be spending £1 every day this council is a joke

Ridiculous. It will kill off local shopping which is already suffering. What's the point in spending money upgrading bitterne high street as no one will go there any more! Has anyone asked the opinions of shops in this area?

As a resident, I feel this would just encourage more road parking when there is already alot of this around Bitterne. We already have day workers that need to park longer than permitted in the car

parks and increasing resident vehicle numbers parking in congested roads so charging in car parks will just push more people to do so.

Bitterne business are struggling. The general public can not afford extra costs. Strongly object

Having to pay to park everywhere is a disgusting money grab by Southampton City Council. You will put people off visiting Bitterne and Woolston so the local economy will suffer. Asking people to pay to go to the doctors at Bitterne Health Centre is also disgusting. I have a disability and have no choice but to drive and park in these places so on top of the horrific amount of Council Tax you take you also want us all to pay to park. You should be ashamed of yourselves.

Will make Bitterne a ghost town. People will go else where and more and more online, amazon etc. Another stupid idea by a council who are intent on destroying southampton. Why should you have to pay to park to support local business. Trying to force people to use buses will not work. You're just trying to be greedy money grabbers with no thought for the local people. You are ruining a once vibrant city.

People can't afford everything rising! This won't encourage more visitors and help the flow, it will stop people going out and lead to more mental health issues as people become more isolated.

This will kill the local small businesses and is very short sighted!

Ridiculous idea it will mean I drive to other areas to shop and as a single mother will cost me a fortune to go to the gym in bitterne

The council will end up pushing business away from Bitterne, Shirley and other affected areas.

Instead the council should put more resources into fining people who park on pavements, don't pay for tickets and fine those that reoffend within 6 months double and the triple and so on if it keeps happening.

The council need to come up with new ideas instead of raising taxes and charging honest people. Think outside the box! Charge those that litter, those that ride motorbikes through the cycle lane on itchen bridge, those that pick up their dog's poo in a bag and then throw it in a bush or leave it. Fine those that don't park in car parking spaces properly and fine people who don't put council scooters/bikes back on the racks.

I object to these proposals as this is yet another irresponsible policy which will only hamper businesses and take more money from decent people going about their shopping in Southampton...

Generally people only stay short term in these car parks. By making a charge for this you will be pushing custom away from numerous businesses and congestion surrounding areas. Plus people are finding it hard with how much everything costs at the moment.

This is a really bad decision.

With less and less to do in bitterne these charges proposed for angel crescent will only make the situation worse and drive people away from shopping there

Bitterne town centre is busy with traffic and parking, I can appreciate that. However, it will be at the detriment of local businesses if you start charging for parking . I certainly will not be visiting my local shops if this becomes the case and instead do my shopping online.

We already pay road tax , council tax and the list of costs go on. You will harm businesses and many peoples livelihoods.

The district centres are already declining with less footfall due to the departure of many retailers leaving shops empty. Supermarkets and gyms are most likely the main attraction for the district centres now and introducing parking charges will encourage people to shop elsewhere, where parking is provided for free, this will cause further decline and loss of jobs. If parking charges are introduced, people are also more likely to seek free parking on surrounding roads causing disruption to local residents.

Council get enough money from us

Stays up to two hours should be free



What's the use of spending money on a bigger play area for children in Bitterne when nobody will shop there if car parking charges are brought in there is not much to shop for in Bitterne now so this will kill it right off

Free parking is an incentive to shop in Bitterne other than town. Without the free parking, people are going to shop elsewhere and local businesses will suffer.

This to me is just pure greed from Southampton City Council trying to squeeze every little penny they can out of people

A lot of local shops depends on quick, free 1-2 hours visits. Once tariffs are introduced, it will be better to go to city centre, pay bit more but have more choices. Also this will increase on street parking for sure.

With already limited parking, charging people in residential areas to park for a short period of time is unacceptable. The car park at the top of Whites Road should remain free for 2 hours. Instead you should increase the charging for existing times already charged.

Absolutely disgusted to see this! Will be detrimental to local businesses and so unnecessary to try and implement these changes!

Money grabbing from people who are local and old especially in and around Bitterne, bloody ridiculous

Parking charges starting with small fees but within few years, charges will be doubled. I believe free parking will increase shopping for lots of low/middle class families. People will use on line platforms to buy groceries rather than commuting. Thanks

This is just another way to make people stop using these smaller areas. I take my mentally and physically disabled mum to Bitterne to get her out of the house. To have to pay for parking would mean her being stuck in more often as we just couldn't afford it. Having a negative effect on her mental health for a couple of extra pounds in the council's pocket. Ridiculous!

I think it's disgusting that people need to pay. You will kill the local shops in Bitterne.

We have to pay too much to park in city centre so shop in smaller areas now were going to be charge more there as well

This is disgusting to charge at these local district places around Southampton. I've lived here all my life and use Bitterne and Woolston almost daily to pop to, this will have a negative impact on people using the local shops as I will just use more online services now. The hassle of having to pay everytime I pop to Bitterne - no thank you. Why doesn't SCC consider lowering the executives and head of departments pay scales that would save enough to fix all the potholes and the kids play parks. Being paid upwards £100,000 for not doing a lot. How dare SCC do this, claiming bankruptcy yet waste so much money. .

Because parking isn't a god given right and people should pay for the privilege.

As a resident of Woolston and a parent of the local school of St Patrick's I use the Portsmouth Road car park daily - I use this car park in consideration to the local residents who do not want parents congesting their road and using their parking spaces directly outside their homes. I also cannot afford your tariff on top of my already expensive outgoings just to be able to drop my daughters to school, and what you are doing is pushing parents of the school to use the surrounding roads of the school which will just heighten the risk of incidents and chaos of an already busy rush hour. Given I have to travel to my place of work from the school drop off I do not have the option to walk as this would not allow sufficient time both ways. Your proposal should be reconsidered - even a 30 minute 'free tariff' to accommodate the school drop off and pick up would be a far more sensible alternative.

I believe encouragement to shop locally is important to our local community and small businesses. The proposed charges, I believe, will have a negative impact.

I would support charges for longer stays, to discourage commuters, but shorter stays should not be chargeable. Many small businesses depend on customers.

Whilst buses do serve the area, from where I live there is no bus on Sunday to Bitterne, and is not particularly regular on other days. The bus to Woolston is every half hour to an hour on Sundays. I don't drive but working full time means I am dependent on my husband to drive to Bitterne if I wish to visit on a Sunday.

This is ridiculous, this will cause residential roads to be used for parking, people will shop online more or people will choose to leave Southampton for shops, places such as Whitley where parking is still free and quite frankly a nicer cleaner shopping experience.

I regularly use Bitterne Peartree Gardens car park, only for 20 minutes to pop into Sainsburys or use the local shops. I resent paying £1 for the privilege of doing so, surely there should be half an hour free, before the parking fee commenced? If these proposals come into force then I will travel that little bit further to Hedge End Sainsburys where I can park for free, thus Bitterne loses out. I have lived in this area for many years and drivers will not use Bitterne as a local shopping area if parking is to be charged which will make the area suffer. What a shame SCC.

Don't want tariffs.

These car parks all relate to small car parks in areas where local shops are struggling to survive right now. If these proposals go ahead and are implemented then 'shop local' and support your local area will be catastrophic to the community as shops will certainly close! The cost of rent and rates are hard enough when trying to run a small business, but we rely on the footfall of local people as well as those further afield.

Furthermore, whilst some people are able to walk to their local shopping area, others are unable and would have to rely on public transport, which as we know is at best unreliable, or non-existent!

I ask you please to reconsider these proposals as it will certainly be the end of the local shopping area.

Proposals for these areas, are areas where the high street shopping is dying already. This will have an impact on local struggling businesses! Strongly object.

We need to keep Bitterne accessible. The charges will deter people from shopping in Bitterne in favour of Antelope Park, Aldis and Hedge End where parking is free.

This will kill off any remaining local shopping in the area and will leave the units empty and unsightly - terrible idea

Money is tight already putting charges on Bitterne and Woolston. Try going shopping and getting the bus home with the shopping especially when there are up to 1 hour to get the bus then walk up to half a mile when you finally get off the bus. Keep at least the 2 hour free parking on those car parks

The parking has been dramatically decreased in Victoria Rd and if the free parking is taken away incentive to park and walk to the shops will also decrease. Woolston High Street and surrounding shops need free parking for footfall.

This will cause a decline in stores making money! Not everyone can use public transport! People rely on the likes of Bitterne and Woolston to pop into a shop, these places will become a ghost town! Council are taking everything we have.

Disgusting idea, typical Labour destroying the shopping areas.

Charging for parking won't make people change transport methods, it will drive custom away from local shops, and towards out of town shopping where the parking is free. Local business will struggle, leave the area which will mean loss of amenities for local residents. Others will park for free on local roads, causing more congestion for local residents. The impact of these proposed charges can only be negative for residents.

Implementation of parking charges in small towns creates faster decline in use and public spending in areas where it is needed locally. It pushes potential customers to travel further to

larger shopping complexes which people will feel have a better selection of shops worth visiting for the amount of parking they're paying.

Angel crescent is used for working parents who need to do a school drop off prior to work in town. Whilst only 50p this equates to £1 a day so £5 a week. This is unfair on working parents who are trying to get their children to school. There should be 30 minutes free parking with a ticket

As a resident of Bitterne I regularly use these car parks to go big food shopping, visit the precinct with my custom, pick up my children from afterhours school on the way back from work This is an awful idea and so detrimental to Bitterne as a shopping precinct!

As for the impact on the school, parents will just park on the residential roads( the brownlow estate where i live) instead contributing to dangerous and polluting conditions for those walking to school. Traffic wardens (rightly so) patrol Brownlow Avenue at school traffic times, which is a good step... but charging use of car park outside will impact Bitterne commerce value and the school traffic nearby.

Bitterne is an area outside of the city centre and it will not attract people to it if there are parking fines. In addition people rely on the local car parks to drop off and collect kids from school and 50p twice a day is prohibitive so people will choose other schools. Especially as the road outside the school is also closed.

There is not enough businesses in bitterne or woolston to pay for parking therefore if this is imposed I will not be visiting and I imagine a lot of other people won't bother. Disgusting idea and just a money making ploy for the councillors.

Charging for parking will either discourage people from shopping there or they will park in the surrounding residential streets which are already busy. Ultimately I feel it will start the steady decline in footfall for the local businesses and then end of district centre shopping

For people dropping kids off at school will encourage people to park on residential streets, I love the fact parking is free there and take kids to Bitterne because of it. City centre has been devastated by parking costs and people actively avoid city centre unless desperate, bus usage in city centre hasn't increased. Cash grab and we all know it is..

It's going to impact businesses as people will not want to pay for parking. Leave parking at free for 2 hours

Free parking is needed in these locations for local people to visit. People will stop going & that could affect some people with there mental health & businesses will suffer. Parking in Southampton city centre has gone up to a ridiculous price already stopping some people. £7.00 to park for 4 hours is a ridiculous price.

There is no need to charge for this. This is just an excuse for council to drive unnecessary revenue. More reason to shop online! Toll, petrol, parking etc. easier to shop online!! Poor local businesses.

Will stop people doing local shopping they will go else wherr

Ridiculous proposal. These are car parks near small convenient shops and people aren't going to bother paying to visit them. The shopping centres will end up in decline and even worse than they are now. We use the car parks in Bitterne every day as our children go to school there and regularly go to the shops. We live too far away from school to walk and will end up clogging up roads nearby - we can't and won't pay £20 a month to park in Bitterne!

The free parking in Bitterne is of huge advantage to the businesses located there. I genuinely believe they will be adversely affected by this move. I do occasionally go to Bitterne to shop but will stick to supermarkets offering free parking if these charges are introduced.

Only use the parking at school drop off and pick up. Use for roughly 10mins. Don't need an hour. This will encourage drivers to park in residential areas or illegally to avoid fee.

Charging for these small local car parks will force people to shop either online or places like Whiteley where parking is free.

A lot of people who use these car parks cannot afford what you are proposing to charge. Nobody stays in these car parks for longer than they need - there is not a capacity issue.

You are investing in Bitterne to upgrade to encourage shoppers and then put a price on parking... you will invest a huge sum in regenerating and no one will visit.. what a waste of time and effort. I'd rather money be put into thinking about creating a community in Bitterne with different shops and a bank! No strategic planning or thought or consideration of the population it serves and the financial crisis we are in.

#### Will take trade away from business and just push cars out to surrounding roads

In these days with increasing prices of everything, this just adds insult to the injury. People would rather look for parking elsewhere, clogging side streets or avoid traveling with their cars for shopping. I don't expect massive increase in the income.

If anything - it will probably drop.

However the trust in the government will gradually dwindle as they seem utterly incapable of organising a fair budget. Instead of taxing the big corporations, they go after the common citizen's pennies.

Pathetic.

#### The ships won't get used and businesses will fail

This will have a negative effect on small local business, resulting in job losses in Southampton, in turn affecting the local economy. 2 hour free parking should not be removed.

Ridiculous to charge to park in small district centre car parks. People will stop going & the shops will suffer. As if some of the Centres aren't deprived enough??? An outstandingly short sighted action & snuck in by stealth.

Absolute disgrace. I won't be going there any longer. Penny pinching at it's best. Shame on you Liebour Council.

#### Charging for under 2hrs will stop people coming to the smaller towns/high streets. Please don't do this

Will push cars onto local side roads for parking. Making this a lot more dangerous and congested. People will stop going to the shopping areas and head to out of town areas, killing the local shops.

These car parks should be entirely free to use. SCC are repeatedly penalising motorists and treating the residents of the city with utter contempt. Most of these car parks are used by people doing weekly shopping, not parking there the entire day. And even if they were, it's likely low paid shop workers or people who are doing the right thing and using these as park and ride by taking public transport. If SCC actually built a park and ride people would use that. Eamonn Keogh is an utter disgrace and his horrible anti motorist vendetta is killing this city. He should resign immediately.

Local Businesses will be affected. Elderly people will struggle to have access to the shops. people will be parking in local residential areas. which coming from a person who lives nearby will be very annoying.

#### This will make it even harder for small businesses to thrive please do not charge in these car parks

Pushing people out of local shopping areas, businesses are suffering already. Hairdressers, barbers, independent shops will all lose custom. It's easier & quicker to drive to Whitley from the east side of Southampton & they give 4 hours free

Because of the negative impact on the retailers already struggling to survive within Bitterne and Woolston in particular. Many people pop into these areas to use the banks, and grab a coffee, or visit the small selection of shops. The damage to these businesses should not be underestimated. People will utilise the free car parks such as Sainsbury's in Bitterne which will affect their business because their customers will not visit if they can't park. This is seriously not a good idea. I understand an increase for longer stays such as 2-3 hours would potentially be a viable option but removing free parking is a mistake. I will certainly not go in so often and will likely go to a larger supermarket with free parking instead.

My children attend St Patrick's school, parking is already heavily restricted around the area, we park in the car park closest to the roundabout at Ichen Bridge which is currently free for the first two hours. Under the proposed changes we will have to pay to park twice a day. While the charge

will be small, this will add up over the academic year. It doesn't seem fair to be penalised for choosing to park with consideration to the residents and the heavy flow of traffic in the area.

Locals use these places and they shouldn't be charged for shopping locally the shops will suffer as well as families

You are literally living on a different planet. At a time when our district centres are dying, you're doing this. Someone in the council must be able to smell what you're shovelling!! Insane!

The local residential streets of Whites Road and the surrounding Brownlow estate are already under significant pressure with cars parking on the street during school drop off and pick up times as well as people parking to visit the Mazda garage and Bitterne precinct. The new housing development on Whites Road courtesy of Imperial Homes will already add to the traffic challenges and on street parking in the local area and this proposal will only further exasperate the issue by forcing more motorists to avoid paying for parking by parking in the neighbouring residential streets. Drive ways are already blocked on frequent occasion and further more makes the road and street network dangerous for pedestrians limiting pavement access and visibility when crossing the local roads on foot. Again this proposal will only cause further issues at school times putting children and families in danger of trying to cross roads with limited visibility as well as cars blocking either side of the road preventing free flow of traffic. This proposal would appear to be nothing more than a further ruse by the council to generate a revenue stream with a false promise of reinvesting back into local road maintenance! The roads around all of these sites have been bad for years and are littered with pot holes and undulations that have never been fixed and get worse every winter, more cars parking on street will again only add to this ongoing issue and mean the council will never keep up with the road maintenance works they have endeavoured to "reinvest" in. As a local resident I whole heartedly object to these proposal and I hope the local council see sense and do the same. If you want to generate revenue to fix roads, start by using the hefty sums of road licence tax we already pay!

Free parking encourages people to shop locally which supports small shops who pay rates to council!! It's false economy to charge for parking, people will go out of town to shop. Result shops and businesses close council lose out on money paid in rates etc

Local businesses who are already suffering will be the ones to pay, it will force people out of town, is that what Southampton council want 😞

Local shops will suffer

People will find alternative free parking on residential roads rather than pay to pop to the shops. This will then impact on residents and their parking options. Local, smaller businesses will also suffer as people will not visit local shopping areas if they have to pay - they will go online or to out of town retailers that don't charge to park.

You will push all traffic and cars in all the local roads making the roads busier round by the school where my daughters go. How can you justify starting to charge people who cannot walk to school and need to park locally.

Less likely to visit. Will go to online shopping

I shop in Woolston and Bitterne to save on parking charges in Southampton City centre. With the proposed charges I will no longer shop in these areas.

Cost of living is just going up and up now to pay more to park is just too much

If you charge people to park in out of town car parks. You will force people to either park in side streets or go to shop elsewhere. The shops for example in Bitterne will suffer.

Charging for parking has nothing to do with controlling how people travel or control of parking but just purely to make money out of people. All this does is cause people to shop elsewhere and will be detrimental to the local economy.

Motorists are not a bottomless pit of cash.

An absolute joke! Not one person is happy about being charged to park in Bitterne Woolston. Keep it free, or 2 hrs for free. Businesses will close if people won't come and pay to park. Southampton

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is such a joke at the moment. Why do you all hate drivers and push people to get the bus or go on push bikes, ITS NOT GUNNA WORK!!

It will push more cars into the residential areas, makes it difficult to pop to shops in Bitterne, already can't drive or park down the school road, making life difficult for parents who need to drop off at school and go straight to work.

Ridiculous proposal, woolston and bitterne are just convenient shops to pop into , there will be a decline in trade if public are expected to pay for parking , begrudge popping into town with those parking prices as it is

When businesses need help you're going to destroy them. You will destroy livelihoods. I am sorry but these decisions aren't obviously made by people who are in touch with reality. I often pop into bitterne whilst visiting parents, but simply won't bother. Whoever is responsible for this plan needs to give their head a wobble.. do we know is responsible?? But shockingly poor.

Will absolutely destroy the businesses in the smaller shops, Bitterne precinct is struggling enough. More money is being put into Bitterne precinct to make it nicer and now you're making it harder for people to go there.

This will contribute to the death knell of local shopping centres. People just won't visit local areas anymore.

People shouldn't have to pay for visiting local shops. Keep the first two hours free and charge for longer. In Whites Rd, we already have visitors to the area parking here taking away access for residents. By adding charges you will be encouraging this.

These are small inner city areas which rely on the free two hour parking. Visitors just will not pay and visit causing small businesses to close and the parking charges will be a detriment to the area. Times are difficult enough with ever increasing living costs.

There are shops struggling as it is because people can't afford to spend like they use too. Charging people will only cause more problems to shops and making people avoid going to places or for walks.

One thing to think about is this car parks are small if you are allowing people to stay long, less people can park and visit places.

Please also note we pay enough council tax as it is. Costs are high enough to live. Please don't destroy the economy with more charges.

People have enough expense nowadays. Local shops are already struggling.

You need to keep parking free for two hours. The whole reason I pop to shops in these places is as I know I can get what I need with out paying more money on top!!!!

A small village will not survive if you do not allow free parking.

As a local this is disappointing to hear. What about blue badge bays?

Small business in these areas will lose customers and could end up going out of business as many will simply not visit if they have to pay parking charges as proposed. A lot of elderly constituents use these local shopping areas and many will not now attend due to costs now being charged.

We are currently all suffering from cost of living more people are using food banks ect ....I don't think it exceptable to now charge for parking in these areas businesses will suffer. People don't have the money. Southampton city Council treats Southampton worse than the towns in tge northern part of England ....fix up Southampton city Council stop wasting money on useless things.

Bitterne needs regeneration and increased footfall. This won't happen if people have to pay for parking. If I need to start paying for parking I would rather travel to the Sainsburys in Hedge End or drive into town for a much wider range of shops.

We should not have to pay to shop people already struggling with everything else going up this is disgusting

Too expensive,

Will put people off visiting and using local shops,

I have used these car parks for many years and it's very disappointing these charges will be put in place, this will make it more difficult for visitors to park near my house as well as forcing cars to

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park on surrounding roads making them crowded

Very upset by these changes

With The cost of living rising no one can afford these parking charges, If you want people to shop locally, you need to give them limited free parking otherwise we take our custom elsewhere

Shopping areas are already struggling, shops are closing and increasing parking fees will make things worse, the public cannot keep finding more money!

If this goes ahead the small village shops will close . I myself will avoid making trips to bitterne . Please please do not do this !

It's already quiet in the district centres, how can you think making it less attractive for people to visit them is a good idea?

People will not visit the shops in these areas if they have to pay for short term parking. The businesses will struggle to survive and the areas will become more run down as shops close.

Residential roads will be inundated with cars trying to park for free.

I work in a school and some parents are forever parking dangerously when dropping their children off. We tell them the car park 2 minutes walk away is free and suggest they park there.

People cannot afford to pay for this appoints are being taken and use this carpark

People will not go to these areas to shop local when supermarkets have free parking. We will have lots of derelict buildings due to losing footfall and you are trying to compare these areas to towns and city centres which they are not!

The charges whether small or large will reduce the number of people heading too smaller shops around these areas and therefore impacting small businesses/any businesses in the area. Woolston and bitterne have always had issues but the shops and cafes which have lasted through the tough times will soon close because for the sake of an additional £2 or so per visit people just won't pay it. The money will not be used for anything positive and it will just be a money making machine. But in reality all it will do is the shops will get less business and will close and then there will be empty shops and car parks. We are in a cost of living crisis please stop adding problems to southampton residents lives.

I will not pay to park there, small businesses will be ruin

Loss of trade to local business

People need to be able to park to vist the shops ,doctors, relatives.

Stop attacking the motorists

People shop in bitterne and woolston will they pay the money to park there I don't think so.

Another way of getting more money out of road users

Parking charges will reduce the amount of people that will go to the local run shops therefore making the shops themselves close, we are going through a cost of living crisis and your putting pressure on the Southampton residents for a cash grab.

Ludicrous! So many people use the shops in Bitterne and Woolston to support local and only are penalising people. A quick stop into one of these places to get shopping now costs extra. Keep the 2 hour free parking. Always somewhere to park, these car parks are never full. Just another ploy to get more money. Shameful

Not worth going if you have to pay for parking. This proposal will kill off all the little shops trading. You can get everything in big super centres with free parking. You are putting small traders out of business.

I don't very often drive into Bitterne as I live there but now and again I park in one of the car parks if I buy heavy items. I shall be driving and shopping elsewhere in future as why should I pay to park at my local shops when I haven't had to for the last 30 odd years I have been driving. I feel this will have a very big negative impact on the local shops and people will choose to shop elsewhere, not good for businesses, shame on the council for bringing this in.

Because times are tight enough without having to pay to buy basics to feed my family.

The council is just greedy. No money is put back into "maintaining" car parks, fixing pot holes or

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repainting lines.

Road works take far longer than they should causing havoc to road users.

No one will pay to park in smaller areas such as woolston and bitterne therefore businesses will not be supported and shops closing down.

Try and think about people who don't sit on their arses and get massive bonuses but those people who slog it out every day and still struggle to make ends meet!

This will kill those shopping areas when people can go elsewhere with free parking

There is no need to change these carpal to pay and display. Some only just pop in a shop your just trying to make money out of something that doesn't need changing Wednesday is when the older generation do there weekly shop you will cause all businesses to loose out on so much all for GREED!

It's the only place to park if your going to the centre for treatment why is there the need to charge for this

This is going to cripple the small business's in these areas. It's a shitty proposal

Why pick on the motorist,

This will make me not use the areas and affect local businesses

The smaller high streets are so important to the local area. Now having to pay to park here will only stop people going at all. The buses are unreliable and slow, people just won't go.

I will no longer shop local if I have to pay to park for even an hour. I will also no longer frequent the evening entertainment again due to the proposed requirement to pay to park in the evening. You are driving people away from using local services.

These new proposed charges are a ridiculous idea.

These areas are dying off as a result of higher rental costs on units and with most of the banks shutting other shops will follow suit. Some have been shut long term and remain empty. There is a need to regenerate the areas as it is.

By adding additional costs to people, they will avoid using these areas especially at a time when finances are already stretched.

People will instead use local surroundings roads which will cause problems for residents and cause more unnecessary traffic to already poor road networks.

Please reconsider the removal of the free 2 hour parking charges to support local areas and business instead of ruining them!

These charges will discourage shoppers from going into these districts. Woolston is pretty much a ghost town and Bitterne will also decline. Stop this madness now.

The small shops will suffer as less people will shop in these areas, I for one will not be paying to park in Bitterne/Woolston

To keep easy access for local visits to carry out shopping and keep local shops alive

Life is expensive enough! I regularly park in bittern to visit a number of shops. Sometimes not knowing how long I intend to be. Doing a weekly food shop or people going to the gym. Why scrap the 2 hours free parking. This is not helpful one bit in these areas.

It will add increased financial strain to a number of people who will no longer be able to pop into the local shops. With these proposals people will avoid using the prescient to shop as they cannot park easily, thus meaning more shop and business closures.

Additional you will be adding time management worries to people and possibly reducing the amount of time they would have spent in local shops and businesses.

Absolutely ridiculous! Are they trying to close/finish off small businesses!

You will drive people away from the struggling high street shops. People will shop more online, or go to superstores. What makes you think people can afford this in this financial climate especially



under the new government? What gives you the right to line your pockets with other people money because you feel like it?

Bitterne and Woolston need shoppers to survive, charging shoppers to park will discourage people from shopping and will sound the death knell for shops. If you want to charge limit the free parking to an hour and keep it free on Sundays.

This will be terrible for all of the shops affected by these charges. People will stop shopping at these locations

actually charging to park in small car parks will just push people to park on residential roads or not bother at all harming local businesses

I can only comment on Bitterne ... having to pay to park to go to Bitterne is just crazy!

With parking charges you are just pushing local residents away from an already run down area of Southampton with let's face it not the most exciting shops in the area.

With other Sainsbury's not a million miles away with free parking, the whole place will close down and no doubt will either be turned into a load more vape shops and more than likely students flats eventually or simply waste land like meggason avenue has become ... but that's another subject which I won't get started on, OVER 10years it's been like that!!!

Please reconsider as our already stretched budgets just can not cope and neither will all the local businesses!

It's disgusting

The charges will turn Woolston and Bitterne into more estate agents, nail bars and hairdressers. Why pay to park in these places when you can go to Aldys, Lydl and Iceland, just a short Car/Bus ride away

Increasing the chargeable hours in these small car parks will only push people away from the shopping areas that these small car parks support. It will not make people consider other transportation, they will just drive further away for a free car park are at a different shopping location. YOU ARE HARMING SMALL BUSINESSES.

It encourages me to shop local with 2 hours free parking.

Also as a member of scc staff I would make use of these car parks to carry out home visits to service users. I would therefore be recouping these costs back from expenses

Car parking charges are already high in Southampton and will be a contributory factor in decreasing footfall in these areas which will directly impact on local businesses. Introducing parking tariffs at a time when the cost of living is rising and higher food costs already impact on everyone is both immoral and wrong.

People visiting to check on others, this may limit the time being spent with friends and family. Increasing stress and mental health issues for those on their own or in need of care. Also trades people visiting for quotes and jobs.

Not many free car parks woolston needs them for trade and shopping purposes

Disgraceful. Local business will take a direct hit. Why would someone pay to park near a high street when they could go somewhere like Lidl and park for free. I know the council is struggling for cash but I feel this would have 0 profit in the long run.

This will cause people not to visit Bitterne causing loss of trade for the local businesses

Are you trying to turn these places into ghost towns? The charges for less than 2 hours stay are unnecessary and unfair. It's almost as though you want the businesses to fail ☹️

This will drive people further away from businesses. I won't stop at Bitterne or Woolston when I am passing through if I have to pay car parking fees just to nip to the local shops. These high streets are already struggling enough without driving business away from them. It will also make people park in nearby streets to avoid charges, this will cause so many access issues for the neighbouring Community.

These new proposed charges a very stupid idea for the following reasons:

- areas already dying off as a result of higher rental costs on units
- banks shut or shutting other shops will follow suit.
- Empty units
- poor range of shops and facilities
- unneeded additional costs at a time when country is in financially poor state
- people will use surrounding roads causing problems to residents and surrounding roads

There is a need to regenerate these areas as it is as they are in a poor run down state.

This will NOT help bring more people to the areas, it will push people away!

**DONT DO IT!**

**HELP local businesses and communities DONT ruin them!**

You'll drive people away and businesses will close.

Bitterne precinct is fast becoming a ghost town-this would without doubt be the final nail in the coffin as people simply won't pay to park there. It's useful to visit and pick up some essentials on occasion but if forced to pay for parking then I would just go out of town and park for free.

Really? Charging for small local car parks? Do you want to see the shops in the suburbs die out? Do you really hate the residents of Southampton that much that you want to see their livelihoods fail?

Capacity is not an issue, there's no reason to charge for these car parks except to be greedy, settle down please. 2 hours free is fine.

I feel locals shouldn't have to pay to shop in their local centre, keep I two hours free

Definitely not appropriate, what about the people on low incomes who cannot afford to pay parking charges if they are introduced !!!

This will effect local businesses as people will be less likely to visit due to the increased parking charge yet again threatening the local economy.

I'm not sure what the objective is here. I am a supporter of green transport and generally support charging as a way to change behaviour but from my experience (which I appreciate is not data driven), my local area, Bitterne, is not overcrowded but does contribute to a vibrant local commerce area. If you charge, people will drive to the Hedge End retail park. It may cost them more in fuel, but it's free parking. Psychology plays a huge part in car driving habits and you seem to be missing this point. Even a tiny charge will mean that people change their habits and the money will end up in a different borough.

These new proposed charges a very stupid idea for the following reasons:

- areas already dying off as a result of higher rental costs on units
- banks shut or shutting other shops will follow suit.
- Empty units
- poor range of shops and facilities
- unneeded additional costs at a time when country is in financially poor state
- people will use surrounding roads causing problems to residents and surrounding roads

There is a need to regenerate these areas as it is as they are in a poor run down state.

This will NOT help bring more people to the areas, it will push people away!

**DONT DO IT!**

**HELP local businesses and communities DONT ruin them**

It will be the demise of bitterne, I would stop going myself as I generally are only there 10 minutes, for items that I could get elsewhere without mucking about paying for parking

I am a business owner in BITTERNE and these charges will do nothing but drive people away from the precinct, reading posts on Facebook virtually everyone said they would go elsewhere eventually leading to closure of the shops and staff losing their jobs. Couldn't be a worse proposal and so I do object in the strongest possible manner. **DO NOT ALLOW THIS PROPOSAL TO GO AHEAD**

You will harm local businesses by charging more or imposing charges on district car parks. Yet again Southampton City Council penalising those who choose to use their cars. When you offer alternative transport that is quicker, as reliable, able to support my accessibility needs and is cheaper than my car I'll use it, until then I'll stick with my car and if you increase or implement these charges I, and I'm sure others like me, will simply go take our custom elsewhere.

**Money grabbing a holes**

Local shops are struggling to retain customers as it is and you want to add to their struggle. Shame on you.

Absolute shambles, money grabbing because you think you can. People will likely use local shops less. Is that not obvious?

Shameless.

Woolston and bitterne are both small and dying shopping areas.. if you start charging for parking less people will want to go there and more shops will suffer ... this is a terrible idea.. please dont do it!

**Cash cow as always with Southampton city council**

I feel business are struggling enough if you add parking charges more people will shop online instead of supporting the local economy

We go to bitterne and the others got the convenient of free parking , put a time restriction on the parking instead of charging us

**Business in some of these areas are already struggling your just driving people away**

Having to pay will stop me parking in these locations and using the local business's. You will end up destroying lical business's as people will go elsewhere with free parking

The emphasis on the council to ensure cleaner air and reduced congestion in the city centre, can only succeed if infrastructure allows external to the centre. In this case, we are encouraged to park and ride, utilising buses. However if the parking charges in the outer parks are in line with the city centre/west quay/private parking, then there is no incentive to utilise public transport. This reduces demand, reduces service and increases pollution within the centre itself, going against the council's focus on environmental safety.

This will affect negatively local businesses and is not a charge that is needed.

People will stop coming to shop in the local areas if they have to pay too much to park. Need to have free parking in disabled bays with a blue badge showing.

It will impact the shops in woolston high street which already don't have much footfall, and we could end up losing them altogether.

Where will I park when going to PureGym? This will drive business away since JD gym just around the corner offers free parking on the roof. I would rather cancel my membership and go elsewhere than have to pay £260 a year to park at the gym for 2 hours 5 days a week. And over £600 for a yearly season ticket is ridiculous.

I use local shops due to convenience and cost.

Implementing changes for parking will mean it will be cheaper to visit out of town shopping centres drawing consumers away from local shops.

Public transport is wholly inadequate in my area so isn't an option.

These charges will mean a decrease in footfall leading to lower sales for businesses and more financial strain on the already struggling high streets.

Failing businesses will then lead to lower business rate incomes and a domino effect on council incomes.

This short sighted attempt at generating cash has already been shown to have these effects after reinstatement of parking charges in Southampton city centre had a similar effect of deterring shoppers from entering the city due to excessive costs.

Surely the free parking currently in place can be seen to be aiding local businesses by encouraging people to visit without any extra costs.

Upping the prices of parking will affect the already struggling shops in places like bitterne and will affect the hard working people who are already struggling with the cost of living. This is putting me off ever voting labour council as they are doing nothing but taxing the hard working people of Southampton!!!

The people of Southampton are struggling as it is. Even more so since the latest thieving budget from the government. SCC needs to stop putting in place schemes that constantly take more money out of residents pockets.

The shops surrounding these car parks are local corner shop and small business. If you start charging then the businesses will suffer. If you start charging , I won't park there or use the facilities.

I will stop using the car parks in these small communities and the local businesses will lose out

I use bitterne quite a lot during the week and having to pay to park is just going to force people to go elsewhere

Will reduce short visits to bitterne shopping area.

I will not goto Bitterne shopping any more if I have to pay parking. Portswood Sainsbury's it is then

You will make our small villages a ghost town if u start charging , do you not think these small shopping areas are struggling enough! And now we will get even less people as they will have to pay ! It will kill the areas

I frequently use the car parks in Bitterne and Woolston and have never had an issue parking/finding a space. I think your justification for trying to implement these charges is wrong. If the charges go ahead all I can see happening is people will go elsewhere to shop. They go to these shopping areas for convenience not because the shops are fantastic. If you make us start paying to park then we'll just go elsewhere where it is free to park and the shops are better. Southampton will lose out as people will shop out of the area instead. No shoppers = shop closures.

It will drive business away from the small villages. The car parks are used from services adjacent to the car parks like doctor's surgery's, churches and the library. Not only are you hurting local businesses but also peoples social and mental health. You should be trying to drive people into our city to spend money, not drive more and more away to other places and online. Stop spending money on stupid schemes that are hurting our city and try being more inviting.

Free two hour parking is essential for the survival of Bitterne shops. It's also essential for school drop off and pick up.

I hace lived in woolston my whole life. If you introduce these ridiculous charges, myself and soxmany more will be forced to no longer support our local shops and communities!

I know this will get ignored because the decision is already made but getting rid of the free parking period is a disgrace. Local shops are convenience shops. I will not be paying to nip into Bitterne or Woolston to pop into a shop. Congratulations in driving me away from using our local shops towards big chain stores with free parking and online shopping

Pure greed by the council. I feel people will stop going to woolston, Bitterne etc to do their shopping now. Killing the local shops!

Bad move by the council, let's see how well this council does in the next local election now!

It will seriously impact businesses by reducing the people visiting bitterne etc. One of the main reasons I go to Bitterne is the free parking. It's convenient. I never spend more than an hour or so there and I would say a huge proportion of people do the same. So it's hardly blocking spaces! Please rethink this decision. You'll end up harming a number of businesses who see a decline in sales due to parking charges!

Local shops/traders and churches/halls will go out of business as people simply cannot afford all these extra charges.

Not everyone, by a long way, can catch buses, cycle or walk distance. Southampton will become a ghost town.

There is a fine line between raising money to maintain the car parks (which frankly should be covered by the ever-increasing council taxes), and supporting the increasingly fragile state of the shopping precinct / local businesses / weekly market. Introducing a charge at these car parks will deter most users from parking there at all and will significantly impact footfall to those businesses. As someone who lives locally to these car parks, I regularly use them to "nip" to the shops on the way back from school runs etc to shop locally. If these charges are brought in, I (along with countless others no doubt) shall no longer do this and will take my business further afield, such as Hedge End. Bitterne Precinct will become a barren boarded-up wasteland and businesses will suffer. Imposing charges only pushes more traffic onto local roads and additional cars parking on surrounding residential streets. I urge the council to rethink this proposal. Local people want to shop locally - and the two-hours free parking provision currently in place supports and encourages people to do that.

People and businesses are struggling for money. These shops are convenient for people with families to get their shopping with easy parking. You are ruining the local environment with these crazy ideas! About time you sort out the bridge properly instead of what you're trialing atm for people not killing themselves. The bridge needs higher equipment with spikes on it.

This will persuade me to avoid these local areas and travel instead to places like hedge end, whitely, locks heath. There is no need, other than to revenue raise, to impose charges in these car parks. It clearly has nothing to do with managing demand

It will impact the footfall in the local shops negatively because people won't want to pay to park. Nearby residential roads will be congested with shoppers parking there and therefore effecting residents who live in the community, blocking driveways and increased traffic.

How can charging local people who need to use their cars help district centres to survive. People just won't pay it, and what little custom local shops get will decline even further. Keep the 2 hours free parking or it will be the end of centres like Woolston. Crazy idea.

It will affect local small business as will not encourage shoppers to visit(the aim of the order to restrict car use perhaps!), it will result in people parking on streets for free in areas where residents do not want parking permits. The agenda to stop private car use is a political one that is ill thought out and we should be encouraging people to use our centers to support local business. Most people do not live near bus stops to be able to carry shopping home and covid destroyed our society and these measures will prolong issues and cause hardship on people whose finances are being hit with ever increasing charges ie punitive measures rather than cutting wasteful spending of council.

People are asked to shop locally and use small local businesses. These charges will stop people shopping locally and using small businesses because they will have to pay to park. So as an example if friends want to meet for a coffee they will go to a local privately owned cafe in woolston but now they have to pay they will think they might as well go to hedge end and get free parking at Costa or Starbucks. It's bad enough having to pay an increased charge to use the Itchen bridge (the smart cities card is cheaper but still a charge to go into town that people living in the

west of Southampton don't have) I also feel this consultation or have you say won't make a tiny bit of difference because the decision is already made and this is just something the council are doing to appear as if they care when they don't.

You will kill the local community which is already bad

Local area and businesses will be effected.

So with bitterne for example you are just paying out all that money to make the precinct look nice but then you are going to drive everyone away by putting parking charges in place where is the logic in that or is that just more wasted money.

As for saying about potholes and maintaining the carpark the roads around Southampton are awful for potholes they don't get sorted so what do you think is going to make people believe that this is actually going to be maintained.

All you are doing is ruining local business even further cause people won't pay so people won't visit

The proposals are being falsely presented as being to further the cause of citizens walking or cycling more or using public transport instead. The majority of citizens recognise this as being to do with raising revenue. It's an insult to people's intelligence to try and pretend otherwise. I rarely travel around Southampton by car and choose to walk or take the bus, so the charges won't impact me much at all, but that's not the point. I dislike the less than honourable way you've set out your stall on this matter. It does nothing good to promote better public participation in local government democracy.

This will kill the remaining business on the high street when times are already dire. I simply won't visit small places like Bitterne now, as the only perk of free parking has been taken away. This hasn't been advertised long enough before the change, therefore deliberately catching people out and demanding fines.

The council trying to make the whole of Southampton a ghost town. just for the bus business to take over ,which they can't run on time any day /time of week.

It will turn people away from doing their shopping on bitterne. It's always been a free car park so why change it? I presume because you want to make more money obviously.

I'm a pensioner and park at bitterne and portswood to do our weekly shop . This will now cost us more to shop ,

People expect to pay for parking in the city centre, but not the suburbs. All this will do is damage the businesses that live there, because people will go where parking is free like Hedge End and Whiteley.

Having free parking in these areas in paramount to the independence of local people. Implementing charges will certainly reduce the number of people using the local shops and facilities. We are in a cost of living crisis, where some are choosing between heating and eating These areas are not town centers and should not be treated as such. These proposals are shameful. The poor are getting poorer and the rich, richer. Do not contribute to this problem any further than you already have.

These car parks are handy for just running in and out of the shops close by. By introducing a charge you are introducing a restriction of custom to businesses. You have already done this with the new bus hub in the town centre, removing the car parks removed easy access to the city for a lot of people. Please consider your options wisely and stop trying to punish the drivers of this city.

I won't be parking in bitterne if I have to pay, this will affect local shops etc. I will take my business elsewhere if this is the case. Bitterne and Woolston high street are not great now, this will 100% affect the trade there.

Charging to go places such as woolston and bitterne is unreal. I used the car parks regularly in woolston to go for breakfast with friends. If the car park become charged I will no longer be doing this and will go elsewhere. Bitterne being charged to park when no one is actually there for long.

Bitterne precinct is more convenience than anything else. Charging for these places is ridiculous. And will rapidly cause a decline in more high street stores closing down.

These smaller local areas rely on people popping by to get a bit of shopping. Adding a charge will stop some from parking. Myself I use Bitterne and Woolston a couple of times a month to pick things up, but if a charge was implemented I simply wouldn't bother and just get everything online or at a larger out of town supermarket i.e. Tesco.

Implementing a charge to these car parks would kill the district shopping areas.

I'm objecting to these proposals because it's going to have a massive impact on the amount of people visiting these places especially Bitterne which is struggling as it is not to mention as well what about the people who use PureGym unless they go before 8am

How about instead you still bring the charges in but allow an hour of free parking before having to pay and allow PureGym customers 2hrs of free parking you can stipulate no return the same day unless paying for it and have a camera system in place to aid with this

It will affect local businesses and the public are less likely to go to these local places to shop. They will drive instead to retail outlets parks where the parking is free. Very few are using public transport, This is simply a scheme for the council to make money.

Regular user of bitterne car parks supporting the smaller more local businesses.

Introduction of the charges mean that hedge end may actually be more convenient as the choice is greater and the parking free. Adding my emissions and congestion to another problem.

The current 2 hour free when purchase a ticket car park in bitterne is already a problem with insufficient technology for the volume of visitors. If you put less than 3 machines in the sainsburys car park (peartree gardens?) Then it will be bedlam where by i will probably be eligible for a fine before I've even had the chance to purchase a ticket. I suppose the only asset being that i might be able to park during peak chill traffic hours because they will be forced further afield since there adjacent road is already closed for school times.

Perhaps a more appropriate decision would have been to make the local district car parks all 1 hour free until 2pm? Then introduce your charges ? Encourage everyone out to the smaller districts as a matching alternative to big out of town? But limited time to stop school abuse? Furthermore in bitterne and woolston where the all day parking is limited to the few that commute into the city could a deal not be made that on the purchase of all day parking a concession is made to the blue star onward price?

If you start charging for parking, less people will go to those areas. Therefore less customers, those businesses will make less money and eventually shut down

The only people benefiting will be the council as usual! the smaller shopping areas like bitterne will end up disappearing as people will by pass them for the larger supermarkets and shop more online. SCC WHAT ARE YOU THINKING!!

It allows for access to the shops with ease of usage , there is a 2 hour maximum stay before charges apply and people already use it to pay for parking if they stay longer than 2 hours but taking away the privilege for parents to park and shop means we will no longer use the local shops

I like to shop local rather than city centre because I know I can park for free the the time I need to do my shopping, there isn't many shops in Bitterne of interest so why stop people going by charging for parking!!!!

This will dissuade people from visiting shops and restaurants in our district centres, like Shirley and Portswood. It will hit shop workers who rely on parking at a time when people are struggling financially, disproportionately hurting those on low incomes. It isn't needed to manage parking demand. This is achieved already by limited free parking arrangements. It will damage shops and hit jobs in our district centres, which have struggled in recent years and conflicts with council plans to regenerate district centres.

Because it expensive as it is and sorry but these areas are less busy like city centre. To the point No1 will ever go shopping in person they will just order online .

Ridiculous, Bitterne will lose loads of customers, or people will just clog up local roads

Theses are small shopping areas which locals needs, people can't afford to pay out anymore, this proposal will cause people to not shop there and in turn destroy the shop owner's business, shops have a hard enough time and this will destroy it further. The public don't agree with less cars and more public transport as the public transport is not reliable, this will affect so many from different walks of life, I use theses shopping areas as I know I can park, I will stop using them as I know many other people will if this goes ahead, going to the shops is a life line for people that are on their own, don't take the only free thing they have

These car parks are free to keep the shopping alive in the smaller villages of southampton. Hamble opposed to this as most would not stop into the village if there were charges. Also there are a lot of low income families in bitterne and woolston. Please don't do this

These places are not main city centres and only have a few shops each. People will stop visiting these small places with these kind of parking charges which will result in businesses closing! DO NOT implement these charges

My particular concern is with Bitterne. I'm a resident of Downside Avenue, and the recent closure of the school road ( which I agree with) has significantly increased traffic down the road already. Parking is already limited since the trees were planted ( again I agree with) and I have actually seen parking wardens telling people to park on downside Avenue. Bitterne car park is also used as a quick drop off for parents for the school. Removing the free parking for a short period will cause carnage on the surrounding residential streets. People already park unsafely, but this will make it worse!

These small shopping areas will die or people will park on residential streets to avoid paying. I for one will not now pop to woolston for brunch or to visit the bakers if I need to pay. I'll go to Tesco or a pub which has free parking

This will further destroy local business

There are two free car parks in close proximity to St Patrick's Church and St Patrick's school (Portsmouth Rd, SO19). To remove these options for parents and parishioners would make it very difficult for them to drop off/pick up their children from school and to attend mass. With an already-declining congregation, St Patrick's church would not survive this short sighted move.

I visit bitterne frequently for short periods spending regularly in the shopping centre, bitterne is already a fairly quiet centre compared with city centres who charge for parking currently. I believe this would have a detrimental affect on businesses who are already up against the online world. I would not be visiting bitterne as frequently if these charges were in place. Even in West Quay retail park they offer 1/2 hour free parking which allows money yo be spent and regular turn over of cars.

As a regular user of peartree gardens car park in Bitterne to use the local gym I find the proposals flawed, especially the evening charges. Weekday evenings after 6pm it is generally quieter, with there never being an issue in finding a space. Most businesses in Bitteren Precient are also closed at this time. The introduction of these charges will be detrimental to the area as people will look to travel to other area that do have free parking for this use such as Fareham.

I also live in Burseldon meaning that there is no alternative to the car as public transport is non existent between the two areas.

Finally the cost of the season ticket is flawed and unattractive for the length of time that I would use the car park.

Putting parking charges in the listed car parks is obscene! You're trying to encourage people to use these areas and spending money improving these areas but by charging people to park they won't go! I pop into Bitterne for 20 minutes to get stuff to support the high street. If I'm expected to pay I won't go there and will head to Tescos, the range, B&M etc and not pay for parking! You're going to destroy these small towns by introducing parking charges so don't do it!



Free parking is a must for the OUTSKIRTS of the City Centre. Business will take a huge hit and alot of people won't be paying another charge for car parks Please just don't allow this to happen.

These are local car parks for local residents,not city centre ones!!! Horrendous proposal

I personally pop into Bitterne and Woolston quite often and it's usually not for very long so to have to pay for a short time would make me stay away.

The cost of living is at an all time high, people are struggling to put food on the table and keep warm, let alone paying for parking as well. Even bus fare has increased making it not affordable. I think 2 hours free parking is fair.

I am against charges for Portsmouth Road.

Parents use the Portsmouth Road car park by the Toll Bridge when they drop their children off at St Patrick's Primary School, which is situated on Fort Road. They will not use it if they have to pay and will therefore clog local roads. The catchment area for St Patrick's Primary School covers a large area so parents drive in from their homes.

We should be supporting these local community shopping areas ,by charging it will deter foot fall which will ultimately affect small businesses

Close car parks in C55ity then charge for parking in suburbs if this happens the city will be a ghost town full of empty shops mind you it would make space for Starmers boat people .

Small businesses suffer when they are already in challenging times.

Why? Why do you need to do this. It's pathetic

I run a charity organisation for girls ages 4-18 in the city. This proposal will not only mean that the parents will have to pay an extra £40 a year for their child to attend as they drop and pick up but they will also have to pay an extra £260 a year to attend the church for worship each week. I find this outrageous. There is no high demand for these spaces and it will deter people from accessing services within the local community and surrounding areas. But I suppose as long as the councils pockets are lined each year after their failings to budget cause us more detriment.

There is small business in the Woolston area , which are going to be effected by this as people will not want to pay for parking , non of the money will go on anything for our area it just get spent useless crap , like paying the itchen bridge for years and its going up more and more for what ?? Woolston is a small little area for small little businesses with these parking charges the Buisness's will now start to suffer!!

Council only think about there self's !!!

Absolutely discourage visiting the city, affecting the local economy.

Also Sunday

Parking should be free both for going to church and shopping.

The will put people off using Bitterne, as a resident visitors use the lances hill car park as parking outside our home isn't possible and I will cause a lot of issues/problems for school drop offs. The 1/2 hours free should remain for Bitterne car parks.

I won't pay to park

These shops will be closing down with the lack of people going there,if you have to pay to park then people will go elsewhere to the bigger supermarkets or into town. Southampton will have lots of empty shops and parking spaces!

Parking is already an issue on the road I live on (Downside Avenue) and implementing paid parking will mean even more cars trying to park on residential streets. The number of cars parked on Downside can be unsafe for the number of children that use the road as an access route to school. I (and some of my neighbours) regularly have problems getting in and off our driveways and the grass verges continue to be damaged due to cars pulling up onto them despite the trees having been planted. We also often can't park anywhere near our own property due to the number of people who work at the shops in the precinct using our road as a car park. This will get worse with parking charges. Introducing paid parking will not encourage people to use alternative modes of transport, it'll just encourage them to park elsewhere - namely the residential streets which

already have issues as stated above. If residents only parking were introduced to the surrounding areas then that would help.

Bitterne Village is a vibrant small shopping area. Charging for parking in Angel Crescent would mean that shoppers would go out of town shopping. As a result, the businesses in Bitterne Village would suffer and some of them would have to close.

These car parks are used for vital trade for Bitterne, as well as parents to park on school runs. Absolutely ridiculous idea, especially when money is scarce for everyone right now!

Parking costs will deter people from visiting these shopping centres. They will order online or go elsewhere such as Hedge End. This will affect local businesses and ultimately the council when vacancy rates increase and rents drop leading to a loss of revenue in business rates. Please don't implement another unpopular policy (such as the A3024) and listen to your residents and rate payers. The cost of the A3024 u turn was a huge waste of funds. Please do not repeat the same mistakes.

This will have a massive impact on local trades in the area, people tend to pop to local areas to buy stuff but they are not going to pay everytime they want to pop to the shop for say 10 mins!!!!

Small businesses in Woolston would definitely suffer if you charge for parking. The car parks are never full, under used. This is such a shame as Woolston is an upcoming area.

The car park in Bitterne behind Sainsburys is well used, especially by parents collecting children from school. Concerned about the knock on effect if parents Don want to pay.

The bitterne car parks are regularly used by gym goers at both gyms (including the new JD) which offer value for money memberships and encourage frequent visits as a result for better health (both physical and mental). Introducing charges to the car parks would have a severe impact on costs to go to the gym which would result in a huge impact on visitors. The bitterne precinct is quiet and offers a good alternative to in city shopping including for the elderly, of which free parking enables this to be possible. Bringing in charges would make this no longer attractive and would see the death of bitterne shopping

Charging will kill off the trade in Bitterne and Woolston. It will not force people to take the bus - it will mean more people shopping online and small independent businesses will disappear. Greedy council should stop wasting our money and trying to take more.

This is a silly idea. It works perfectly fine now without people paying. If there is to be a charge implemented then many places won't have the footfall etc. places will become ghost towns. Surley you make enough money from us all paying council tax?!

I have a blue badge and is convenient for me to pop into Bitterne as I get 2 hours free parking. If I had to pay for parking I will go elsewhere or to a big main supermarket where it is free and I can get everything under one roof. You will be killing Bitterne off completely by charging in the carparks and taking away the 2 hours free.

These areas are struggling enough with free parking, let alone making people pay to park for areas that should be convenient to visit. If this is brought in I believe the economic viability of shops in these areas will be impacted.

These local high streets are already struggling, introducing parking charges means people will go elsewhere. I am also a resident close to one of these car parks, I've not been consulted on the issues I will have on my residential street parking. Are you going to make surrounding streets permit all the time with no 2 hour time limits?

Nobody who wants to nip into the shops locally will pay to park there for short periods. This will have a detrimental affect on business.

It will affect my business as people won't get the 2 hours free parking in Woolston.

This is the only local place where parents can park for free and take their children to school. St Patrick's primary school doesn't have enough space to allow drop-offs nearby and this will only add to the already congested roads leading up to the itchen bridge in the mornings.

The proposals outlined will undoubtedly reduce the number of people visiting businesses in the affected areas, and as a result reduce the viability of trading. Please make decisions that help small local businesspeople to operate.

I also think that your intention to change the way that people travel to these places by charging them is, frankly, ridiculous and has been shown previously to not lead to the effect that you are looking for (i.e. reduced car journeys). Improve the bus services if you want to change people's habits. More carrot, less stick.

#### Will go elsewhere

Local shopping areas are of huge benefit to local residents, start charging for parking and people will shop elsewhere, lots of elderly residents use the parking, they are already paying enough for heating

This will destroy the local businesses who are facing ever increasing bills thus destroying the local community. Most of these car parks are used by local residents for short periods of time. If you shop daily this will add a huge amount to your monthly budget. This is just another tax on Southampton motorists.

This is an attack on shops and shoppers. Southampton businesses are already reeling from the effects of the budget. It is also an attack on church goers and on parents dropping children off to school. It is a simple money grab from an incompetent council.

Poorly thought through plans designed to try and squeeze money. It will cost businesses in our local district centres at a time when they need support after a difficult budget.

#### Because I think it's wrong

The only reason I bother to visit any of the above locations is because of the free 2 hours parking take that away and you'll lose in my opinion a good 50% of trade if not more.

How about the council looking at what and how they spend the money, as the years go by you WASTE the money you're given then expect as taxpayers US to fix the black hole you've created!

when things then go wrong (civic centre hill lights) you're then scrapping the bottom of the barrel for any pounds left! This council really needs to have a look at itself and how it spends money, you seem so intent on stopping people driving around the city it is surprising we have any trade/visitors left

#### A very angry resident.

Using the car park facilities for local shopping is essential to retain shops. Often the stay is only for an hour or so. Parking charges will drive away people to bigger retailers where the parking is free.

#### In a cost of living crisis this will kill local highstreets.

The points given in the statement of reasons are false. Demand never outstrips supply. I use pear tree gardens daily and always find a space. The only alternative method of transport from where I live is to walk, this is not possible due to a disability and sometimes heavy shopping. Currently the Pear tree gardens is free so the statement on inflation is wholly incorrect.

Charging for short stays of under an hour in car parks that have previously been free is counterproductive. First, you will drive the parking into surrounding streets, causing disruption to local residents. We already suffer this on my street due to nearby HMOs, where cars and vans park right up to the junctions, make driving dangerous, and getting on and off our driveways a nightmare. Local shops will suffer a loss in trade from those simply popping to get a few items, or those who need to drop off or pick up the elderly or infirm when they are shopping. Businesses, already struggling, will close and our small high streets will die. You will not make more money. In fact, you will ultimately lose money, as with less shops, those who do stay longer will have no reason to park at all. What happened to all the talk of park and ride to keep the city cleaner? All you appear to be doing is waging war on motorists and causing gridlock. Shame on you.

Charging parking fees in these car parks, will stop people shopping in these areas. You will make next to no money in parking fees. Shops will lose trade and eventually close, people will lose jobs and if businesses close you lose out on business rates. A stupid decision which clearly hasn't been thought through.

You are going to stop so many people from using these areas by making them pay to pop in for something, they aren't necessarily areas you would go for hours so if you are just spending half an hour to an hour you will now have to pay! It's disgraceful & wrong!

Some of these car parks support the last remaining community hubs. People use them for their convenience and support local businesses and access other services in the community. So it is very short-sighted.

One problem with adding new charges is that not everyone becomes aware and they get caught out by this - especially elderly people.

It feels like penny pinching on the part of the LA and once again hitting the pockets of people who are least able to afford it!

Removal of the 2 hour free parking in district car parks will directly cause a loss of footfall to the areas affected.

I have grave reservations for the future viability of Sainsburys in Bitterne if this happens.

Whilst I understand that the City Council is in need of revenue due to the current financial difficulties which they and many other councils are experiencing, this particular approach would be very counter productive. In fact it could indeed prove catastrophic, especially in Bitterne, where I live, and no doubt the other areas would be the same.

I wonder if a reduction from 2 hours free parking to 1 hour might be more palatable, but even this would still come at a cost as people will reduce their dwell time in the areas covered and thus adversely cause harm to many local businesses.

The "improved public transport" argument simply does not hold water either. This still adds considerable cost in both time and money to couples or families especially.

District shopping areas are very much areas of convenience for people, and the longer people can be encouraged to stay during a visit, the better for the whole area.

I feel imposition of charges beyond where they currently stand will cause nothing but harm, indeed it could literally finish the areas off as centres of not just business but also as centres of the community.

Personally I don't often use the local free parking as I more often than not walk to Bitterne from my home. But many are unable or have no wish to do so.

Will stop people parking in these areas, people's finances already stretched. Will encourage people to use big supermarkets to the detriment of small businesses who are already struggling with rising costs! Just easy money with a captive audience

The car park on Angel Crescent is used by many people for shopping but also for the use of the gym. With the cost of living rising, the extra cost per day people cannot afford. That could then stop them going to the gym! That can then lead to obesity! Instead of bringing in an injection to help with obesity you should be promoting places like bitterne and its gyms so that it is accessible to people for health reasons not making it more difficult!

Additionally, Bitterne is not the most popular shopping area and the gyms/free car parking draws people to the area which helps the economy! If you add in charged parking this will put people off and ruin the economy further! Plus everyone will try to park in a side road for free and walk down which puts more pressure on residents of the area.

Increased parking will only drive away shoppers and users of facilities near to the parking areas. This will have an impact on business in this already difficult time for them, whatwithbthe recent tax and forced wage raises but about in the last fucked up budget.

It doesn't help businesses who are already charging more because of the current climate.

1. Adding on these charges won't make people take the bus as they are adverse to doing so.
2. I live in a permit parking area. The same cars are ticketed most days, they never pay and the

council do nothing! If they recovered all the money owed from the tickets they send out, that could be put towards road repairs.

3. Increase in charges would also increase the bikes and electric scooters that use the pavements. Whilst I understand that something needs to be done working towards zero carbon, as a business owner myself and our customers have had near misses when we exit the shop.

4. Make more cycle lanes in these districts.

5. Charge more in the City Centre. The big shops can handle it more than the district Sole Traders.

As a resident in surrounding roads I see the increase traffic in narrow roads, especially near the school in Bitterne. The precinct car park is a lifeline for parents dropping off children, especially as Brownlow Avenue is closed at school times. Where are these parents meant to park? They will be double parked and parked over drives causing dangerous journeys for children getting to school. Bitterne precinct is a great place to pop into town get some things. By charging to park, people will either go elsewhere, crippling the shops. Or will park in surrounding roads which are not set up to manage this.

These car parks are utilised by shoppers to major shops and pharmacies and keep people visiting the high streets.

Our small shopping areas is all we have left. If you start charging, we will stop using!

Stop charging people.

People are already struggling and will continue to struggle under the current government with increased council tax, gas, electric etc... Adding parking charges is just going to push hard off people out of shopping. For goodness sake, think about the people who need to get to the shops and who rely on free parking. Also, free parking helps small, local and independent shops!

Charged parking will make people less likely to go to the shops, so they'll make less money. People don't stay for hours

Why discourage even more people to shop locally? Though of course, as with all of these "consultations" it's already a foregone conclusion and we're all just to poorly educated to understand the great benefits it will bring.

I strongly object to the council's decision to start charging for the car park, as maintaining it as a free facility is essential for our community's well-being. Free parking encourages visitors to frequent local businesses, boosting the economy and supporting jobs in the area. Imposing parking fees may discourage shoppers and diners, leading to decreased foot traffic and potentially harming our local economy. Furthermore, free parking promotes accessibility for everyone, regardless of their financial situation, ensuring that all community members can easily access essential services and amenities. Instead of introducing charges, the council should explore alternative revenue sources that do not burden residents and visitors, fostering a vibrant and inclusive community.

Blatant inadequate understanding of basic economics and the needs of residents who, regrettably, have employed the proposers of this nonsense.

The cycling fraternity who are behind this proposal have only ever managed to get up to about 1% of total journeys, so why pander to them instead of the other 99% of the population who use these facilities. It is only a piece of tarmac which has been in the council's ownership since the year dot, so cost of provision is effectively nil. Cost of maintenance in recent years has only extended to the erection of signs from the council telling motorists what they can or cannot do there. Unnecessary expense. Stop using the term motorists as if it is a few "Toads of Toad Hall", these are the ordinary people trying to go about their workaday lives, so don't call them motorists, call them the general public or "everyone".

There are people employed by the council itself, doing errands for the less capable as part of their lowly paid job, and the council expects them to pay hundreds of pounds up front for a parking "pass", where are they going to get the money from for paying for the privilege of going to work? The "government" is talking about getting "growth", how does the contraction of use of local

shops and businesses, leading to their decline, loss of businesses and employment prospects engender this pie in the sky growth exactly? Does anyone at SCC have any qualifications in basic economics?

If you take a longer bike ride, outside of the city, you will find places that don't charge for customers of their businesses to park; I wonder why those places are busy and the shops and businesses are thronged with people and thriving?

It is well beyond the time when this administration at SCC should have resigned en masse due to their general incapacities.

I think it will take valuable customers away from an already struggling village with banks and shops closing.

You will kill the local shops, cafes by charging people to park as people just won't go out

This is a ridiculous idea!!

I believe that eliminating the 2 hours free parking for many local areas will create a decrease in footfall in these local areas. This will affect local businesses that we are trying to support and use instead of heading to the city centre or supermarkets.

Local small businesses will suffer

It will kill off local businesses. The people of Woolston already have the additional costs of using the itchen bridge. Charging for car parks will make this even worse. People who drive will stop using the smaller shops and use larger supermarkets with free parking. This will increase air pollution because of the extra distance driven. It will make the smaller supermarkets less viable so they close down, meaning people who don't or can't drive won't have access to local, affordable supermarkets. Find the money to maintain the car parks some other way. Maybe stop wasting money on seemingly useless road changes like the one on Radstock Road/manor road north junction. Zebra crossings are great but the pedestrianised roads are confusing for everyone. If you just charge let the 2 hours free still apply. This will stop people parking locally and going into the city centre. You could also generate significant extra income from policing roads outside schools for dangerous parking!

A lot of the older generations need to use their cars to get to local shops to shop and get it home safely they have already lost winter fuel payments pension money is not satisfactory and now councils want to stick the boot in more

My child attends Bitterne c of e primary and there are a lot of parents that use this car park and rely on it to do school run. I feel if you were to add a fee to park there you would find a lot more dangerous parking and potentially accidents because people are not willing to pay a fee to park in basically the only place to park when dropping our children to this school. There are no surrounding roads where you can park. People will not be willing to pay for a 10 minute drop off. I think it's just another money making scheme and not very well thought out health and safety wise.

Again another burden on the people. Times are difficult and the Council should be helping and encouraging people to go out and about

People should not have to pay to pop into their local shopping areas for health centre, school drop offs, quick trips into shop. This will impact local businesses as I certainly won't be popping into the local areas anymore if I need to pay. I will go to the larger supermarkets where it's free.

Parking should be free in the evenings but also, the 2 hour free period should be retained so that people are encouraged to go to these areas and support struggling shops. This is especially pertinent to Portswood where you are insistent on damaging this area by installing the much objected to bus gate.

Supposed to be discouraging car use into the city. What happened to the clean air agenda? The Woolston car parks are great for parking and getting the bus across or walking.

Parking charges will also further put off people going into local shops in Woolston which is already looking very run-down

This will drive business down in Bitterne and Woolston

Will kill off local trade especially in Bitterne!!

The free car park is one of the few things keeping Bitterne alive. People will stop coming when they have to pay.

There is no need to make this a payable car park.

It's also used for school pick up and drop offs and is one of the few safe places for this.

Because it will affect the local businesses in the area You have Look at the bigger picture instead of making money from car parks you will still be Making Business council tax from the businesses which are there you will not make any money if they close which they will do eventually stop being shortsighted

The is counterintuitive and will harm the local high street businesses in these areas.

This is about the council raising more money from the already over priced things in the world. These parking spots are a valuable free service to local shops etc and charging to park will mean less money going to local businesses. a poor idea do better

Unfair on trades people. Will hit families if near parks to enjoy

If people have to pay to visit the local shops, they're not going to visit them. Why would I pay to visit the Sainsburys in Bitterne when I could just drive a bit further to Tesco at Bursledon and shop there? Why would I pop over to Shirley to get a few bits from the friendly, knowledgeable staff in a specialist shop there when I could just order a similar product online? This will kill off the local shopping areas.

Several of these shopping areas have gyms in them. I'm a competitive strength athlete and a training session can easily take me close to two hours. If I have to pay to park, I will drive a bit further out to a gym that doesn't have parking charges.

Post Offices in these areas are already hanging on by a thread; if people have to pay to park to drop off a parcel there will be even less footfall through them and they'll close.

Free parking for a few hours is keeping these small shops and local businesses alive. People who can will drive out of town to do the same tasks and the High Streets will be well and truly dead. People who can't, such as elderly people and those with less income, will be really stuck.

The 50p charge for 1 hour's parking is simultaneously too high as it will discourage short visits to nearby retail (for example the Westridge Road car park is frequently used by visitors to the shops and restaurants on Portswood Road), whilst also being so low it is hard to see how the council will break even on the transaction, once the cost of administration and payment processing is taken into consideration. A better suggestion would be to keep parking free for up to one hour in locations where the parking serves small businesses, then charge for stays in excess of that.

I'm not against the increase of price but what I object to is the charge for under one hour. The charge for under an hour should always be free! I regularly park in these parking spots for a quick nip into local stores and having to now also be charged for what could only be 3-10 minutes seems ridiculous. Personally I think losing the free parking will deter people from the area thus effecting the local businesses. By all means increase the price from over the hour but there should 100% be a free period.

Will go elsewhere with free parking

Will kill off small businesses in the area, people won't pay to park to pop to the shops for an hour.

The only reason I use local shops is because there is 2 hrs free parking. Charges would mean I will have to go to a supermarket where there is free parking and better choices.

Local shopping areas like Bitterne are barely surviving and this will end Local shops as people will not want to pay. It is also going to mean Local roads being clogged up for school drop off and pick ups and create dangerous conditions on those roads

I currently use these car parks for visiting local small businesses, and the accessibility of free car parking to allow for these trips means I frequently visit the businesses in question. If the offer of free parking in these areas are revoked I will no longer frequent these businesses and go elsewhere, or simply shop online.

Further to this, I often use Westridge road car park when visiting family in Portswood as parking on road outside their property is so severely limited due to so many HMOs in the area. If parking charges are introduced this will severely limit my ability to visit family.

Portsmouth Road Car Park is used by a lot of school parents to drop children morning and afternoon. We only use it for maximum 30 minutes each session. You need to look at making a proper crossing from this car park towards the school (across toll bridge entry and exit) for safety not charging parents to drop their children safely and off residential streets clogging them up unnecessarily.

Our high streets are a shadow of what they once were and enforcing on street parking charges will further deter people visiting. Woolston in particular has suffered greatly.

You are ripping motorists of all the time parking is far too high as it is Southampton council you are destroying everything people will not come to Southampton the rate you are going it's disgusting.

I work with very deprived patients and deliver health care at Bittern Health Centre. The patients often turn down appointments and don't access health care when they have to pay for parking as they cannot afford it. We are aware that you can claim back some transport costs and parking if you are on certain benefits HOWEVER you have to have the money to pay upfront in the first place and the finance simply doesn't stretch. So by removing the free parking you will DIRECTLY IMPACT the health of the most vulnerable patients (who also do not qualify for a blue badge). We are aware that the council has to think about funding but removing free parking that allows them to access health care will cost more in other council services when they are unwell and need social support and increased council funded care as they cannot get to their appointment. This is a really serious matter and will have REAL impact.

These proposals will just help to kill local shopping centres. The reasons for the proposals are not valid. One reason given is to help manage demand. We have never had trouble finding a parking space at Bitterne, so clearly there is not too much demand for spaces. We already walk when we can but this is not practical if we have heavy shopping to carry. A bus is also not practical in this case so parking charges will not encourage alternative means of transport. We already avoid the city centre partly because it is too expensive to park. In future we will be shopping in Eastleigh, Romsey or at Hedge End.

Utterly silly proposal, you are going to kill all the local high streets. If it's not bad enough you are cutting off access by Road to Portswood you are now taking away the ability to quickly pop in to the local shops to grab a few things. No one wants to go to the city centre either with the amount of traffic and the extortionate parking charges. High streets will die and online shopping will now become the norm. Small independent shops like Portswood hardware are already closing, probably to be another take away where the drivers just dump their cars wherever they like and cause chaos.

This is an attack on shop workers, business and the motorist yet again. When will this council realise that people want to use the car not bike, bus or scooter!

You really do want to

Kill what's left of our small high streets. Shame on you.

This is counter intuitive and incredibly ableist.

If I was able to carry a full week's shopping on public transport that went anywhere near where I live at a time I needed - or I could carry it on a pushbike - I would consider it.



Anti motor vehicle rhetoric and Gerrymandering must stop. People should not be financially disadvantaged for making choices right for them

I am objecting due to the nature of the complete disruption this will cause to people trying to go about there daily basis

Trying to use the gym

Shopping and more especially when all people seem to be doing is charging for more and more things in life it's an absolute joke the car park has been there years and had no charges so why is there a sudden need to change this ?

I think this is a joke why charge for a car park that hasn't been charging for years? It's been fine for so long now all of a sudden you want to take more money of the working class

Disgusting

This will have a major impact on the local businesses which will struggle to survive

These car parks serve local business.If you charge for parking from the time of arrival this will discourage people from visiting these areas. If you do at least 1 hr free parking this encourages people to visit these areas and continue to support small independent business.

Adds more cost when heading into Bitterne village and more pressure on footfall for local businesses.

Please do not charge for these car parks, it's so unnecessary! Parking and travel in Southampton is becoming more and more difficult and areas like Bitterne, where the residents are not so affluent, means you're going to make it impossible for residents to afford just getting their food shop etc with the current cost of living crisis.

When are you going to realise that trying to deter motorists from using their vehicles in an effort to force them to use public transport is not going to work. People will not comply and just go elsewhere to shop where they can park for free.

In times that are already hard financially and the already very obvious limits on parking within these areas i would object to any further increase in payment and allotted bays. If the idea is to source public transport, then more work needs to be put into ensuring if there are delays, people can still get access to places within time constraints, there are more buses so they're not full at busy times therefore, meaning having to wait even longer just to guarantee a space. What is the consideration for those who have to care and look after dependants who need their car to be able to get around where public transport is not suitable. I would advise to reconsider this plan and make use on fine tuning what we have as the alternative to ensure this is enough.

The proposals will deter shoppers from the small suburban shops. At the moment shoppers are able to park free for a short period of time. The current free parking is helping to support small business. if shoppers have to pay it is likely that they will choose to go to large supermarkets who offer free parking. Small businesses in Shirley Portswood and Bitterne are already struggling. Charging for parking for a short period of time will be another nail in the coffin of those businesses

I think charging for say only 10mins would mean I would park for free in Waitrose or Sainsbury's. Maybe the limit should be 15 mins free so I can drop something off or pop into the chemist. It would deter me from using Portswood shopping.

Patients who attend Bitterne Health Centre will be impacted, especially some of the ones my team see who are on limited income. They spend two hours with us, twice a week to complete their pulmonary rehab programme.

Might not seem like much money to the people proposing these charges but for some people it really is a case of every penny counts. Some would genuinely would have to consider whether they skip a meal or attend their class because their budget is that tight.

In the case of the other car parks, you cite managing demand as a reason, not an issue I've ever encountered and feels like an excuse to charge. These measures will discourage shoppers and unfairly discriminates against people who have no other means of transport.

Kill off the shops. Reduce to the first hour free if you must line your pockets for the fat cats to have a bigger bonus.

Shopping centres will suffer and end up closing down. People just won't visit. They will go out of Town where they don't have to pay.

People will be ramming the streets outside our houses to park. It's madness.

The 50p charge for 1 hour's parking is simultaneously too high as it will discourage short visits to nearby retail (for example the Westridge Road car park is frequently used by visitors to the shops and restaurants on Portswood Road), whilst also being so low it is hard to see how the council will break even on the transaction, once the cost of administration and payment processing is taken into consideration. A better suggestion would be to keep parking free for up to one hour in locations where the parking serves small businesses, then charge for stays in excess of that. Since you are planning to build on the only other public carpark in Portswood, this will force more people than already do to park illegally on Portswood Road and Westridge Road, making the area even more dangerous for cycles and pedestrians.

it will be the death of the shops in Bitterne and Woolston

Woolston is struggling as it is. The businesses are mainly independents who rely on their customers, who in turn rely on the free parking. Without the free parking I fear the local independent shops will close. This would mean people out of work.

Many of the business owners are working together to make Woolston a place to visit. These plans include a monthly market and various events all co-ordinated through the Woolston traders group. There is also a voluntary group called Victoria Road Gardeners who work so hard to make the garden areas look stunning, all of which has helped a great deal with footfall, as people feel encouraged to support local. The parking charges will undo all that hard work and be horrific for everyone.

This will kill the trade for Bitterne shopping!

This will have serious detrimental consequences to local businesses/shops. Bitterne will turn into a ghost town, Council have been careless with money and have squandered millions on useless projects eg, cycle lanes, road closures, painting ridiculous LGBTQ colours on pavements, closing routes in Portswood is another huge waste of money and shops/businesses will close down leaving charity shops only! Ridiculous!

Don't you think the small business are struggling enough without you trying to drive people away. I always try and support the shops in Woolston and Bitterne and the council should too.

Hiking charges for car parks in these very local areas will torpedo already struggling local businesses. This will be a disaster for local infrastructure.

By removal of the free parking it will dissuade people from visiting these areas and as such encourage people to shop in other areas. This in turn will drive decline in the financial revenue of these shops ultimately resulting in shop closures and a rapid decline in the shopping centre and footfall.

Will have a detrimental effect on local business

You are renovating the precinct to encourage more people and then making changes to car park charges to discourage them

This will harm the local shopping districts. Why would I pay £1 to shop in small shops when, for the same price, I could just drive into town.

I would certainly stop visiting my local Bitterne High Street if this plan is enacted. I would move my shopping to Sainsburys in Portswood instead which offers free parking. It would mean the death of local high streets.

Parking free in Bitterne means I can shop locally. There is no direct bus service for me. Will the parking machines accept cash? As an OAP I do not use mobile banking.

This proposal is going to KILL the local shops which are already struggling. Bitterne precinct is getting an upgrade which will be wasted when parking tariffs drive consumers into towns. Those

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that do need to stop locally will use surrounding roads to avoid car park. As a Downside resident this will likely cause problems with non-resident parking. We already see issues of blocked roads by ineffective parking, obstructing delivery trucks or large vehicles.

This is a short term, money grabbing solution that will not improve ANYTHING as revenues will not be as expected and the negative impact will outweigh any minor financial gain.

Green lighting a precinct development at a time of hardship to then reduce footfall is a perfect example of disconnected thinking. Should have saved the money and kept car parking free.

Will not use bitterne shopping centre if I have to pay to park

The council appear to be ignoring any effect this would have on businesses located near these changes. It may well be that people will stop shopping locally. Also in terms of parking in side roads in the area it will aggravate an already congested area. Very poor decision making.

People are suffering enough from rising prices and this is yet another hammering. The few remaining local businesses need help to survive, and this will be anything but a help!

I live in Downside Avenue Bitterne. These changes to the parking charges will increase the number of cars being parked in the road. It is already often difficult to park in the road. The problem will be worse when parents drop off/collect their children from school as they will not want to incur the cost of parking in Angel Crescent car park.

Would discourage people to local shops! Will end up with even more takeaways

Small business will feel an impact of this.

I can't get to Bitterne any other way except to drive my car. I get out of breath very easily. If I have to pay every time I use the the car park, it puts my budget back, along with the cut to the winter warmth payment.

I feel that introducing car park charges will reduce shopping in these areas and subsequently affect the businesses

Coz it will stop people coming into bitterne using the shops and especially the gym ,it will kill trade

N/a

Living locally in Woolston I used the car parks to take items to the charity shops and pop into the local shops and library.

As I live local to Woolston it will make local roads more congested and problematic for local residents.

High streets are struggling, and this will discourage people from going to the shops and will encourage online shopping

I am finding it difficult enough with the amount of cars parking in our rd ,since you put a charge on lances hill parking. We get the overspill of parking from the doctors and dentists and the school . I am unable to have off rd parking as my front garden does not meet size requirements. As for having to pay at Sainsbury's , that will make it even worse . I deffinatly object to all this ...

The reason I am objecting to the charges are as follows, due to previous increases and reductions in free parking time we are already experiencing higher amounts of parking in side roads due to local school restrictions etc. Bitterne shops will become a chost town as we are already due to loose all banks and building societies.

If parking charges are introduced into Bitterne shopping precinct it will not make me turn to public transport i will just no longer go there. It will be catastrophic for the businesses there and will cost far more than the money raised by introducing the charges. The introduction of charges should not go ahead.

I am a pensioner and quite often go to bitterne to pick up fresh food shopping and walk around butterne. Benefits of having fresh foo and walking round bitterbe meaning I am exercising amingling with fellow people . I will Not be going to bitterne if I have to pay.

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Free 2 hours parking is good for all, for the customers and business.

Add the parking fee will add customers burden, people don't go shopping and spend less, and the business cannot survive.

The charges are fine as they are. An hour free is sufficient to support local shops and drop off to charity shops. I never see the car parks mis used and are a great asset to local shops and shoppers.

Charging to use these car parks will force drivers to use supermarkets and shops where parking is free. It will destroy businesses in these areas. When that happens, you will get reduced council tax income totally wiping out any gains from increased parking charges. You will destroy these district shopping centres!

Parking needs to stay free to support local community and businesses.

I understand the thoughts behind this as car parks that offer free parking can be in a bad state. but I feel you can tweak these proposals to have the 10+ hours and the 8 hours at the same £6 rate because many of those parking at those long hours are employees perhaps on minimum wages maybe even part time minimum wage and the increase will make it less affordable for them to continue working, £2 may not sound like a lot but to those struggling especially when you factor in utility increases and food inflation, it has a compounding effect.

My other concern is for the 1 hour stay to have a cost. Granted 50p isn't much, but when you pop in for 10/20 minutes to get milk for work etc, you will likely take money away from those shops because that person will pick a shop that has free parking for patrons. And considering the state that some of the areas with these proposals. For what it's worth, I feel it will have more of a negative than positive impact.

Parking charges will impact local business and highstreets. Referring to Bitterne specifically, there are supermarkets, gyms, banks, pharmacies/ drug stores, clothing stores and hair/ beauty salons. Implementing parking charges will deter visitors (and employees) to these smaller precincts- amenities will close and people will be expected to travel further to city centres (increasing the already awful traffic and pollution in these more populated areas). The free car park in bitterne is already limited to 2 hour stays- there is always plenty of space! I can't see what a parking charge would achieve.

There is not a demand issue with parking in the bitterne area. The proposals serve only to increase council funds at the expense of the workers and visitors to bitterne. There are several car parks in the area and it is always possible to find a space in one of them.

The councils proposal will only create a further cost to taxpayers at a time when this can be ill afforded as the council will need to purchase, install and maintain additional machines where there currently are none.

Will add to cost of shopping

Will make is very difficult for carers shopping for client's as clients will have to provide small change

Bitterne is a local area where people pop to the shops, it will have a massive impact on trade

People will start to look for parking in side streets

This will be a detriment to local shops. It's hard enough to keep the high street alive without this!

There is hardly any free parking spaces around this areas. It's used by many local residents, young families.

Removal of a free parking period will create a disincentive to visit the district centre shops. In turn the reduced foot-fall will make trading conditions more difficult for those shops and lead to closures. If this includes some 'high street names' then it may create a cascade effect where those closures further reduced foot-fall, worsening the impact on trading. In my opinion there should be at least 1 hour, possibly 2 hours of free parking. After that the fee could be higher, e.g. starting at 3 pounds or more and rising quickly for a daily fee to discourage long term parking.

Lots of local businesses will be affected as people will end up not visiting these areas if they have to pay for parking. In Woolston the car park by the Bridge on Portsmouth Road is used for parents

picking up/ dropping off children from local schools. If they have to pay they will park in the roads locally instead which will cause more of an issue.

Drive people away from local and small businesses

We are always being asked to shop local but I will stop "popping" to bitterne, for example, if this comes in to effect

Southampton yet again not supporting local businesses. Why do you not want this city to thrive? Not only do you want people to not shop/ or get fit, you clearly don't want people to learn/ read by taking books out the library or support local groups. 'We're upgrading public transport' is your response, well I am not getting my two children on a bus after school to go to a lovely run lego group and select books for an hour to then journey back home. The library struggles as it is, now kill it off with lack of parking.

Carers trying to buy food will have to pay, and put the charge back onto their client. Again trying to help and being punished.

Healthcare workers using the car park to go from for home visits now having to park miles down the road and carry all the equipment, as not everyone is entitled to use the health centre car park. Southampton is becoming an utterly miserable place to live with no vision of a competitive flourishing city. Liverpool will take our cruise industry soon as there will be no local economy to support tourists due to exorbitant charges for parking. Well done, another step to becoming a dump.

It is already dangerously chaotic around St Patrick's school due to parents parking, removing the ability to park in a safe close by location for free will only make people more likely to park illegally and dangerously around the school

The district centres need every bit of help they can get at the moment. They are not designed to attract people to them like the city centre but act as a community service to local residents. This will just be an extra expense imposed on locals. Claiming that a charge will encourage visitors to use public transport is, quite frankly, ridiculous. The free under 2 hour car parks should be retained, that is probably enough time to visit any of the 4 areas. Offer paid season tickets to local workers for all day parking. And charging into the evening when the car parks are sitting comparatively idle is just going to pass the buck of overnight residents parking onto already full residential streets.

Charging people to park will kill our already fragile small businesses.

There need to be free parking so people can go shopping, that's not going to help with cost of living, charging people to park when they go shop

Local businesses are suffering enough in Woolston and bitterne. We do not need another reason for people not to visit. As a small independent business manager I strongly oppose

Elderly residents in Southampton use these shops every single day, the same as people like myself an avid gym goer that utilises these carparks 4-5 times a week. Who in there right mind thinks this is a good idea? People that use the shops, gyms etc in bitterne cannot afford to pay for parking here multiple times a week. The parking has been free in bitterne for YEARS why now is this even being considered? This is pure greed and selfishness from the council once again. There's a cost of living crisis and again you are shooting normal people in the foot. Please rethink your choices with this decision!

There should be at least 30 minutes free parking which will benefit local businesses and convenience for those wanting quick stop for local shops. With a min one hour charge shoppers will go elsewhere (EG out of town centres), squeezing out small businesses (perhaps that is the aim?)

I've read the proposal, but there is no need or reason to bring in charges for these carparks which have been free of charge or at least two hours free parking for the local needs of the local citizens. Finding more money to park for essential shopping is going to see businesses in all of these areas closed down. This is just a generate money and it can't be justified with the reasons given by the council on the proposal. Everybody understands the need for public transport and maybe for it to

be better, but the locations of these car parks, and the shopping centres, do not lend themselves to getting on the bus with lots of shopping from for example Sainsburys. People need their cars, and these charges are making it more difficult for drivers to access local services and support local services. There is mentioned of disabled bays, but one thing that hasn't been addressed is that many people who drive, our drivers for other people who may not qualify for a blue badge, but they need to be driven to appointments and this impacts their accessibility as well. In charges. Bringing in charges is unfair and unnecessary, and it seems to be getting done just because it can be done, and that's not reason enough to do it. I don't understand the justification for it and almost seems like an abuse of power and position by certain members of the council to push for these measures when nobody has asked for them. No consultation has been done beforehand, no investigation, no problems raised, no issues raised, there is no need for these charges to be bought in.

The free car parks are encouraging visitors. Local economy/businesses will suffer as a consequence of car parking being charged.

It will also encourage people to park in the city centre further contesting traffic.

These areas are not worth the cost of parking.

Small businesses will lose out because if people have to pay to park then they will go to nicer areas of Southampton.

it doesn't incentivise people to use public transport because public transport is extortionate and inconsistent.

Sick of the council extorting money from its constituency. When people have less money than ever the council is discouraging people from these poorer neighbourhoods from going into their local communities where they can meet for coffee and socialise by making people pay to do so.

Shame on you

To support local businesses we should encourage free parking, even if for just one hour, otherwise we will see a decline in visitors, not an increase as I believe shoppers will go to the larger super markets where parking is free to do their shopping. Some car parks are also used for parents having to drop children off to school which will have a huge impact too including increasing congestion on local roads that are already very busy in the mornings and at pick up.

we are a local business in woolston people like being able to park for 2 hours and come across to us this car park and the 2 hours free is a great value to all local business in the woolston area

Don't be greedy just keep it as a limited amount of time, if people go over then fine.

You will stop people going to these places to shop. People are cutting back anyway and shop owners are suffering. Your just more people to Hedge End and Whiteley. But your go ahead and do it anyway!!!

Parking charges in these car parks will only discourage people from shopping in their local high streets, resulting in a loss of income for smaller, independent businesses. Why would I go to a high street and pay for parking, while I could instead drive to and park for free at a larger supermarket, e.g.: in Hedge End or Bursledon? Additionally, using a car is a necessity for many people, especially given the extremely poor, expensive and unreliable public transport links in Southampton. Many have no choice but to drive and putting in an additional charge seems unreasonable in the current cost of living crisis.

The Bitterne car park in Angel Crescent is primarily for Sainsbury's and Puregym. Start charging and you'll basically kill Sainsbury's - why shop there when there is Lidl, Aldi and Sainsbury's at hedge end which doesn't put £2.50 on your shopping. Without that anchor store, you might as well bulldoze Bitterne.

It would be smarter to bring in charging at the other car parks in Bitterne but retain an hours free in angel crescent, supported by ANPR cameras to assist enforcement.

This will kill off places like Bitterne where there will be no free parking. People will go to Sainsbury's

In Portswood where there is parking or Woolston where Lidl have parking.

By putting parking charges in these small car parks you are killing the high streets. These car parks are designed so people can park and then quickly pop into the shops do what they need to do and leave.

Introducing parking charges is a ludicrous idea. One great thing about Southampton is that it does have local shopping precincts (albeit struggling), and that is largely because short term parking is free. Look at any of these car parks, and it's easy to see how busy these locations are; largely as a result of being able to park - it's not an opportunity to introduce yet another tax. Many of these shops people pop into for a quick visit, and making them pay to park a vehicle will serve only to force them to out-of-town shopping locations, highly accelerating the death of the local high street. Furthermore, these local precincts have many small and independent businesses, who rely on people being able to park easily. Introducing charges will directly result in a reduction of their footfall, and therefore the income of our local small employers.

It is fantasy to believe introducing charges will encourage people to walk, cycle, or use public transport, which is especially poor in areas like Bitterne.

A better proposal would be to reduce the free time limit to 1 hour, and to improve enforcement. There are many vehicles in these car parks which vastly overstay the time limits.

It is hard enough for families struggling at the moment. And also older people that can not walk far. And most people are fed up to the back teeth with the poorer people of our community being targeted.

Free parking needed in Woolston helps with school especially parents who need to go to work. To avoid parking all over the roads and in front of people's drive ways. Free parking in Woolston helps local businesses if you change it to cost money local business will suffer as people will not enter them.

This will cause another restriction on local people shopping in local shops. Any parking restrictions will drive customers away from the local shops

It's free to park on portswood high street to collect a takeaway or prescription but not on the public car park? Is this proposer insane or just incompetent?

Will cause demise of local shops for people who use these car parks for a quick pop in

Support the local business by allowing people to spend time in them not have to be concerned about parking.

It is my local shopping centre and I can't afford to pay more to park. I have a dodgy knee and walking is not possible especially as I have 20kg bags of feed to collect from the pet store. It will mean I drive further afield to hedge end and they will get my business. It will be the end of local shopping.

This will stop more people from visiting Southampton and using the shops, thus indirectly affecting the council - the less people who shop, the more business go under and the more money the council will lose in rent

Peartree gardens needs to remain free for those with children at Bitterne CE. While many walk, as we do, there are times when this is not possible and there will inevitably be a long queue of parents trying to buy a ticket. All other roads nearby are also either double yellows or proposed to be included in the tariff. This mostly penalises working parents who do not have the luxury of arriving early or take the time to walk, or those with siblings in other settings. Working parents already struggle to manage our time. Employers are not sympathetic to lateness because of drop offs. If this goes ahead, at least allow people to buy a permit

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It will decrease footfall in these areas and encourage illegal and dangerous alternative parking scenarios

As a resident of Freemantle I strongly object to this proposal certainly as far as the changes in Shirley are concerned Traders are walking a tightrope for survival at the moment and any new businesses will be discouraged by the inevitable drop in footfall and business if adopted. Another example of the council living in a make believe world where everyone has a credible choice of public transport which clearly they don't. You are elected to represent the needs of the community. That includes the car owning population. This proposal patently undermines that.

Will not help the local shops as will go elsewhere

Our high streets are already suffering and I think introducing paid parking charges will clearly have a negative impact on people being able to visit. I feel strongly that especially the Shirley Marlborough Road car park should be kept free for use for two hours as this encourages people to access the shops in Shirley. I think introducing parking charges will have a significant negative impact on the area.

Will reduce use of an area recent funding has been spent to improve use. Seems counter intuitive.

Changing the prices will make less people use the car parks. Resulting in local business losing customers. Also the one in Woolston helps with the school run and reduce manic outside the school

Enforcing this will seriously harm the small businesses in and around Southampton, especially Bitterne and Woolston. Please think carefully before doing this. If parking charges are enforced and no free parking available, I will no longer shop in Bitterne and Woolston and instead travel to large supermarkets where parking is free.

Unnecessary and unfair

Southampton City Council cannot possibly consider charging residents/visitors for parking when public transport is badly run. Since Bluestar started running the buses in Southampton, there has been a real reduction on bus frequency, service has gone from acceptable when run by First Group (red buses) to unreliable since Blue star got the contract. There has been massive price hikes that doesn't offer value for money. Traffic in the city is horrendous, buses never run on time making it an unreliable mode of transport. How are residents meant to pay for parking with the cost of living crisis? Southampton City Council needs money, that's a fact, but not when residents are paying for a badly run service in general. Other options should be considered. Residents cannot carry on paying for everything when salaries do not go up enough to cover all the different hikes happening. It is just crazy

Traffic Congestion around the local schools is very dangerous! Keeping the local car parks free encourages parents that drive to use them, rather than add to the already dangerous situation around the schools.

Also, it's important to encourage people to shop locally. To have to pay to park would discourage people from visiting the area.

Will kill off many local businesses

An absolutely ridiculous proposal that will hit those that rely on cars the hardest. Not everyone is able to carry full bags of shopping home, this will also affect carers that do shopping for their clients. I believe any decision to charge for parking will have an adverse effect on trade as customers will just go elsewhere which will then cause shops to lose trade and eventually close. As per usual a very short sighted plan from the council.

These out of town car parks with free 2 hour parking is the only thing keeping the shops in Shirley, Portswood and especially Bitterne, open. The shops already struggle to keep their doors open and business coming but having to pay for parking will make people go elsewhere to places with more shops so that its worth paying to park.

There aren't enough shops or banks to make people want to choose to pay to park when they just want to run into 1 shop and grab a few items.

1 hour free parking is better than removing all the free parking. Rejuvenating Bitterne then

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charging for parking when people will stop going there, seems counter intuitive.

Free parking for 2 hours also keep traffic out of already congested town centres as the smaller supermarkets are more attractive. I'd rather park for free in Hedge end hedge end than pay to park at Bitterne

The place will become a ghost town if you charge to park there.

The place will become a ghost town if you charge to park there.

Having to pay to park will make it too expensive to 'pop' to the shops several times a week as many of us do. The shops will end up closing and another desolate area will appear. It's sooo wrong!

If we use the Woolston car park it's for 15 mins to pop to the chip shop. The effort of paying you 50p - I presume by downloading another annoying parking app - is incredibly off putting. I might as well just get deliveroo or go to the one on Butt's Road. I don't oppose a cost for longer stays.

We are in a cost of living crisis and increase in parking charges will be detrimental to everyone in the city. I often cycle and on the occasions when I need my car to carry shopping I should not have to pay these ever increasing costs.

Stop charging us for the ideas you want to implement that are destroying access to city centres and local shopping destinations.

No wonder shops are closing down with such frequency when we as residents of the city are feeling very unwelcome to visit them.

Although of course we welcome cruise ships & aeroplanes without a mention of the detrimental impacts they have on air quality in the city.

It will not deter people using their cars. Merely push parking into residential side roads, or deter people from using local shops and amenities, so they shop elsewhere. Eg Whitely or Hedge End retail. What is the purpose of this? It will lead to our already struggling local facilities closing, and our suburbs becoming ghost towns.

Introducing a charge for parking will impact hugely in local businesses and just push more people to chance it in residential areas or take their business elsewhere.

If people then go to try residential areas rather than local car parks residents will no longer be able to park as easily (and parking is already difficult at times, even with permits!). Strongly object to this proposal.

People will be put off from going to these already-struggling shopping areas. I regularly pop to Bitterne Precinct and particularly the library with my two children (age 4 and 6) and would no longer do this if I had to pay for parking every time. On my own, I would walk but my children would find it difficult to walk that far and the bus is now too expensive (if buses were free for children under 10, I would take this option) The Bitterne library car park is too small so we end up parking in the Commercial Street car park. The same applies when visiting Portswood Library (which has no car park - Westridge Road car park serving as the best place to park). I wouldn't object if there was 30 minutes free as often our trips take no longer than this.

Just one more way of extracting money from motorists from this useless council and their myopic anti car agenda.

This will effect local small businesses already struggling to make ends meet. I will not be going to Shirley if I have to pay to park. I have a disabled daughter and if I have to pay to park nearby to where she needs to go, a necessity, then we simply won't go. Taking the bus is not an option for us. The pavements will also become worse as more use the illegal and legal electric scooters to avoid paying for parking

Because if something isn't broke don't change it! With how the cost of everything is continuing to rise little things like being able to go somewhere with free parking does wonders for people's mental wellbeing! I can see a lot of elderly and vulnerable people ending up with parking tickets and that's just for your financial benefit. Selfish move and totally not needed! Shame on you

Woolston parking area are used to avoid costs of parking centrally or for stadium traffic.

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Supports local business and allows for school drop off else the roads around the school are going to be gridlocked even more

2 hours free parking is a very easy way to attract more shoppers to the areas where smaller shops struggle to keep going. Taking this away will only mean those shoppers will take their trade elsewhere, outside of Southampton. I know you think paying 50p - £1 to park is not much but it will be too much for many people. Perhaps reducing the cost to 20p - 50p would be a good compromise.

Our local shops are a life line, yes we could walk but there are times when you have to much to carry and need a car, and if your start charging i probably would then think of going elsewhere where.

So please don't do it.

I don't agree with the charges!

People won't come to Bitterne to shop. If they do, they will park in residential streets. We have enough issues already. What about parents dropping off the children at Bitterne CofE?. Maybe come have a look at the chaos already in the roads around by the school. And that will only get worst if parents have to pay. Its a cost of living crisis. Crazy, crazy, crazy.

Shirley is dying, the shops are closing how do you expect people to carry a weeks shopping on a bus, all this is aimed at is digging the council out of a financial mess.

Should have a free 1-2hr free parking period, as the proposals will encourage drivers to park for free elsewhere, putting even more pressure on overcrowded residential roads.

The shops in Shirley are dying, how do you expect people to carry a weeks shopping on a bus, all this is is going to do is send more people on line and have shopping delivered. This council is killing this city. Anything to stop people driving, Portswood, Bitterne, Woolston, Shirley all struggling or just closed up.

I frequent the Bitterne car park for the gym primarily and I've always appreciated that it was free so I didn't have to worry about additional costs and could access the gym quickly and easily. If the car park becomes a paid car park I will very likely no longer attend the gym. We should be encouraging people to use local areas and gyms and I feel strongly that the proposal hinders that greatly. It will likely cause less foot traffic as I know I would no longer shop/gym in Bitterne if the car park is charged as I would find other places perhaps closer to home or with no charge.

Why not have two hours free parking and any longer like on Stadium days/nights charge when over two hours.

Will be the death of small businesses in Woolston. The free parking is the only benefit after negotiating all the road works and road closures or already paying to go over itchen bridge. An absolute ludicrous idea. The money gained will be eaten up in enforcement officers being paid or private companies to enforce the rules. An absolutely appealing idea. Please please please reconsider!!

You'll kill off places like Bitterne and Woolston. How irresponsible.

I run a business in bitterne

Wil it be easy to pay with card?

I'd love to travel by bus from Woolston to Portswood but there isn't a direct bus. If you want us to use alternative transport then you need to provide the alternative transport.

Our children go to St Patrick's school and the school ask us to use the free car parks to make sure the children are as safe as possible during pick up and drop off times, by charging in the car park, more parents will just park in stupid places and endanger the children

Think it's totally disgusting to charge in car parks that people visit to do their weekly shopping

Support our local business - they will be affected massively by this. People won't stop to pick up a coffee, or nip to the local shops

Less people will go to Bitterne and Woolston more shops will end up closing

This will drive people away from using local shops, which are already in decline. You need to be incentivising people to go to your high streets not forcing them to pay to use the local businesses.

The only reason I go to the shops in Woolston is because of the free parking available. There are always plenty of spaces too so it's not busy, adding a charge will make the already quiet high street worse

I think the shops in Bitterne precinct will suffer if you impose parking fees. I often 'pop' to bitterne to collect click and collect orders from Argos in Sainsburys, quite often i will spend money in other shops when i am there. I would not do this if i had to pay to park, instead i would use Hedge end.

Parking in Woolston is bad enough as it is without charging people to park in the car parks 24 hours a day. It will ruin local businesses and running clubs as people will be put off paying to park.

Many working parents, including myself, use woolston car park/ off street parking spaces when dropping off/picking up their children from schools/nurseries.

In ideal world we would all use alternate transport or happily walk and cycle, but in the real world this is not realistic. Myself and many other parents need free parking spaces in close proximity to schools as we often have very little time for getting from work places to our children's schools.

Woolston needs the business and local people

These small district shopping areas are a life blood to the elderly and those on low income.

Removing the 2 hours free parking will drive these people away and cause major harm to the businesses putting more strain on the areas.

This will push cars into surrounding residential roads, it already does during the day, pay to park in the evening is another absolutely abhorrent way to squeeze more money out of residents and put the livelihood of business owners and community at risk, shame on you scc

I should not have to pay to do my weekly food shop, it will make people go out of town for their shopping

Allowing 2 hours of free parking makes these areas of Southampton places where people wish to visit. Bringing in parking charges will impact the numbers of people wishing to use these areas with the subsequent negative impact on the shops.

The car parks in Shirley are not full, so not over demanded. It would be better/more transparent to show us the analysis done based on usage vs current revenue and potential revenue as well as current costs. It seems this is another revenue generating exercise, which maybe fine, but be transparent.

It will hit the local businesses when the local economy is already struggling.

We already pay too much council tax for no service already-This is just another con by Keogh to destroy the city and turn it into a cyclist paradise for him and his cronies. I will shop elsewhere if this charge is imposed and the shops can close so you can put up more student flats for your mates that the council is on payrole

The proposal is just another stab in the back to small independent businesses. Woolston and Bitterne and other smaller shopping areas have small businesses already struggling to survive. Lack of free parking will reduce footfall and no doubt lead to small businesses going under. These areas will be left as ghost towns with empty shops and fall into disrepair. Think of the bigger picture please

Yet another reason not to visit the local shops where one is usually only popping to one or two places.

It's all well and good spending money for example on the Bitterne Precinct to make it nicer/ encourage people to go and then announce car parking charges!

It's not like visiting a town where you'd pay to park and stay a while to shop and maybe eat or drink.

Also people who live locally may use the car parks overnight this will mean more on road parking causing obstruction and congestion as if there's not enough of that already in the city!

I'm objecting to the Westridge Road in Portswood proposal. I'm not opposed to paying for the first two hours but to extending the times people can stay there. It was limited to 5 hours to stop

workers parking there so that there were actually spaces for shoppers. This will be especially important if we lose the 90 spaces down the bottom of portswood high street to the Fusion student housing properties. Also students could pay for a season ticket and park there full time. The time limit of 5 hours should remain.

I'm so disappointed to hear this, this will kill the precinct. I go there to get my hair cut and go to the gym, and it's brilliant because there is always plenty of parking and it's free. With the cost of living already high this is just another cost. I'll just look elsewhere, like I'm sure other people will too. I get putting a ticket system in place so it's easier to manage people not going over 2 hours, but it really should remain 2 hours free and certainly no charge after 8pm

I support this. However there needs to be easy ways to pay without the added fees of an app

It will put me off visiting Bitterne shops. Maybe change to free for 1st hour

You are actively discouraging people from using local shopping centres. We don't all have the luxury of time to walk or wait for a bus. Some of us just need to pop to the shops for things and carry on with our day. Or need the car to be able carry larger amounts of shopping. You could at least make the first half or first hour free.

It's disgusting that this is done under the guise of helping people. Just be honest - you need money. It's shameful to say things like "increase the number of visitors who can use these facilities".

The bus is not a viable alternative. It costs my children almost £2 for a 5 minute journey - how is that cost effective???

Buses are running late and voi scooters are 24/7. So alternatives exist with a decent frequency.

I use the 2 hr free parking in Bitterne for shopping dropping off items to charity shops if there is a charge I will stop shopping there. So the shops there will lose revenue.

So a good way to see closure of shops and a further run down of the precinct, well done.

This would mean empty high streets and precincts as no one will be bothering to drive in. If the public transport links were better this would be fine, but as it is Southampton has very poor bus and intermittent bus services.

This proposal will put businesses such as in Bitterne and Woolston at risk as people won't go there. No consideration for small businesses in these areas

There are no modes of public transport from my house to this area. I currently visit Bitterne due to the free car parking in these areas. If you are going to charge I will travel to Hedge End instead or travel to town as there is more on offer.

Residents without cars shouldn't have to subsidise residents with cars.

These charges will result in cars parking in alternative sites - local roads where currently no charges apply. This will inevitably increase road congestion, just moving the problem to already restricted options to the motorist. Footfall to local shops and businesses will likely suffer too.

I object to the loss of free parking. This will impact on the local businesses if charges are introduced as people will shop elsewhere to avoid parking charges

District centres will struggle even more. I will avoid parking there now and using the shops. Out of town it will be.

Village centres around Southampton are struggling with their identity. They need to provide essential shops for local people and attract people to shop there, rather than driving to out-of-town stores. The one thing that makes the village centres attractive is their free parking, so you can get your hair cut, buy some essential groceries or pop into the card/hardware/betting shop or pick up a take-away without the additional cost of parking. Most visits are relatively short and people won't want to pay for an hour's parking just to pick up a pint of milk or a pizza. Adding parking charges will drive people out of town and make it even harder for the village centre shops to survive. They will become ghost towns and the people who can't afford to drive to an out-of-town shop will be the ones who really suffer.

I feel this will not help the local shops in bitterne centre as many people only stay for short periods. Perhaps a 1 hour free period in all the car parks surrounding bitterne may be more useful to local shops and businesses

Suburban does not guarantee public transport within the area of Shirley, for example. Also, has anyone done a cost-benefit analysis and produced and published the data for public scrutiny?

I think motorists get penalised enough without imposing yet another burden upon them.

This will discourage people to visit local shops, or spend less time in district centres spending less money in shops affecting local employment and business

It will be the death of small businesses in these areas.

Just another reason to stop people from using local amenities

For the Bitterne area this is going to cost at least 50p anytime you visit the library, hairdressers, card shop or just to pick up a few items from the shops. Not everyone can walk or get a bus to Bitterne especially the elderly or disabled. And as for doing a major shop in Sainsbury's how can one carry this on a bus, bike or even walk. Even visiting the library and picking up five or six books is not even easy to carry back to the car let alone on a bike! Also the library has various groups that spend more than an hour a time as well as being warm spaces in the winter months.

I would ask that car parking remains free for up to two hours. We try very hard to shop locally (Woolston) and we drive. The reason we drive is by the time we visit local baker, supermarket, chemist and haberdashery etc. we have a heavy load too heavy to carry home. If we have to pay to park then it is not worth our while doing this local trip and we will visit an out of town shopping centre for all our requirements. I fully understand the need to charge an all day tariff as those using car parking for work contribute nothing to the local area and clog parking for those who actually wish to shop locally but PLEASE DO NOT bring in charges for short stays. Also how does one pay? Please not an app. I'm retired and I just cannot cope with any more apps. I feel your plan will see local centres wither and die rather than thrive so please rethink. Thank you.

It seems that this council is out to stop car users using the Portswood area for local shopping, Stating that we need to be encouraged to use alternative transport but this not always good idea if we are laden with shopping from local shops and then trying to get on the bus with all the shopping to drop you in most cases nowhere near your home address - pure madness. If we want to go shopping, stop for coffee or a meal we are charged where we never have been. At this rate we wont have a local high street area. Many people rely on the free parking at Portswood as they cannot deal with the heavily crowded shopping in centre of Southampton. By killing our local shopping area with parking hikes will. result in a dead high street which is slowly already being eroded by shops closing due to the new traffic restrictions this council feel it needs to destroy anything local

Many of these car parks are near schools where parents need to be able to quickly pop in and out for drop offs and pickups. Adding a charge per half hour makes an already stressed and rushed time more so. Could the car parks not remain as free for first 2hrs? Decent amount of time for school parents or locals shopping whilst deterring all day parking.

How can these costs be realistic? For a long stay parking g clock on thw forest car parks it is onky £230 for the year with a off short stay clock being available at £40. Are you so desperate to make all shopping centres ghost towns? Online shopping will win out with these extortionate parking charges. I for one would rather travel to the forest and shop there!!

I often have no choice but to use a car to go to a car park operated by the local authority and rarely stay past an hour. Currently I can make use of the free two hour window for my needs. In future, every trip would cost at least 50p and if I need to move to another car park on the same day, even more. In a time of increasing pressure on my income, with no prospect of increasing the income to cover current cost rises, I suspect that I will be confined to home far more regularly than is currently the case and I have no doubt that this effect will be felt by many in this city on low incomes. If the free period could be reduced to one hour from the current two hours, this would enable a throughput of vehicles and people, without hitting those with very little. A sensible

compromise is called for here, not just the assumption that either all car drivers have plenty of spare cash or that they use their vehicles unnecessarily - I can assure you that neither is the case.

I regularly use Westridge Road Car Park in order to use the local hair salon and local book shop in Portswood. If car parking charges are introduced then I will no longer do so: it will cease to be value for money to make use those businesses. The impact on local businesses will be quite negative and residents will be priced out of visiting these high streets and mini-high streets. Hence I object to these proposals: bad for residents, bad for local businesses, bad for Southampton.

I don't object to paying for stays in district car parks of over an hour, but it should be free to park for one hour. That will enable people to make a few quick visits to shops in the neighbourhood. I mainly use Westridge Road car park on the occasions when it is not practical for me to walk or catch the bus.

Charging for parking in Shirley will kill the shops already struggling. It's OK to say use other forms of transport but when you rely on a car due to breathing problems and requiring ambulatory oxygen it is not easy to hop on a bike or scooter. Buses are impossible to take a mobility scooter on due to pushchair taking up the space and refusal to vacate wheelchair spaces. Liddle the other end of the high street and Sainsbury's car parks will get rammed with vehicles therefore will not be accessible. There are not enough blue badge bays in Shirley and not policed to ensure only blue badge holders use them. I grant you there are lots in Sainsbury's etc. but will be full. Please reconsider for the businesses in the area.

I don't have an issue with paying for parking, but there should be a short free stay before moving into payment. This only needs to be for half an hour or so to allow people with quick missions to get in and out. Payment could then start from 30 mins - 2 hours for £1 or so.

We need to make active travel and public transport options more attractive for everyone to try them and charging to park a private vehicle reflects the true cost of driving it and levels the playing field

Has the council completely lost the plot? Do they never look at the bigger picture? All proposals will do it drive local people away to outer town areas such as Hedge End and Whiteley or they will shop online. It will make life harder for the older generation to shop local not to mention how it will affect local businesses and services both small and large as footfall will drastically drop. It will be a loose lose for everyone expect for Amazon. Maybe the council will be happy when the last business in Woolston and Bitterne turns off the lights and is boarded up

Why charge for parking for 2hrs in Bitterne, when it was free, if you want people to go into the city on the bus. Why not increase the fee on the over 2 hours parking, and leave the 2 hrs free?

I'm objecting out of principle. Your reasons are very weak. Please publish the current income alongside the data and projected income based on past data for each car park and show the public why it's such a great plan rather than insult the people that voted for you with such lame reasons.

Concerned that these charges will impact those employed in the local shopping areas, predominantly women who work in retail and who choose to drive due to other commitments, eg dropping children to nursery or breakfast clubs, caring for elderly parents etc. Many carers, both professional and family members who are carers, often need to pop to the chemist or pick up shopping items for a vulnerable individual. Perhaps it would be more reasonable to allow free parking for an hour. Has the impact on surrounding residential areas been properly considered? It is a simplistic view that drivers will ditch their cars and use public transport. Look at the situation with the General Hospital, many employees choose not to use the park and ride service and instead park in local roads, walking up to 20 minutes to work. Presumably supermarket car parks offering free parking in areas such as Shirley, will be crammed and the parking will be concentrated in these areas rather than spread more evenly. These charges could also lead to more anti social parking issues, with a driver stopping on double yellows or the pavement to just "pop in" to a store. Pavement and inconsiderate parking is already an issue and there is little enforcement. Finally, local shopping areas are struggling and need footfall to survive. Creating more barriers to accessing these areas does no one any favours.

Its nice to visit woolston and bitterne for our shopping and keeping it local is always a good thing and knowing i had 2 hours parking at no cost

I currently use the car park at Angel Crescent when I visit the Gym in the evening or on weekends. Whilst I appreciate there is cost involved in maintaining these car parks perhaps that can be collected from the business rates of businesses that benefit from the parking rather than the general public. Particularly where the gym is involved paying further to attend is going to put people off going which contributes to a lazier unhealthier society. As well as that it is going to discourage shoppers from Bitterne and Portswood and people will take their money elsewhere. Another clueless decision by the council which further adds to the cities detriment. There is no need to charge after 6pm, this is a greedy tax and yet another attack on the car driver by Cllr Keogh that requires serious reconsideration.

The District Centres are already struggling with many shops closing. By increasing/adding charges, you will drive more customers away from the district centres to out-of-town retail where parking is free.

This seems purely a money making scheme.

It is a necessity of residents, please keep the current policy

This will not benefit the areas, in particular Bitterene Precinct will be severely affected. With more people working from home the ability to be able to nip to local shops, post office, etc. will be compromised, and the area is already struggling, the improvements being made in the precinct could be wasted. The cost of equipment installation and ongoing monitoring is likely not covered by the costs potentially, and for accessibility reasons where apps etc are used it can further hinder disabled and elderly access even if they have passes.

Car park opposite Bitterne Health Centre used by patients and staff who have no alternative. I hate having to use the current free 2 hour ticket machines as so complicated

You're going to kill small businesses. People will start travelling to places like Whitley where they can park for free. Doesn't matter if every resident is against this as you will do it anyway.

Planned changes would impact small, local businesses so they could loose customers who would choose to shop and use services in big market centres, where parking is free of charge.

Our local businesses need all the support they can get. Keep parking free for all!

I belive that by eliminating free parking in our suburban (shopping) areas people will use large stores eg Tesco's, Aldi, Lidlle that have free parking to the detriment of the local shoopong areas. Also, whilst I understand the thinking to increase use of public transport in practice until public transport is improved this is a pipe dream. For example, where I live in Weston there is no longer a direct bus service to Bitterne. The last time I used the bus on a cold early evening in Nov the journey took

over an hour and a half due to cancelled buses resulting in a long cold wait on the Itchen Bridge interchange at Woolston. Until we have a regular, convenient, cheap and reliable public bus service I don't believe these proposals are in the interest of either travellers or suburban centre businesses.

This will have an impact on footfall in the areas affected. The impact will be on smaller independant retailers. I personally would avoid using the car parks and park in the neighbouring residential roads, offsetting the impact.

These car parks also house public charging for electric vehicles. I have to say your partnership with shell has meant these are unusable due to their poor service, but additional costs to charge cars for people who have no ability to charge at home will impact ev uptake and pollution. Any impact on pollution will fuel the conspiracy theory that SCC are trying to increase pollution to get a ULEZ.

I feel Woolston will be killed off or people will just use lidl car park.

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Woolston traders are struggling as it is and many need the short term free parking as an incentive to attract and retain customers. It'll mean anyone short staying will simply swamp Lidl's car park as free for 90min. Their customers will then be adversely affected as there may not be any spaces left. Whilst 50p for first hr may not seem a lot it will, have an impact.

Bad policy that will drive even greater numbers of shoppers away from the area. Yet another mad, ill informed idea from a team that actively seems to have an issue with Southampton residents.

Would deter people from using local shopping centres. I can't see the need to charge after 6pm or on Sunday. Sunday parking charges would be discriminatory against local churches.

I believe that the parking charges are not high enough.

The charges ought to offer 45 minutes free and then bump up the other charges.

Are you trying to destroy local shopping areas? 2 hours free allows people to shop locally. Charge for over 2 hours which stops the use of free parking to catch a bus into town.

Because it will impact on local people who are already struggling with hiking bills and small businesses will also suffer.

I've already stopped shopping in the city centre since the loss of the two car parks that have become a park and bus interchange. Not all people spend hours shopping some just want to pop in and get out quick. Along with the parking machines taking a long time to connect to pay and the lack of parking apps that don't charge an extra fee this will lead to a loss of business in all areas this is implemented. As for the buses only when it becomes easy to find the right bus stop and the buses run more frequently will they be used more.

Our local shopping centres are struggling already. By charging for parking you'll be driving their customers away to retail parks who offer free parking. Those who don't drive will suffer when the shops close through lack of custom as they'll have no alternative.

These proposals will not achieve the desired aims to manage the demand of vehicles and increase the number of visitors using the facilities. There is no need to impose parking charges in the suburban car parks - these retail centres need the footfall that the full range of transport choices enables. Why not propose a shorter free period rather than disingenuously penalising motorists who are simply trying to shop local?

There is nothing wrong with your current charges why don't you just increase them with RPI each year this would be fairer. You have many ways to make money for Southampton City Council yet no one who works there has the vision or foresight to make hard decisions like increase speed cameras, set up restricted hatching on crossings/roundabouts with cameras, cameras in all bus lanes. Drones to take pictures of cars parked illegally with fines sent out in the post. Permits for all areas of parking in Southampton, maybe a permit to park anywhere in Southampton with discounts for local residents who actually work.

As an unpaid carer, supporting elderly members of my wife's family, who both suffer with Dementia, as you may appreciate, visits to Opticians, Doctors, Dentists etc will now be, surprise, surprise, more expensive. These types of appointments are generally, time consuming. Do I have to pay for more time than I actually require? Can I get allowances for displaying a Blue Badge? (As there is very little provision for Disabled Drivers).

I pop to Bitterne to use the local shops on a regular basis, being charged to park will put me off from doing this. I would rather drive to Whiteley with a better range of shops and 4 hours free parking. SCC have no clue about looking after the residents. Everything in the city has gone rapidly downhill, parking, street cleaning, potholes, street lighting, upkeep of parks and green spaces, I do wonder where all of our council tax goes!

Will encourage more drivers to park on residential streets.

Stops people being able to park on the outskirts of the city centre and getting public transport into the city centre.

Small businesses will lose out on customers.

Elderly and low income use these free car parks for weekly shopping and essentials to avoid busy and expensive city centre.

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This incise will be have on local business and even more for older residents.

I strongly object to this proposal to introduce parking charges to district shoping centres as will just drive people away from them and shop online or out of town supermarkets and shopping centres. Shirley is my local shopping area but there is little to attract me there already due to low quality shops - betting shops, arcades, porn brokers, turkish barbers, discount stores and charity shops - so I already avoid apart from using optician or pharmacy as all the banks are closing and try to spend as little time there as possible and to be charged to park will just take my business elsewhere. No one would choose to go to Shirley in the evening as nothing there so the car parks aren't used anyway. All you will do is push people to parking in the likes of Lidl car park or side street to avoid the charges. You will collect no business rates from empty shops.

The carpark near Sainsbury's will become even busier especially with all the gyms that people use , the surrounding roads will become congested making it difficult for residents to park outside their own houses. this already happens in certain areas it seems to work well having a two hour limit on the car parks except for working there isn't a lot more you can do In Bitterne that takes longer than two hours!

This will affect the local businesses by adding to shoppers costs at a time when cost of living effects continue to rise. Certainly on the Bitterne side of the City bus services are not reliable, frequent or regular enough to encourage the public to use these instead.

As a pensioner who has already lost her fuel allowance, meaning my budget is restricted further. Therefore this would mean I now have to pay to park when doing my weekly shop and collecting my pension. I am disgusted.

I believe these changes will have an adverse affect upon Bitterne. The ability of people to attend worship locally and drop their children safely to school at Bitterne ce primary. It will increase pressure on street parking in the surrounding streets, some of which are closed under the school streets scheme. This is purely a money making exercise with no perceived public benefit!!!

The local shopping areas that these serve are well used community areas. Charging for parking will disadvantage those with low income which typically includes disabled people. Expecting disabled people to use public transport is a false economy as the public transport is not up to scratch nor can you expect people to carry all the shopping via public transport. This would reduce footfall and eventually result in shops closing, reducing even further spaces that people can go and feel safe. It's bad enough that in winter there is no lights in any walking areas - people do not feel safe so are reduced to staying in from 4pm. To install these charges would be discrimination under public sector equality duty, by introduction of this PCP.

I go to sainsburys in bitterne frequently. If the council impose a charge I will drive to hedge end or portswood sainsburys to park for free but will its further away will cause more congestion and pollution as a result.

I understand the need for the council to secure funding. But in the district car parks I worry that if you have to pay for parking the businesses will suffer from the change. As I use the district car parks to shop in woolston and bitterne to support the smaller businesses. If the car parking becomes charged for then people will end up in the city centre as there's more choice there for the price of parking. If it has to be done I understand that but please keep the costs as low as possible as otherwise it will drive people away from these areas.

There are not many free car parks in Southampton and the car parks that are pay and display are expensive. I feel that to charge parking for under 2 hours now is not fair. If you display a 2 hours or over to pay this will highly likely prevent people leaving their cars for long periods and hence allow a reasonable turnover for more vehicles to park. I have never had an issue in any of the named car parks to find a space when people move their cars working the 2 hour window- this gives adequate time for shopping/library/appointments etc. I object to this proposal. The council can find other means to make money!

I think evenings and Sundays in the suburbs should be free, charging for them will kill events and places that open then. Also, you do not indicate what the time periods are going to be.

The district centres are struggling to encourage decent retail opportunities as it is, this would be the final nail in the coffin, so much for encouraging small businesses to stay local, they cannot compete with city centre or afford to move.

Proposals will result in drivers parking in adjacent residential roads to avoid fees - but this Council's onslaught against motorists knows no bounds. One hopes that motorists will start parking in cycle lanes since there are no cyclists using them despite the immense amount of our tax contributions paid to fund them. Southampton deserves better than the incompetence of Eamonn Keogh's department.

I feel that this will be detrimental to small businesses, Bitterne will become a ghost town. The surrounding roads will become chaotic. In Bitterne, parents of the local school use the car park, where will they go? Brownlow avenue is already closed at drop off and pick up times, so cars will park where they want causing carnage. After the maintenance of the the parking machines, I feel you won't get much money back for all the upset you will cause. You need to be trying to get businesses into local areas not cause issues like this. I am disgusted that you are even proposing to do this.

I STRONGLY OBJECT.

Extra cost. Using buses also will make shopping more difficult for the elderly, infirm.

The local shops are struggling enough without charging to park for a short time. I will not be using the car parks when these charges come into force I will go to the out if town centres

Ref car park on Commercial St. We should not have to pay to visit Bitterne Health Centre or Bitterne library. The main car parks for Bitterne shopping centre should remain as it is for short stay shopping... charges will kill the businesses and drive people out of town.

I frequently pop into Bitterne just to pick up a little bit of shopping or to pop to the post office. I rarely stay for longer than half an hour or so. If I have to pay for parking, I would not go there any more but would go somewhere else with no parking charges. Several of my friends do exactly the same thing and would also think twice about going to Bitterne. I also believe more people would park illegally to avoid the fees. Rather than charging for all parking, why not allow free parking for an hour or even just 30 minutes? I do believe it's a good idea to charge for those using the car parks for long periods of time as several are supposed to be short stay, which is abused by people. The suggestion that it would encourage people to use public transport is a nonsense; many would drive further afield instead , increasing emissions and congestion. Congestion on the roads is absolutely terrible at the moment with the closure of St.Denys Road and the M27 slip road so the thought of being stuck on a bus, unable to try to find a route to escape the worst of the traffic makes me shudder. With Woolston and Bitterne shops already struggling, why make it even harder for them? Why spend so much money on regenerating Bitterne centre then make unappealing to visit by charging for parking?

This will discourage people from supporting local shopping centres eg Woolston/ Bitterness and will give no choice but to use larger supermarkets / shops with free parking. !

On various occasions I have spoken with councillors regarding problems with parking on Downside Avenue and Brownlow Avenue. Our children need to walk to school and our road is already used for a drop off and pick up point for the school run, if Sainsbury's car park was made chargeable it would become even worse. I complained about parking before on our road and on pavements and grass verges and was told there is nothing I can do to stop it!! Bitterne precinct already has a number of shops not in use and will become even more derelict if parking costs in-forced!! An absolute joke!!!

This will stop people using local shops

Given the choice of pay 50p an hour to park at Woolston or Bitterne, I will just shop in Hedge End retail park where parking is free. This will kill off what are already struggling shopping districts.

Impact on Local Businesses:

Introducing parking fees may discourage visitors and customers from accessing local businesses. This could result in reduced foot traffic, threatening the livelihoods of small businesses that rely

on accessible.

I live near by and Parking charges often push vehicles into surrounding residential streets as drivers seek to avoid fees. This will increase congestion, create safety hazards, and disrupt local neighborhoods. The council should aim to reduce, not shift, traffic-related problems

Because we already pay a fortune in Council tax and road tax and get very little for it. This will add extra inconvenience when you just want to pop into the shops when passing and will reduce turnover of parking spaces. It'll be another nail in the coffin of local shopping centres. Why pay here when you can park out of town for free?

The cost to local businesses will be significant. It will likely force sainsburys out of business in Bitterne. This will deprive elderly people of their only local supermarket. Evening and weekend charges are unfair. Let's not pretend this is anything other than a money grab.

It will ruin anything left of Shirley high street .

If you start charging even 50p minimum it will put many people off as most people I reckon about 90% never stay longer than the free period so will affect local businesses

If this introduced no doubt that ticket machines will not give change so people will probably have a £1 coin but will only stay less than one hour therefore losing out on 50p per visit

I believe this would discourage people using local shops and would be negative impact on community

I am objecting to revised parking charges in Woolston. The small car parks in Woolston are perfect for a quick visit to the shops, especially for visiting the cake shop, etc. I regularly pop in whilst driving through. To have to pay parking would be a deterrent to both visit and maybe visit more shops. Perhaps have a 30 min free parking (green button) ticket like West Quay Retail Park, Southampton.

Woolston has a great range of small, independent businesses that would highly suffer from a car parking charge. I believe parking charges would cause an economic impact on the businesses as it will put people off from coming to Woolston. I am a regular visitor to the area and love how up and coming and busy the town is becoming and would be very disappointed to see it decline after the local residents have spent so much of their time making Woolston great again.

I think it is a bad idea to introduce charges to car parks that have hitherto been free.

There is already a two-hour parking time limit in my local car park at Bitterne, and that surely encourages enough traffic flow?

The fact it is free is a good enticement to shop there. Where there is a choice between a free car park and a paid one, people will invariably be drawn to the free one.

Adding parking charges will be a deterrent to regular shoppers in these areas, and to the curious or occasional shopper.

Parking charges will most definitely adversely affect trade.

When household budgets are stretched who wants to add costs to their shopping trip? Sainsburys Bitterne customers will go online or move to Portswood or Hedge End, thus risking the future of this branch.

Many other Bitterne shops cater for low-income or budget-conscious households - Peacocks, Pound shops, charity shops, Card Factory, Savers etc.

I know you need to raise money but you will harm businesses, small shopkeepers and shoppers alike. Shoppers already feel pushed out of town by the increased parking charges there. This feels like a very short-sighted idea.

For people using local shops who, quite often only stay much less than an hour, will either park on residential roads or not shop there at all. Small local and independent traders are struggling enough already without this change in parking charges. This will make some shops close.

People should be encouraged to use the local amenities and not put off by an additional tax.

Less likely to visit and as such the local shops and other businesses will suffer.

Persecuting the motorists of this City yet again.

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Car use is not a luxury for many as bus services are not available or appropriate. This is just another way to fleece motorists. If the council would like to gain cash from motorists try fining illegal parking on yellow lines and pavements, traffic light jumpers and all those who ignore the ridiculous 20 mph limits!

Southampton is currently pushing people away from all shopping outlets

I drive to the Portsmouth Road car park, in Woolston and park for 2 hrs so that I can take the bus into the city. There are only a dozen cars, at most whenever I park. So why charges? You will be creating problems in the surrounding area as people look for alternative places to park and I will be looking to do my shopping where there are no parking charges.

I strongly object to this charge for use of my local high street shopping area. I would also be concerned about the impact of removing all elements of free parking near to our local centre of business and commerce as people may simply consider they may as well pay to park in the city centre instead and spend their money away from more local areas.

Does that mean that the disabled car park next to Sainsbury's in Bitterne will have proper size disabled bays? And not normal size bays with disabled on?

Then maybe disabled people can park there !!

It won't encourage people to use public transport and will absolutely take business away from the local areas, the idea of paying at night and on Sundays is completely unacceptable. We already pay to drive, put fuel, road tax and insurance the road tax should be used to maintain carparks and it's not like you employ security.

I think there should be a period of free parking for those popping in for quick essential, some elderly. There are a lot of small businesses in Bitterne that could lose clients through the new payment system

So, I live close to Woolston. Woolston has more new independent businesses. One in particular I have been using 'Paul Dumper Creations' for art classes, usually about 6.30 pm & it's a relaxing time. Currently, I don't have to worry about paying for parking.....implementing charges will put myself & others off using this business & this would be detrimental to this business owner who is so lovely & does a lot to help Woolston improve.

I also avail of the free parking to go to shops in Bitterne. Once again, you now want to charge people. Honestly, it is the small business people who keep this society going and you want to destroy their efforts. It's an absolute joke!!!!

A two hour free parking ability is ideal for those nearby businesses an opportunity to welcome in increased footfall and additional spend, which should be a given by the Council to support...having a non-free period will potentially reduce the number of visitors for direct and indirect shopping; businesses are already under significant strain with increased business rates and forthcoming NIC's...additionally for those who are not in possession of a smart 'phone remembering to carry any cash for the sudden purchases will disincentivize...seems this has the potential of discriminating against for example elderly visitors

car parking charges can be used to maintain car parks and be re-invested into public transport and repairing roads

This is ridiculous, it seems to include for example the Sainsbury's car park so people will be charged to go shopping!

This is another nail in the coffin to the smaller shopping areas.

Retain 2 hours for free.

Charging for non city area parking will only increase the demise of those areas .Already there are empty shops , or multiple charity shops in both Bitterne and Woolston .If local shops are to survive they need the passing trade charging for parking will just discourage shoppers or move the traffic onto side streets. Gosport would be a good example of failed policies with empty precincts,empty shops and anti social behaviour adding to the issues . Penalizing local shoppers with car parking charges is not going to encourage people to visit those areas .

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I think the introduction of these parking charges will discourage people from using these local shopping areas. We need more people using these local shops to encourage a more diverse range of retailers to come to the local areas. The complete removal of free parking also discourages people from quickly stopping in to pick up an item or two. A 15-30 minute free parking time would be better to allow people to quickly run small errands without having to pay for an hours parking. Encouraging people to use public transport is fine if there are good links and frequent services to back this up. I live on a main route into Southampton and this is currently only served by 1 bus that comes infrequently.

Could you please advice does this mean that if you have have a disabled badge you will also have to pay to park near the shops ?

- \* Customers will go to out of town shopping centres instead;
- \* If you shop every day then EVEN 50p an hour will add £3.50 to a weekly shopping bill;
- \* Footfall will fall after June 2025 when the last of the Banks close. This will kill Bitterne Village once & for all
- \* The Council are in process of refurbishing the area near Weatherspoons for a children's play area. No one's going to want to pay to park to use the facility. Another waste of local taxpayers money!

The two hour free parking is vital for encouraging shoppers to high streets outside the city centre, both those who will do a "quick nip to the shops" and support local business, and more vulnerable customers for whom a shorter trip to a local shop is preferable for either financial or emotional reasons. With the increased actions that seem to be discouraging motorists from accessing the city centre, keeping our local shopping precincts more desirable and accessible is a must.

Removing this element will no doubt see a decrease in visitors.

Sorry I had mistaken and used the incorrect response on my previous response.

Question is and you still park for free if these charges are brought in if you have a disabled badge. With a disability you're unable to find or use other forms of transport a car is needed as close as you can get to the shops which I appreciate you would understand this so basically mine is a question on the pay. Do we have to pay if we have a blue badge Or is it free for people that have disabled badges?

To discourage drivers from parking near local centres, by introducing parking charges from early morning to midnight, with no short term free periods, will inevitably result in busy residential roads. This will cause traffic problems, issues for local residents and is likely to affect local businesses by reducing customer visits. It seems so short sighted and to assume everyone could walk or use the bus, carrying heavy shopping bags, is unrealistic.

You will be driving shoppers away from the local shops out to the bigger out of town ones where parking is free.

Shirley shops are already suffering charging to park will drive more customers away and more shops will become empty

Unfortunately some businesses have been abusing free parking for years. They keep getting new free 2h pay and display tickets and managing to get away with it. On another hand public transport is very bad. Bus drivers are very bad drivers putting people at risk. So many time seen going through red lights on junction with above bar street and London road. And other surrounding roads. Personally I will never be using public transport as is not reliable at all.

Whilst understanding the need to raise revenue, I don't think that the charges should be implemented up until midnight - an off peak tariff may be an option.

As far as Bitterne is concerned the Peartree Gardens car park is used by school parents to park safely and they will be reluctant to pay to park and will end up parking in local residential roads instead, which are already under pressure from the school street closures.

The car parks in Bitterne are also heavily used by gym members and the local churches.

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I think many people shop in Bitterne because of the free parking for 2 hours and shops will be affected by these parking charges.

Charging for previously free car parking spaces could significantly harm local shops. This could deter customers, reducing foot traffic and sales. Local businesses could lose out to online shopping or out-of-town shopping centers with free parking.

The area I live in has free parking within a 10 minute walk but if you take that away I can see that the amount of people coming to my house will reduce massively as there is no free parking available.

It will drive people away from the small businesses in bitterne and Woolston. The bus service to bitterne is bad from Sholing and a car is needed.

All this will do is force people to park in the surrounding roads where it's free parking causing major headaches for the residents who live in the vicinity. Notwithstanding the loss of business to the shops because people will shop where there is free parking. People already find public transport too expensive & inadequate to try and force this already bad situation on them is senseless.

The removal of free parking completely will impact trade in these already struggling areas. Even if 30 minutes free parking is kept it'll help keep trade, as blanket enforcement is a highly narrow minded move, complete removal will end up with people avoiding the areas, such as Bitterne, as the convenience instantly has a fee which will move that trade online or elsewhere.

I am part of a Shirley-based amateur theatre group Maskers. I use my car to come to rehearsals in the evenings and weekends, from outside of the city.

I am often at rehearsal for several hours, 3-4 times per week, and 7 days a week during show runs. This would cost me £28 per week to park under the new proposal, which is more than my annual membership fee for the theatre group!

There is no public transport option that gets me into Shirley and home again at the times I require (and taking 2 buses and walking for 20 minutes or a train and a bus and walking for 20 minutes isn't an option for a lone woman late at night).

Where practical I car share, bringing up to 3 of my fellow actors from outside Southampton with me if we are in a show together. After rehearsal we might grab a meal or a drink from a local pub or takeaway. If I'm not able to afford to park in Shirley anymore, that's up to 4 people who won't be bringing trade to Shirley. It's also 4 people who have no other way to get to Shirley and will have to give up their hobby and social interaction.

In addition, the impact introducing parking charges in the evenings will have on our audience is heartbreaking. We have no parking of our own, tucked as we are down a gravel path behind the high street, so the majority of our audience will park in local car parks. If they now have to pay £4 on top of their ticket prices (which we try and keep as low as possible to encourage more to come) I fear many of our audiences will simply stop coming. This is detrimental to them, and to us as a group. It could very well be the end of Maskers, who have been running since 1968.

If you are truly doing this to encourage more people to visit Shirley, your plans will have the total opposite effect for members and patrons of Maskers. If this is a way to manage car park use due to overwhelming numbers, then rest assured the Howard's Grove car park has not been full on a single occasion when I have come to rehearsals or a show, so the measure is not needed. If you still go ahead with this plan despite the clearly negative impact on so many people (Maskers has

140 members, plus audiences of 44 per night), it will be quite clear that this is just a money making exercise for the council and nothing to do with improving the lives of those who live, work and play in the area.

Making the parking fee payable is only going to push customers out of the smaller shopping area. The damage to the shops trade is unthinkable. Two hours free parking works for many as you can pop in and pick up a few bits. If you have to pay it will put more pressure on the road networks. People will opt for out of town shopping meaning more and more empty shops and a lot more congestion near the out of town shopping areas.

Businesses have had a hard enough time recovering from Covid along with rent increases and fuel costs. We now embark on uncertainty with the National Insurance hike and you want to push the customers further away.

You should be ashamed of yourselves to even consider this. You should be supporting local businesses

Charging cars to park at Bitterne shopping precinct will impact local businesses and likely lead to the precinct becoming empty. Why build a new play area in the precinct if you're going to now charge for parking? You could have not spent the money on the developments and saved the precinct by avoiding charging cars for parking.

The charges will also push cars onto residential roads to park, pushing congestion downstream to small already congested roads.

Many parents also use the car park to pickup or drop off children. Seems unfair to penalised already under pressure parents.

Having no free parking, even for a short period, will detract people from popping to local shops for something and instead further fuel the online market. A simple free half hour would suffice to allow locals to use their local shops when cars cannot. Sometimes they have mobility problems, have small children, have large parcels to pick up or throngs to drop off at charity shops or are on their way to or from work. The car is sometimes a necessity and should not always be demonised. I accept increased parking charges are needed but a short period of free for quick errands is needed to save the high streets. People will go elsewhere if they have to pay, including large supermarket chains with free parking further killing our high streets. This needs a rethink.

People will stop using the local shops and businesses like estate agents , takeaways not everyone is on a bus route , people will need to pay to visit the doctors in bitterne you will kill the area what a stupid idea get rid of your diversity departments if you want to save money not destroy local businesses, who is going to pay to go to Sainsbury's if they need to use a trolley it will end up closing down , common sense seems a thing of the past

I live in bitterne . I already have people parking in my street that work in the centre , and most importantly the health centre . Who don't want to pay the charges . By bringing in charges immediately then the people who stop for 30 mins or an hour and do a quick shop will also park in my street .

Too expensive- will just force people to park in unsuitable places like residential roads

I popped into town to get some bits Xmas shopping and paid £6.50 for parking, utter rip off. I will not be going again, this is killing the high street. I will be sticking with local shops where you can just 'pop in' if you start charging shops will close, simple.

Are you really trying to put people off going to shop in these local shopping areas as that is exactly what will happen.

It will mean people will park on crowded streets. We already pay during the week. Why can't we keep evenings and Sundays free

Should not have to pay very wrong

Up to 1 or 2 hours should be free as this is all that people visiting the local businesses require. It encourage people to use the local amenities and visit the shops. Charging will put people off visiting woolston and encourage illegal on street parking.

Keeping short time frames free and charging for longer periods will also mean those parking and leaving the area/ attending the city centre will have to pay.

It will push people towards parking in the adjoining roads. People are already reluctant to go into the car park and would prefer to park on portswood road

You are taking the purpose away of having local shops. The reason why people visit these in particular is because they DONT have to pay to park they will just go somewhere else that's more convenient. I particularly use this car park to go to the local church in bitterne.

I feel the new charges will stop people shopping in places like Shirley and will be extremely detrimental to retail businesses in these areas. For example, I often pop into Shirley to shop in retail outlets and charity shops. Once the charges are introduced I will do my shopping online and stop browsing (and buying) in charity shops.

These charges will drive a nail in the coffin of retail businesses.

This will be another nail in the coffin of our local shopping centres. Businesses are already finding it difficult to survive against the Internet and large out of town shopping centres.

I object to the proposal to charge at the previously free for 2 hours Portswood carpark. This change will push cars on to the local suburban roads or fill up the two nearby supermarket car parks. Both consequences will mean meaningful inconvenience to local residents.

YOU ARE DRIVING PEOPLE OUT OF SHOPPING AREAS! NOT EVERYONE CAN GET THE BUS OR IS ABLE TO! small business will suffer, locals shops will suffer and more importantly- you'll get people parking on side roads clogging those up. Your decisions on parking and roads are utterly ridiculous

Those who are disabled or elderly are once again overlooked. Not everyone is capable of using public transport and unable to afford parking costs. Not all of these people are able to qualify for a blue badge. If you can't even take care of your most needy, you are a pathetic council indeed.

This is just a tax on what has been free parking. I use Cannon Street car park in Shirley sometimes. The only reason I do, is because it is free and close to some shops on Shirley High Street. If charges are introduced, I will most likely not park there, nor go to those shops. So this is just a small example of the damage parking charges will do to local shop businesses - multiple by many thousands of other occasional or regular shoppers, and it will hurt these shops badly. Leading to lost income, possible closures and deterioration of the life of Shirley High Street. With fewer shoppers and fewer shops, there is a knock on impact, with increased crime etc. It's just a very bad idea, no replicated in other local shopping districts affected by other car parks around Southampton where the Council wants to introduce charges to currently free car parks. A really, really bad idea.

These car parks are for local residents who already contribute council tax for these purposes.

There should be no need to charge for short periods

You should be encouraging people to visit these areas and utilise the shops, not discouraging. Why would anyone want to pay to go and shop in charity shops and pound shops. Disproportionally affects those on lower incomes too as they are more likely to visit. Absolute joke!

This is just stressing living cost more, while parking is a necessity to most people

I would like to comment further. As a gym user this now means paying for every evening visiting the Puregym in Bitterne. You should be encouraging health and fitness and this does the complete opposite. Car is a safe means of transport for women on dark evenings in the winter especially and giving a reason as asking people to find alternative methods of transport is not suitable for all, especially if women want to stay safe. It is completely unnecessary for the parking charges to continue until midnight in Bitterne when the only business open is the gym, you do not need to manage the number of cars in the car park at that time. This is an absolute disgrace and disproportionately affects women using the gym who cannot for example run or walk there when it is dark or use other transport for safety reasons. There has not been enough proper consideration and this is completely unacceptable.

It will have a negative affect on local businesses, encouraging more use of out of town supermarkets.



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By charging for parking in these areas you will damage the footfall to the local businesses. The charges will also result in added pressure by people parking on the surrounding residential streets for free, making life more difficult for residents. Leave it as it is.

Parking in these car parks has always been free and provides residents in Southampton the opportunity to park free of charge for two hours whilst they do shopping or other activities. By bringing in these charges, I can't help feeling that the council are once more hitting the motorist in the pocket.

Some people are unable to use other forms of transport and rely on their car to get around. It is these people who are more than likely the ones who will be hardest hit.

I also find the phrase in the proposal, "To ensure tariffs continue to manage parking demand relative to inflation" extremely ambiguous. If you're going to expect a broad cross section of residents to comment on these proposals, then at least write them in plain English so that everyone can understand what you are talking about.

As well as this, your use of the phrase, "to encourage drivers to consider alternative means of transport" is a passive aggressive statement which could also be seen as emotional blackmail! Please do not use these sort of phrases to make people feel guilty about something which they should not have to feel guilty about.

Those who can afford this, won't worry about paying, those who can't afford it will just have to struggle. This gives the impression that the council doesn't really care.

Added to this, it is quite often local people who use these car parks to do weekly or monthly shopping. Shopping bags are often very heavy and it is not practical to use public transport in these circumstances.

Please can you provide appropriate evidence and research to justify your, 'statement of reasons' outlined in the proposal. Also in relation to your statement, "increase the number of visitors who can use these facilities", please can you define which visitors you are referring to, local people, non residents of Southampton, foreign visitors, etc. Assuming you are generalising when you use the word visitor, then what you seem to be saying is that less people will use the car park, because those who can't afford to, won't be able to, which means there will be more spaces available for those who are better off. Please tell me if I have got this wrong.

I am absolutely not in favour of this proposal and I do not believe that it should go ahead in its present form.

However, here is my suggestion, why not leave the first two hours free, but increase the charges after that. This will mean that those local people who need to do their weekly shopping can still do so, but those who need a bit more time, will need to pay. That way, you are protecting those more vulnerable members of our community, but still raising funds and showing that the council isn't just about trying to make money.

You have my email address on the following page and as such I look forward to your comments on what I have said.

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This will discourage visits to these fab local shops and businesses

Bitterne village is a deprived area as it currently stands. A lot of people whom go here will decide not to if they are forced to pay a fee which will cripple certain businesses and effect church in the area

I am in favour of charges for longer than an hour, but one should be able to "nip to the shop" from Angel Crescent in Bitterne without the imposition of a charge. It is likely to make Sainsbury's car park more crowded, thus affecting the shops on both sides of the precinct.

I don't think adding charges will ease congestion in these areas as they are empty most of the time currently. All this will do is increase the cost on families and potentially reduce people shopping in these areas.

This will not decrease congestion and people will just park on streets. There's already charges after a certain time frame, if you want more money then increase the prices after the free time frame. I live in one of the areas where the car parks are proposed and most the time the car parks

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are empty anyway. I find traffic isn't because of people finding parking but people commuting. Increasing prices may deter people going to the businesses in these areas because there is an extra cost for them for parking and sometimes public transport may not be reliable.

2 hrs free parking in Bitterne for as long as I have lived there. Which is really handy when you have to nip to the bank or Iceland. I think if you start to charge now, then it will deter people from going there as the cost of living is already through the roof!

If you start to charge after all these years then I'm afraid you will see a huge effect in footfall & the remaining business will have a massive impact on them & one by one will pull out of Bitterne & it will become a ghost town!!

It will be a disaster for us pensioners, who rely on the free parking periods for shopping and, in Bitterne, going to Church. It will drive shoppers away and reduce the revenue of shops.

Putting further barriers in place to visit out of city areas will do nothing but decrease footfall, directly impacting the shops and businesses in these areas. Retail parks are just a short drive away where parking is free and a better selection of shops. This proposal will be yet another nail in the coffin for high street shopping.

I think you should still offer a free 30 minutes which will be for those local people who might have to use local shops etc. I volunteer at the Big Difference and some of those picking up for food banks etc use the Portsmouth Road, Woolston car park and they would benefit

I think charging will have a big impact on businesses and lose them customers. If you want to charge then increase the longer stay.

It will drive people away from local shopping centres.

Also consider older and disabled drivers who are feeling the cost of living situation.

As it should be a free car park

Many people are not able to use public transport to reach areas such as Bitterne so by adding parking charges will change their shopping habits and drive to areas such as Hedge-End where there is free parking. I would also say that charging for parking in Commercial Road, a car park used by those visiting Bitterne Health Centre, is totally unacceptable. If you have to bring in charges then why not just charge for long stay, like you already do in Angel Crescent? It won't bring you as much revenue but would be much fairer to those parking there to attend a medical appointment.

Barbaric to charge, causing a detrimental affect on local businesses already struggling in this over inflated country! A council who is trying to claw money where ever they can, always affecting the hard working citizens of this community. I wholeheartedly object to these new charges!

This is an act of insanity which will be a death sentence for most of the businesses in Bitterne Precinct.

I live in Little Lances Hill in Bitterne and we already get dentists and other people who work in Bitterne parking in the road all day. Also people who don't even live down this road park here all day, every day even some have their own driveways. I can see it will only get worse and cause further traffic issues in Bitterne.

Council tax should cover small road repairs. I think local residents should at least be able to shop locally and park for free for a few hours to shop or visit library etc. Buses do not run from my doorstep to local high street and as an arthritis sufferer walking is not a convenient option for a quick grocery shop or errands to chemist etc. Maintaining an open space is not as expensive as a multi-storey parking building. Just another excuse to charge money for using local shops or facilities in times when money is tight for everyone. Not impressed at all.

I wish to object to the proposals for the following reasons:

- it will deter people from visiting these high streets. There are a number of shops that remain closed and this initiative is not likely to help that scenario.
- it will cause a great deal of inconvenience to people such as mothers, carers and the elderly who cannot rely on public transport to get them and their families around.
- you note this will better manage parking. That does not seem convincing when there are car

parks that aren't really full all the time.

- understandably, there are maintenance costs. Can you not look at the options of reducing the number of car parks, particularly where take up is low rather than start charging.

Most of the car parks in Bitterne are actually used by people shopping and using the facilities. Not fair to have to pay to park to do your weekly shop. I volunteer at the library twice a week and would have to pay to park. I'm a pensioner and need to drive and at the moment it seems everything is becoming more expensive. I think people are going to be put off using Bitterne and will shop at out of town shops where the parking is free.

Lack of enforcement on other roads. Emsworth road is illegally parked all the time and free parking in the next road down. So charging will make it worse without proper enforcement.

Stop chipping away money off our wallets

This will put local shops out of business. They are struggling already especially Bitterne where all banks have closed/closing therefore less footfall. We already pay for car parks from our Council Tax. The Council have forgotten that they should work for residents. Stop wasting money on projects that no one apart from the Council want. The work currently being carried out in Bitterne is a waste of our money. You cannot buy a takeaway and take it home by bus or walking as it will get cold. If free parking is not available in local areas I will just go to other places eg Hedge End Sainsburys etc where there is more choice and free parking.

I and many more of the people I have spoken to, realise that there is not enough attraction in the Southampton suburbs to warrant going to them in the event of the free two hours parking being taken away.

While I approve aspects of the proposal, I am not happy about others.

This will lead to people not using local shops and therefore trade will decrease and it will end up with shops closing. Woolston and Bitterne have a high number of empty shops and we should be encouraging companies to trade here. This will only have a negative effect. Also, how does this affect people using electric charging- will they have to pay for parking as well as electricity? In the car park in Bitterne behind the library this is used by church attendees. It is unfair to charge for somebody who wishes to practice their faith. I think your changes will have a massively negative impact on local people.

I don't wish to pay to do my grocery shopping!

Woolston is very run down and doesn't have many shops as it is! By now charging people to use the car parks less and less will visit woolston and businesses will suffer.

It will mean I will have to go to out of town supermarkets for shopping.

I don't see why this is necessary in these times of cost of living crisis. Give people at least something they can do that doesn't cost them more...park and go for a walk! I really don't believe more money needs to be raised, money comes in from those needing to park more than 2 hours.

Local shops and communities will suffer financial losses as a result of lost revenue from patrons no longer willing to spend their money if they have to pay for parking. Another raid on the pockets of the poor in society.

Free parking in woolston is one of the reasons the area is popular with locals and visitors.

Woolston high street is finally having a rejuvenation after many years. New businesses have moved in and there is a real community feel. Bringing in parking charges will only put people off visiting the area. When you pop in a shop you just want it to be easy, convenient and welcoming.

This will end local shopping areas. Scrapping free parking and allowing parking all day will lead to the car parks in Woolston being full of those who park and walk over the Itchen Bridge. Us locals who want to pop into Woolston won't get a look-in. It's handy to be able to stop and pop in the shops before heading out somewhere for the day. or on the way home from work. Having to find a pay machine to pay for an hour when all I need is 5-10 minutes will put me off using local shops. I will drive out of Southampton to those areas with free parking. It will also lead to more people parking dangerously on the roads whilst they pop into a shop rather than doing the sensible thing of parking in a car park.

I'm all for encouraging people to use alternative transport but not everyone is able to use alternative methods. As a lone woman, I do not relish the idea of using public transport late at night when the nearest bus stop to me is at least a 5 minute walk.

I will no longer visit the shops in Bitterne and will instead travel to the larger Sainsbury's in Hedge End, where I can get a much wider range of produce shops and free parking. The gyms will lose their customers, all surrounding roads will become more congested.

Woolston carpark by the bridge is the main carpark for parents picking up children from St Patrick's school so removing free access wouldn't be the best idea

. This policy risks creating significant negative impacts on the local community, particularly for some of the most vulnerable members of society.

#### Impact on Caregivers and Vulnerable Individuals

The proposed charges will disproportionately affect caregivers, elderly residents, and those relying on community support. Many caregivers already face tight schedules and financial constraints; additional parking fees will add unnecessary stress and may even limit their ability to provide essential care. Elderly individuals, who often rely on family or friends for transportation, may also find it harder to access vital services.

#### Discouragement of Gym and Community Facility Use

Charging for parking near gyms and community facilities will discourage people from maintaining an active lifestyle. Regular exercise is essential for both physical and mental health, and creating barriers to access such as parking fees could lead to poorer health outcomes for the community.

#### Harm to Local Shops and Businesses

The introduction of parking charges will likely deter people from visiting local high streets, opting instead for the convenience of online shopping. Small businesses, already struggling in the current economic climate, rely heavily on footfall, and parking charges will further decrease this.

Maintaining free or low-cost parking is crucial to keeping our high streets vibrant and accessible.

#### Financial Burden on Families

With the cost of living continuing to rise, even small additional expenses can significantly impact families. Parking charges may make simple trips—whether to shops, leisure centers, or local services—less frequent, isolating people further and reducing community engagement.

#### Environmental Concerns

While the council may argue that parking charges promote sustainable travel, they could unintentionally increase car journeys as people seek free parking further afield or abandon local services altogether. This shift may negate any environmental benefit the policy seeks to achieve. Instead of introducing charges, I urge the council to explore alternative methods of raising revenue or promoting sustainability without penalizing residents and businesses

By taking away free parking in Bitterne, people will shop more at places that provide free parking like antelope Park & Hedge End or turn to shopping online, damaging the high street even more. And as Bitterne precinct is being re-designed at the moment, if less people use the area that would be wasted council money.

Stop wasting money on unnecessary things then you wouldn't be in the mess you are. Cycle lanes not getting used, widening paths for no reason. Adding 2 zebra crossings not far apart from each other.

Why should we pay more, we pay our taxes and now you want more money to waste.

It will encourage on street parking and help to kill off shopping in Shirley, Woolston and Bitterne.

It will lead to further decline in people using local shops.

As stated the prices are similar to other local shopping centers such as those in Romsey where parking is free after 16.00 and no charges on Sundays. This assists traders and perhaps a reason why independent shops and even banks have survived making a trip out of the city more pleasant and rewarding than in Soton.

Introducing parking charges at Bitterne Sainsbury's means that motorists will simply park in nearby roads such as Downside Avenue. Downside Avenue already has traffic nuisance with parking issues - and part of Brownlow Avenue is closed off for school pupils in term time, making the problem worse. The grass verges also become messy and damaged with mud being churned up. I believe Sainsbury's will lose a lot of business as customers who can't park in nearby roads - due to all spaces already taken by earlier customers - will shop elsewhere. Which would mean reduced footfall in Bitterne Precinct. Not a good prospect. I therefore strongly object to your proposals to introduce parking charges. And how much would it cost to implement and maintain your proposals?

Suburban shopping districts will become even more derelict than they are already if charges are introduced to the car parks. Absolutely stupid idea for what are generally neglected areas and struggling to keep shops open!

This will reduce the number of people using local shops, they will choose to go to larger supermarkets with free parking. This will lead to shop closures & job losses. Less people in area will impact smaller businesses. It will destroy local communities

I am objecting to car parking tariffs being introduced at the Angel Crescent car park in Bitterne. I am concerned that people who currently drive to Sainsburys will choose to go to different supermarkets that provide free parking and that this will have a deleterious effect on other businesses in the precinct. I am also concerned about increased parking in the nearby residential roads

Whilst I can see the merit in applying charges to both increase revenue for maintenance and to promote more availability of spaces I would still like to see an initial charge free period to account for users literally just popping to a retailer to collect an item. This initial charge free period could be as short as 30 minutes. I fear that charging may result in current users deserting the current district centres (some of which are already struggling with lack of footfall), instead choosing to visit out of town centres where parking is free. Please also note that I usually visit my local centre (Bitterne) by bike for convenience and due to the typical lack of parking in Angel Crescent, so my comments may be considered to be a balanced view rather than those of just the active travel or motorist lobby.

Increasing parking charges alone will not motivate people to use public transport, while petrol remains so cheap. The city needs a good reliable rapid transit/metro to really encourage out of their cars.

People will simply not visit out of town areas such as Portswood, in favour of places like Hedge End.

No free parking will lead to more illegal parking on double yellow lines, where enforcement is limited and in private residential car parks where enforcement is in effect impossible.

Charging for parking at Westridge road Portswood will further decrease the footfall. I am a volunteer at a local charity shop and will not be able to continue if I am faced with parking fees.

Unnecessary money grab by the council.

Will affect the shops in these areas and significantly decrease footfall. Sunday charging will affect those going to Church. Not everyone can use the bus and arguably buses are unsuitable for certain kinds of shopping (e.g. grocery - of which at least 2 of these areas have large Sainsbury's stores in them).

Ultimately, council is being mismanaged and the residents are paying the price.

This should not be implemented.

Not only are shop prices ridiculously expensive you now want to charge people more money to park. I do not go into town anymore because of the parking charges and buses non existent where I live. Before long I will be trapped in my own home relying on online shopping.

You are building new play areas in bitterne. So where will you be able to park for free with the children who will use this unwanted facility. Also I thought the council were trying to encourage more people to use the shopping areas in Bitterne & outlying areas. This will make them more of a ghost town than they are now. A lot of elderly or disabled who have No bus they can catch for whatever reason. Still need to use their cars or family with cars to access the shops. How do they afford the charges now the winter fuel has been taken away & cost of living has gone up.

A Very Strong NO to this

This will reduce the footfall in Bitterne by people choosing to go to do bigger shops out of town. People will think carefully about small errands if there is a cost implication, more closed shops, less choice, more barbers and betting shops, great.

I believe there should be a 30 minute free tariff

This will kill the trade in Bitterne precinct. Why are you so caught up on trying to make everyone use public transportation and cycle! It just doesn't work, we will continue to use our cars. All these poor people who work all day in the areas will now be charged £8 to park. It adds to the anxiety of shopping, the great thing about parking in these car parks is that it's free, simple for a quick trip. It will discourage people from shopping there. Bitterne should not be chargeable, it will only drive people to shop in other precincts that do offer free parking. You've completely messed up Portswood, do not do the same to Bitterne! This will also push people to then park on surrounding residential streets, this will cause issues for residents. Then I suppose your "solution" to that would be permits for the roads... NO ONE WANTS THIS!!!!!!

I object as this will have a severe impact on local businesses, as people, myself included, will not pay the fee and will go to bigger shops that offer free parking

In bitterne they are currently redeveloping the precinct yet again and at what cost - with free parking gone and fees introduced (which will only increase over time) I am am sure many will stay away

No reliable direct bus routes

This will have a really negative effect on Bitterne precinct, there are already many empty shops, people will not want to pay for parking when there are other places ie Asda Lidl Aldi nearby, this is an ill thought through policy which should not happen

I use these car parks as I have a toddler and using public transport is not suitable. Public transport is not good enough for me to rely on therefore I am forced to drive.

If you start charging for these car parks, I will just go to alternative locations with free parking.

This will have a detrimental impact on the businesses in these places as other people will also go elsewhere

The other impact will be people will simply use street parking nearby causing problems to local residents.

Smaller shopping areas such as Bitterne and Portswood need to encourage more people to go there otherwise smaller/independent shops and cafés will close. Having no free parking, not even the first hour will put people off and they will go to Hedge End with free parking or somewhere with more choice of shops if they are having to pay to park anyway.

As a lifelong resident of Bitterne I am beyond FURIOUS at the Councils OUTRAGEOUS proposal of charging to park in their local shopping areas, not to mention the timing of this proposal in the lead up to Christmas when everyone is so busy I

feel is underhand !!

Bitterne is an area where local residents & communities visit to shop, work, relax, keep fit & worship. In already tough times yet another cost may well be the one that breaks the camels back. I am sure that across this City of ours other residents will feel the same. We have already seen increased parking costs in the City Centre ( where, by the way I now avoid going for partly this reason ) also Itchen Bridge toll rises.

This will prove to be a huge problem for those who live within a decent walking distance making their lives a misery, as people seek free parking elsewhere, making SUBURBAN OFF-STREET PARKING PLACES a massive problem .

The Bitterne C of E Infant & Junior schools will also, I am sure, be extremely concerned at the SAFETY of its pupils at school run time, as these car parks are used daily by parents as a safe place to get their children to & from school.

The fact that you want to charge people on SUNDAYS as well is a disgrace for those wishing to attend the local church to worship , not to mention weddings, funerals, christenings etc, I am sure the local church communities will be more than a little disappointed in this proposal.

LOCAL BUSINESSES again will be impacted, we already have empty/closed shops & offices in Bitterne & Woolston, with the closure next year too, of Lloyds & Halifax Banks , does the council not think that these charges will have massive implications on footfall to the area therefore placing the remaining businesses under yet more pressure, no one wants to see more businesses going under.

I simply do not understand why the council can spend millions of pounds in Bitterne Precinct trying to " ENHANCE THE LOCAL ENVIRONMENT & BOOST ECONOMIC GROWTH TO IMPROVE THE AREA THAT EVERYONE COULD ENJOY" It simply does not make sense, these proposals will contradict the councils already stated aims for Bitterne.

Personally , I do my weekly food shop in Sainsburys in Bitterne & use the car park for this. How on earth does the council think that I would be able to get a full family weekly shop home on the bus !! I also use Pure Gym in Bitterne 4 - 5 times a week for maintaining my physical & mental health , again using the car parks, I simply cannot sustain these added costs which in turn will affect my wellbeing. I also regularly use an independent business in Woolston, which I would think twice about if I have to pay to park, I STRONGLY feel ( having been a local independent Business owner myself ) that this will only be disastrous for such businesses.

All this being said I cannot find anything but SADNESS & DISMAY that local communities have to fight to uphold their current way of life without having to pay through the nose in order to do so. Life is already tough enough, & I can only hope that I have made my STRENGTH OF FEELING HEARD.

I strongly disagree with the proposals. As a resident in Carisbrooke Drive, I'm concerned with the amount of people who will look to park on nearby roads in order to avoid paying for parking in Bitterne. This will cause a nightmare on our road. The alternative is then permit holders which again we would be completely against because of friends and family visiting us and the cost implications of it.

There should be a free time (30mins?) in order to support local traders. I often go to Westridge Road car park when I quickly need to pop in to local traders. I am 70 and have knee problems carrying heavy shopping is a problem for me, so I rely on local parking. It looks like Portswood is going to become a problem for pensioners and older/other disabled people. Especially, with the oncoming proposed closure of The Broadway.

Economic burden on low income individuals, reduced accessibility, negative impact on local businesses, potential for displacement and parking tariffs may not reduce vehicle usage but lead to prolonged driving as people search the surrounding area for alternatives - specifically local housing areas.

I think the charges are not unreasonable. Providing free parking simply encourages too many people to drive when they could travel by bus / walk, so this will provide much needed income for the council while helping to reduce congestion in the city.

Charging parking will kill the community and small businesses in woolston. If charges are imposed people will just start going elsewhere, e.g city centre. There are already areas in woolston that charge, so we don't see the need in adding more.

The shopping centre has already lost a lot of customers and parking charges will have a devastating affect on shopping around Southampton

Ruining the high street. Access to local shops and schools will be hindered, pushing the issues into residential areas that are already full. This will crush local business staff and visitors as well as the elderly/retired

Local businesses are already struggling we have seen the death of the high st. This is unacceptable. Times are already hard why make it worse. Why destroy local communities. People will simply stop using local shops in favour of going online. This will lead to job losses and deprivation and rotting high streets.

This will kill off local business and cause parking difficulties and stress.

City and areas already struggling why make it worse people just can't keep paying

Will kill the small shops.

Will finish off the few businesses left

This will really damage the smaller shops if drivers have to pay in local car parks!! It will also push even more retailers to move to the big shopping areas out of town!!

Has anyone considered the pensioners who use the local bus to shop at all?????

I believe putting charges on these car parks will impede on the amount of people that will visit these areas

From where I live to most of the these locations, public transport is actually difficult and awkward to use (multiple buses, trains (that delay and cancel quite often))

Using Bitterne as an example, for people just generally coming to the area, for a weekly shop, to meet for food, or just general shopping, this charge, although fairly small, will make people just go elsewhere

Keeping car parks free in these areas creates less congestion in the city also, as people are more inclined to park outside of the city centre and take a bus in

As a cyclist, I support anything that makes people think twice about getting in their cars. I hope the funds generated will be used to enhance cycle infrastructure.

The two hours you do for people is a blessing, don't ruin it

Total war against hard up Residents. STOP PAYING Council Tax.

Local shops rely on footfall to keep going. There have never been charges on these carparks so why now? I use the car park in Bitterne daily to meet my daughter from college instead of blocking the roads near it. Having to pay will force people to park on the streets causing unnecessary extra traffic when the carparks are rarely full anyway.

This could result in less people visiting or creating more parking problems on nearby residential roads. I often use the car park to pop in for a couple of bits quickly. Reducing the length of time free parking is available would be a better option. Even allowing for 30 minutes free would be preferable.

The cost of living is absolutely out of hand. This measure will make it even worse. Moreover introducing evening parking charges will make it even harder and unfair. The life of motorists in Southampton is already tough enough. Don't make it even worse.

Will cause shops/cafes/businesses to lose sales, as well as cause individuals who are already struggling financially to have to pay extra to park in their local area.

This will drive people for people to shop online rather than spending money in town



I frequently use the Portsmouth Road car parks in Woolston and feel this would kill Woolston as an out of city shopping area and put businesses out of business.

A lot of people use this rather than taking their car in to Southampton so the congestion in the city would increase and the buses would have even less customers than before.

Another nail in the coffin for small shops and more expense to people who are already struggling.

50p for an hour is enough to deter parking to pop into local shops, but not enough to make an impact on income for improved services through SCC. To support struggling local business, certain locations, such as Westridge Rd in Portswood should maintain up to 1 hour free (or even 20 minutes would work) before the charge becomes payable.

No need for it

Having free parking in the district centre car parks is essential to keeping the district centres alive and helping the shop keepers to stay in business. I think it would be very short sighted to start charging for residents to go and do their shopping at these centres. The bus service will never be adequate for the outlying areas so saying that people can use the buses is a nonsense.

You will be killing off local trade i for one wont pay and will go to larger shops with free parking

It doesn't support local businesses & customers are already over stretched with all shorts of payments.

As a small not for profit business, and a hub building a stronger community in Woolston. We need the car parks to stay as they . Free parking is definitely needed in this thriving community.

No need for be paying in the evening

Driving around Southampton is a nightmare so the least you can do is keep the local car parks free

An increase when everyone is struggling with cost of living is disgraceful

It's killing off local communities

Council are a disgrace

Over paid work shy morons

This action will not only result in people parking in the local roads, which already get quite congested, but will affect local business in Bitterne and surrounding areas due to the impact on people's pockets. There will be a drastic reduction in footfall which will impact on the remaining business outlets in Bitterne. Are you looking to close all what is left of shopping outlets in Bitterne? When Lloyd's and Halifax close in June 2025 there will be a drastic reduction of people needing to come to Bitterne anyway. What you are proposing will exacerbate the demise of Bitterne's economy.

You are killing hard working business's with constant charging and road closures. It's so much cheaper and easier buy everything online due to your greed and road mayhem. If people were parking their cars for hours at a time maybe, but they don't.

This will impact my road as people will park on downside Avenue instead of paying! This is already an issue as it is! This will also reduce the footfall in Bitterne - what is the point of developing the high street and then charging people to visit it!

During a cost of living crisis expecting people to pay for a short stay(two hours) on top of what their shopping costs is unreasonable and will have a detrimental effect on small local business as local shoppers will most likely visit out of town shops where parking is free for a set time. When passing through Portswood, Shirley or Bitterne I often use these car parks when popping to the local store to purchase a snack, I object to paying more to park than the cost of the item I am buying.

I belong to a Shirley-based amateur theatre group Maskers Theatre Company. I use my car to come to rehearsals in the evenings and weekends, from outside of the city.

I am often at rehearsal for several hours, 3-4 times per week, and 7 days a week during show runs.

This would cost me £28 per week to park under the new proposal, which is more than my annual membership fee for the theatre group being unemployed I cannot afford the additional weekly

expense so would likely have to abandon my hobby. I expect there are a lot of other local social groups who would be similarly affected by this proposal so I would urge the council to rethink, retain the free two hour parking for district car parks and to not introduce evening charges.

Charging for parking will reduce commerce in the affected areas as well as increase the number of motorists parking illegally to avoid these charges.

2 hours of free parking encourages people to visit the local businesses and use the local services in these areas. Myself and others have benefitted from this arrangement in both Portswood and Shirley. Introducing charges would have a significant impact on local businesses and discourage people to attend them, unless they live within the local area, (which I do not).

Once something is introduced, (such as charges), they seldom stay at the same rate. Rather, they are increased over time and drive customers to use online shopping at the expense of the local economy - this is clear to see in nearby Eastleigh, for example.

Changing 2 hours of free parking to 90 minutes or one hour, with charges for times greater than this may be considered more positively if funding is definitely required and the premise of this proposal is non-negotiable from the council's perspective. Otherwise, to be honest, upon seeing this notice, many people themselves, "what else will they charge us for now?" - it seems like we, the ordinary people, have to pay a bill before even stepping in the door of a shop.

We know the council is strapped for cash to be frank but so are we - consider this proposal carefully, lest you should accelerate the slow death of the high streets.

I have been a resident of Bitterne for 63 years and I am outraged at the proposed parking charges for the car parks in Bitterne, especially the main car park behind Sainsbury's. This just seems to me to be another money grabbing scheme by the council which is totally unnecessary. If life isn't hard enough at the moment with the cost of living crisis, our energy costs and food costs going up you now decide you want to make life harder by charging us to park our cars when we are trying to use our local shopping centre.

I use Sainsbury's in Bitterne to do my weekly shop and use the car park behind Sainsbury's because it is convenient, how do you expect me to do a weekly shop and either get this home by bike or the local bus route as it seems to me that is what the council want.

It seems to me that you are doing everything you can do to penalise the motorist. You need to realise that the majority of people have to use their car to go about their daily routines, most people don't ride a bike or can catch the local bus.

What impact do you think this will have on the local shops and businesses?. I will tell you what I will be doing if this is implemented, I will drive to the Sainsbury's in Portswood or Hedge End because they have free parking that I can use, thus taking my money and business away from the local Bitterne shops.

I also use Pure Gym 4-5 times a week and have done for many years. This helps greatly with my mental wellbeing and helping me to keep healthy and active. If I have to pay every time I visit the gym then that is going to cost me money that I simply cannot afford. The solution to that will be, I will change my gym membership and move to another gym that offers me free parking, again taking away money away from the Bitterne precinct area and Pure Gym. I am sure Pure Gym management will not be happy if they start to lose the membership numbers.

You are spending a vast amount of money presently on the precinct area, apparently costing around 2 million pounds? I went to have a look at the improvements, and for the life of me cannot see what 2 million pounds worth of improvements is getting the residents of Bitterne. I think somebody is making a lot of money here somehow, because, that is not 2 million pounds worth of work that I can see.

What is the point of doing these improvements to as you quote, to "ENHANCE THE LOCAL

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ENVIRONMENT AND BOOST ECONOMIC GROWTH TO IMPROVE THE AREA THAT EVERYONE CAN ENJOY" and then go make it more costly and more difficult for the local people of Bitterne to use. This just seems some absolutely ridiculous to me, it doesn't make sense. You will not encourage people to use Bitterne, you will drive them away.

What about the local residents who live in the area. I know exactly what will happen, people will start parking in the local streets and roads, outside residents homes to avoid the parking charges. This will then become a massive problem for off street parking places, and not fair for the people who live in the area as it will become increasingly more difficult for them to park outside their houses.

Have you thought about the Local school, Bitterne Infant School, and the impact it will have on the parents of the children, especially when dropping off and picking them up after school. They will have to pay a parking charge twice a day which is not fair. The Sainsbury's car park is a safe place away from the MAIN ROAD that they can drop off and pick up their children on the school day.

What is absolutely disgusting is that you want to charge for parking on a Sunday. What about the local churches where people come to worship and you want to charge them! You should be ashamed!

Still, if I want to spend £650 for a year parking permit, everything will be okay. JOKE!

I cannot express enough how STRONGLY I feel about this, and urge Cllr Eamonn Keogh who is responsible for these charges to use his Common Sense, scrap this money grabbing scheme and work for the people of Bitterne.

i would shop elsewhere like hedge end where car parking is free and better choice s and cheaper food. i would not pay for 10 minute that i need too do local shopping. business will close if this is instigated as we will all shop elsewhere and why to midnight when no shops open. assume this cycling nutter keoghs idea to kill off cars for his private cycle use for him and his mates

We do a fair bit of our shopping in Bitterne because of it's free parking and because it is close, therefore low mileage. Less pollution and less cost. There is nothing there that we can't get elsewhere. Charges will make us probably go to Hedge End, (Village and Super Stores) where we can get virtually everything we can, at the moment, get in Bitterne.

Why are you spending thousands of pounds refurbishing the area if you are going to discourage us from going there.

A lot of elderly and not so mobile will now have to pay for parking when going shopping or going to church when they are not able to afford it.

Local shopping areas have been on the decline for years and need encouragement to thrive, not more obstacles in the way.

Pay to park for over 2 hrs fair enough, likewise overnight, but would enforcing 24hr parking fees raise enough to cover the lost business rates etc when all these local shops are forced to close?

I visit bitterne to get one or two things I can't get elsewhere and also to use the gym. I can't take the bus as they stop running late at night when I get to the gym so I would be stuck having to walk home or pay at least a pound or more for every workout I do.

This will only reduce the number of people using those areas, more shops unsustainable and closing. Public transport is a joke, 2 hours to get to my daughters, two buses each way, £8, and 20 minutes walk from nearest bus stop. 15 minutes by car and £2 of petrol.

You're forcing people to stop shopping locally. More people will move to online shopping as it's more convenient and cost effective meaning more high street shops will close down. There aren't enough high street shops as it is to warrant paying money to park to use them. The council seem to have lost their common sense lately with the roads around Southampton, firstly by allowing an

overwhelming amount of road works on what seems to be every major road making a normal 10 minute journey take 45 minutes + to now wanting to charge people to pop into their local shops. Pull yourselves together.

You'll be charging us per breath soon! You will put people off using local shops too.

Not having to pay to park for short time is a perk of shopping in the suburbs. I won't go to Shirley if I have to pay and you will kill off local trade. Is it worth it for the small amount you will raise.

Because it's absolutely fine as it is, we pay enough, absolutely outrageous to make us pay even more

This will kill off Woolston and Bitterne shopping. I will not pay to park in these locations. The council should go back to the government and demand that the £13 billion foreign aid money goes to local councils, instead of councils trying to fleece the taxpayer for more and more BLOODY money and destroying local economies. The council are employed to carry out the wishes of locals not the elites. Remember that local council elections are in May next year and reform are coming for you.

The cost of living is killing us, yet to add a further expense is another kick in the teeth.

There is no money left in the pot to pay for parking. We need to support local businesses if you introduce pay to park this will result in less people visiting local stores.

Small off street car parks are a vital need to be able to park for brief periods to visit local shops. The proposals are only going to harm small local shops in favour of large supermarkets and make it far too difficult for people to use their local shop. If you charge for short periods of time for car parks that have previously been free, then all that will happen is that folk will travel further for free parking. This increases congestion and pollution and small local businesses lose money to large international corporations. Ultimately, the council will lose business tax as small shops fail.

It is a very short sighted policy, Southampton Council should be doing all it can to support local businesses by providing free parking so our high streets can survive. So many are just becoming a line of charity shops & takeaways. It's ripping the heart out of communities.

I do understand charging for longer periods, but you must allow a period of free parking for people to visit shops.

Not everyone can ride a bike or scooter to the shops, and how much shopping can one do on a bike. Bus routes may work for some, but not for all, and who is going to wait half hour for a bus to visit their local bakery for a loaf of bread.

The car, or rather personal transportation is here to stay. In the not too distant future, it's most likely going to be 100% electric vehicles, so the "Alternative Transport" reasons are out of the window.

I implore you to not bring in petty charging for 1 or 2 hour stays in car parks that are of vital importance to keeping local shops in business.

To remove free parking will directly affect the business' at Bitterne. Customers browse at the moment and purchase on impulse. Paying for parking will definitely have an impact on how long one shops for.

It will kill trade in local high street shops. People will be forced to park in side streets. Not everyone can get on a bus or carry their shopping far

Driving around the city and suburbs is already a nightmare, this won't deter everyone - for some, it will mean they find other places to park for free that create difficulty and congestion. Additionally, it will negatively impact small, local businesses and price out low income families. You're not a Tory government, don't act like one.

Why are you pushing shoppers away for a bit of extra money, surely it will cost more to implement and police this. You need to encourage people to use shops or small towns. Will not

survive & people will just stop shopping there, including myself as I will stop shopping in bitterne sainsbury if I have to pay.

Free parking is needed to keep our local towns alive. If you start charging towns will become dead and more businesses will be at risk!

The parking is already expensive and will drive people out of the city (pun not intended) and local community , I utilise the car parking for work and already pay £40 minimum per month to park at my work which is not subsidised. This cost will more than double with the scrap of the 2hr free parking. Please do not increase the charges to park. (Marlborough Road- Shirley-Both sides).

My customers at the shop I work at utilise the free parking which helps boost local trade for all shops (many of which are sole traders and rely on the local income, this could also cause congestion in local streets and increase local traffic problems due to lack of affordable parking.

No to the increase.

Will have an adverse affect on local businesses with drop in people visiting if parking charges are brought in.

This is yet another nail in the coffin for local business. Far from reducing car use it will make people drive to out of town shopping areas instead.

You will kill the small business in Portswood.

Car parks changes will reduce usage and affect local business. 30-40 minutes free like the West Quay retail car park would still encourage shoppers but ensure additional revenue for council car parks

Paying for parking will kill casual trade for local businesses. This council is clueless on how to run a city.

For a city to function well, it should have good easy access to retail and business areas. Instead transport routes are consistently been blocked or pedestrianised, favouring minority cyclist road users.

As an analogy, a city is much like a living organism. If you block an artery or prevent blood flow the organism becomes ill and may die.

It seems to me that this council is intent on stuffing traffic flow which in turn restrict trade. Adding pay to park even for short lengths of time will not add money to the coffers, instead it restrict even more users from using local services, businesses will struggle and close and trade will diminish.

You should be running the city as a business to maximize profits through good service rather than arbitrary fees.

If I ran my business as this city is run it would be in financial hardship in no time.... But wait, you are doing precisely that and lo, you're in financial hardship. What a surprise!

ADD VALUE, GIVE PEOPLE REASON VISIT THE CITY AND SPEND MONEY NOT REASON TO TO AVOID AT ALL COSTS.

FOOLS!

I live in Shirley . Emsworth Road parking is already awful in Shirley amd especially our road . We as residents have to pay for a permit and visitors permits each year when half the time you can't get parked in your own street . I actually did a petition just before covid to get this road made permit only because shoppers park here when there's a car park in the next street ..free ...but if you charge then its only going to get worse in surrounding streets. If we had more wardens you could pay for them ten times over the amount of tickets you could give out . I was told after the roads by the general hospital amd portswood had been made permit only it would be our turn in Emsworth ....but nothings ever happened

I think the proposal to charge for parking in Bitterne, especially at Peartree Gardens car park, is likely to have a negative effect on the shops there. People may choose to visit a bigger Sainsbury's

that has free parking, resulting in the loss of the only supermarket. This would really impact me as I cycle there weekly. I can't cycle to the one at Hedge End. It also seems odd to introduce this at a time when money is being spent to improve the play area at the Red Lion pub end.

Inner city business is already struggling to keep pace with Internet competition, this charge will only seek to further drive city shippers away.

People are struggling financially now without further paying out for car parking. It will reduce trade.

Consider the cost of living crisis, please do not charge for 2 hours or less parking.

This proposal appears to be very short sighted in that it doesn't take into account the deleterious effect of losing parking on local businesses. Shoppers will have more incentive to use the large retailers in out-of-town locations where there is on-site parking.

It is possible however that I am mistaken and that it is the intention to run down local business in order to prioritise the large retailers.

Another example of money grabbing from the motorists

All I can see is traffic chaos with more congestion which means more pollution and more cost to the motorists disgraceful

You're all a bunch of daft car hating Nazis who have never worked for a living or run a business if you think making it even harder to get to and from our local shops is a good thing! People decide on where to shop based on convenience. This makes it less convenient for all our suburban centres which will drive away trade. Unless seeing shops vacant and even more people on the dole is your aim (it may well be for some of you!) there's no justification for this! You want to save money? Draw straws between the army of paper pushers and "managers" and short one gets cut. Zero change for the citizenry, fast and easy to implement - and leave our parking alone!

Areas like woolston are struggling now to survive, if you bring car park charges in , these areas will die as the shops etc won't be able to survive

Killing off trade and harming businesses in suburbs.

Retail and hospitality have been hard hit by the recent budget. Adding barriers to footfall where these are the key reasons for visiting will add a final hit that may see the end of some local businesses

I understand that the SCC intends to raise prices of car parks in Southampton suburbs, including charging in the evenings

Trade will fall, people will not bother going to local shops and support shopping/browsing online

It will be a death knell for local shops and local people

This is ridiculous, the outskirts should not have to suffer such London centric actions

get rid of councillors and save a fortune

The amount of money this will generate will not cover the costs of policing it.

Charging for previously free car parking spaces could have a detrimental impact on local businesses. Reduced footfall and decreased sales may result from the added cost, potentially leading to business closures. Local shops could lose out to online retailers or larger shopping centers with free parking.

The free 2 hour parking is a major part of the appeal to visit many of these areas as they are cheaper than more central spaces. A price increase should only be applied to the tariffs for more than two hours.

Your proposal is ridiculous.

You will stop people coming into the city, affecting businesses, reducing income.

We know you have a war against the car.

But you these proposals need to be stopped you are killing Southampton.

We will just go else where. Which will affect everyone long term.

Will destroy local businesses and jobs

This will seriously affect business's in Bitterne and is a further attack on the freedoms of the people of Southampton and surrounding areas to use the services in their area without charge.

This will further kill trade in those areas. More businesses will go bankrupt and any gains from the parking charges will be lost through rates for businesses that disappear. More charity shops and less trade. Civic centre car park used to be full. Now you can drive and park anytime. Who's suffering the traders in those areas. No traders no rates income. This is not a winning formula.

These proposed new charges will impact me significantly and cause me to shop more online, thereby reducing the trade for local shops and the local economy - particularly in Shirley.

It will have a negative impact on local people and businesses.

Not having free parking will discourage people to visit local shopping areas. eg in Portswood. This will have a very negative impact on small businesses, coffee shops etc. It will lead to shop closures and the degradation of the area.

This will impact businesses. Currently myself (and I'm sure others) pop to these places for the convenience of not having to pay for parking. I know this will reduce the amount I go to Bitterne and Woolston

It will be the end for the small businesses in these areas.

The stated reasons for change are fatuous and disingenuous. This is nothing but a petty money raising scheme. These parking facilities work effectively at the moment and limit presence in time which allows for shopping and essential visits to doctors and chemists. Yet another nail in OAP coffins

Charging people to park means they will go to out-of-town stores, where they will spend their money! This is why so many town centres are dying.

This council appears to be desperate to kill off local shopping. Its hard enough to run a small business as it is. If people just need to pop in for some shopping they will not pay to park. Its so unfair. The council needs to reconsider this course of action.

It is another increase for parking in the city. How many more times is Council going to increase and introduce more payments for parking?

This purely a money making exercise we pay enough council tax to provide parking for people in these areas. If the council want money put hatched boxes on all traffic light junctions and fine people who stop in them.

Expence

Absolutely ridiculous- cars will then park on our roads which r local to Bitterne. Shops will suffer - I will not pay to shop in sainsburys I will go to portswoid where there is free parking. Local business will suffer - ludicrous idea!

Charging for parking will simply mean residents will now travel to shopping areas with free parking leading to the demise of local areas. It is an absolute nonsense to suggest bus services will or have improved.

I live in area of Southampton which used to be served by 4 different bus routes but now has only 1 and that is hourly - a disgrace for a major city residential area and I as a result am not encouraged to travel by public transport. This certainly negates one of the reasons for change.

Charges will mean more personell required to monitor so what is the real economic cost benefit and why has this not been made public.

Encouraging residents to use services outside of city centres is beneficial particularly given the the current rates of traffic flow bit to expect residents to carry heavy bags from shops to bus stops to home is clearly unworkable.

It is clear minds are made up as finances will dictate not the view of residents.

A very, very bad plan.

I park at the council car park on Marlborough Road a few times a week where I shop at the greengrocer, butchers, and often walk over to Sainsbury's, plus a few other shops on occasion. I know a couple of my relatives do the same. If I have to start paying for the "privilege" of being able to park my car, which I already pay handsomely for, I will likely buy more of my food from

Tescos, and shop on the High-street less, negatively effecting the small businesses there. Why don't you stop clawing about for pocket change all the time annoying people with this stuff, and actually do some better changes to generate more business and hence money for your wasteful council.

Shops have a bad enough time trying to get customers through the doors. Without putting charges on parking

I object to the removal of the free parking periods in these car parks, all you are going to succeed in doing is to increase those who park illegally in not waiting areas or use Disabled bays and loading Bays when not entitled too. you are also driving people away from using their local shops due to the Hassle of finding and paying for a space at busy times, this can only have a negative effect nonlocal Bussinesses who are already struggling.

Stop robbing the working people for your mismanagement of your budget.

What's road tax for and another way of getting money out of the public

You will just drive more people to other towns or out of town shopping. You should be encouraging people to use local shops and businesses . Shirley is a nice little shopping centre please don't ruin it.

Because it will kill local shops and will harm the area concerned. Greed will kill these shops

It will discourage people from going to these areas.

It will not be good for local businesses.

Charging for parking will not encourage people to use public transport as public transport is very unreliable and doesn't go to places you want to get too. You would also need to make more trips if going by bus as you wouldn't be able to carry all your shopping in one go, how is this more efficient?

Already in Southampton it is horrible when it is dark and you are approached by beggars at ticket machines. It has put me off going into the city and I know others who feel the same way.

Totak rip off

It is unreasonable to charge for evening parking. None if these car parks are ever full in the evening. Public transport has decreased over the years to the point that people choose not to use it.

. One again this city Council is showing it' is failing to supportlocal business.

Local small and family owned businesses already struggling this will be a nail in the coffin to these hardworking enterprises. At a time families are also struggling charging them to park at sites which are in areas of deprivation will impact them coming to shop in those areas. Those that don't want to faff with parking fees will just go to those places that have a disc parking scheme or free parking

Drivers will choose instead to park in what are already very busy and narrow local roads around the Bitterne and Woolston shopping areas. In particular the car parks in Bitterne and Woolston are used for drop off and pick up to Bitterne and St Patrick's Primary Schools, which works very well to reduce the pressure on roads around the schools and to improve safety. Imposing parking charges would be a retrograde step as it would encourage school run drivers to park in side streets instead, which always causes congestion and issues around poor parking choices.

Kills off local shopping

This will destroy local businesses and send everyone out of town. Our town centres are already full of charity shops and cafes and soon will be derelict if this goes ahead. Another false money making plan

This car park is used by parents for dropping off and picking their kids mainly from St.Patrick's School and going ahead with implementing the parking charges will unnecessarily create traffic chaos as more people will try to use other resident parking's in the vicinity



My comment concerns the Portswood carpark.

I believe that the proposed change will further contribute to the decline of a neighbourhood market which already suffers from the concentration of trade in certain central locations.

This introduction will have a detrimental effect on the local shops in the Bitterne precinct and Woolston shops. People will avoid these areas and visit out of town shopping areas like Hedge End. In my view this will reduce trade in Bitterne and Woolston. Introducing these proposed charges will drive trade away.

People will not want to use these car parks town is bad enough with all the driving restrictions don't make it even worse.

There should be no charge for parking for the first 2 hours. If there is a charge to these car parks this will deter shoppers and they will go elsewhere.

As 2 pensioners of 72 and 78 how are we able to get to the town centre to visit the bank, shopping or hospital appointments. We live 15 minutes from the nearest bus stop we don't walk that well. We were able to park in Woolston for 2 hours free and pay 50p an hour extra if needed. This was an acceptable amount to pay to park.

Please think of pensioners on fixed incomes finding it hard to manage to live.

This LABOUR Council have cut funding on our bowling green at Mayfield now we will be unable to go into town. You are not supporting pensioners in Southampton. Show me you do care about older people with keeping Woolston free parking for 2 hours. So we can park there to see our Doctor or Dentist near Portsmouth Road or shopping in Woolston without having to pay to park.

I regularly use Westridge Road car park in Portswood. I feel the proposed charges would put more pressure on parking in the Sainsbury and Waitrose supermarket car parks, both of which offer 2 hours free parking for those using their shops, ( but people often leave their car in those while doing other errands in Portswood) and also on the nearby roads, such as Abbots Way and others in that area, which also have free 2hour parking. Also under a current planning application which proposes to replace the Portswood Shopping centre with student accomadation, there will be a reduction in public parking spaces. Portswood is not all that well served by buses, except possibly those of the Unilink services.

Completely unfair. People shop in Bitterne and Woolston neither of which are affluent areas. As for encouraging people to use public transport, suggest whoever thought of this refers to the bus route map because for many people, it's not possible to get to either area by public transport and this will adversely affect older people, disabled people and parents of young children. People will park in side roads which will irritate residents and potentially cause obstruction and many small independent shops will lose custom and may close. If the Council is short of funds, try making in house economies and stop wasting our Council Tax on vanity projects.

You as a Council are doing all you can to get cars off the road, you have no thought of the public who have to use the roads and car parks for all sorts of reasons

You are a typical Labour Council and government

This will impact these district businesses adversely as people will not go there. The city centre is already under threat as people are not using the restaurants so much in the evening. Another attack on the motorist and local businesses.

It will stop local people shopping in local shops.

It will NOT encourage people to use public transport.

Has this council not destroyed enough of Southampton?

Ridiculous traffic islands to cause congestion and increase pollution.

Night parking charges to stop people going out in the evening.

Cycle lanes to cause traffic chaos and are always empty.

Turn off street lights at night to ensure nobody feels safe to be out at night or go to work early in the morning.

Enough is enough!

We pay to park but I often can't because of people parking without a permit we never see a traffic warden here

We don't get anything free in this council and to take this is a nail in the coffin

It will have a huge impact on local businesses if you implement parking charges!

Shouldn't have to pay to get fresh air

Your ruining our city much more and I'm relocating I have lived here all my life

Using the local shops in Woolston is necessary for me as a child minder with limited funds

Will really affect businesses in the area as it will deter you to just stop and pop in to local shops. Also the cost will start low but will slowly increase. So it's just not a good idea.

Small business will be affected as people will stop using these car parks!

I don't see the reason why the currently 2h free parking would be charged. It would make life for residents even more expensive and adversely affect local businesses and economy and the community. How much more money do we have to pay the council , for effectively doing nothing constructive for the residents ? It's quite unfair and unacceptable

There's no need for it . Most people just pop to these places to grab a few bits not spending long periods of time there . It's just ridiculous.

This will affect all small businesses. Taxes are already crippling small independent stores. People will not bother with parking in bays and park in small side streets to save money. Then what? Permits introduced to side streets at a small fee for residents. When does this greed stop?

this will have an adverse effect on the shops in bitterne.

This will drive business away from independent businesses and push traffic into residential areas

Going to be the death of local shops if proposals go ahead!

You are not taking into consideration the people that need cars to get around. Your proposal will lead to local shops closing due to lack of trade. Not everybody can ride bikes or walk to get their shopping.

Yet another charge on the motorist which will hit local traders at a time when they are struggling

Marlborough Road North car park (free parking for 2 hours) is the lifeline of the small traders and customers because in 2 hours I can visit up to 8-10 different small shops and be able to carry up to 4 carrier bags of goods to my car ( just about). So please think carefully before imposing this tariff.

It will deter people from using local shopping areas. This will lead to loss of local retail outlets. Bus services are not a viable alternative.

Free parking is needed.

I think that this will be damaging to local businesses as people will be less likely to park due to charges, this will also lead to people parking on residential roads causing upset with the neighbours , this can also lead to unnecessary car parks taking up space when it is already limited in Southampton.

I won't use the local shops, library, pharmacy or post office if I have to pay to park my car in a cost of living crisis. I'll order online only or drive to Bursledon Tesco.

My mother is waiting for a knee replacement operation, so can't walk to the shops but is not eligible for a blue badge. I think this disadvantages anyone with mobility issues.

People will avoid paying for the car parks by parking in other local road clogging those up.

Free parking for two hours important to keep small local businesses going and to avoid more traffic in city centre or in out of town retail parks. Not everyone can walk or take the bus with heavy shopping or mobility issues.

It will hugely damage trade for the shops in these areas. When I use them it's popping in for 10-15 minutes so not worth even the admin hassle of paying for parking.... Particularly when free parking can be found at other businesses within a 5 minute drive.

Implementing charges on these areas will decrease footfall and revenue to the local shops and further deter people from visiting the area, including people like myself who would then rather

travel further and pay more in places like gunwharf for a much better selection of things to do and places to shop. The only thing that keeps me using local places is price and parking right now

At least keep 2hours free parking. Having to pay puts us off going into bitterne/woolston .. more shops will close

It will kill off any local businesses left.

This would impact small businesses and people who rely on their cars to use the shopping facilities in portswood

Kill the local community... it's easier to drive to Whitley than Southampton with 4 hours free parking , no bridge fee .. let Bitterne & woolston stay free parking

This will be devastating to all the small businesses

SCC seem to have no consideration for the many residents for whom a car is the only means of shopping. Let alone visiting friends, attending health appointments, and business or leisure pursuits. We cannot walk the long distance to bus stops. We can't ride bikes or scooters. These measures consign us to spending the rest of our lives sat in our homes having to order goods and food online. The resultant psychologically debilitating effect of this compromised lifestyle are profound and will put additional strain on the NHS.

What they propose will reduce the footfall to local shopping centres and, very sadly, mark the death knell of many wonderful, unique small businesses. But maybe that's what the Council are aiming for. It certainly appears that way.

Free parking is essential for local business and residents and unfair to those on low income households. Removing free parking will hurt local independent businesses and potentially create congestion around the area. I hope this isn't just another cash grab by a council who doesn't prioritise the people it is working on behalf of.

It is extremely hard for the majority of people to survive these days with the cost of living, council tax rises and everything else, please, please don't do this to us.

Charging for a short period is crazy, I often pop to bitterne or Portswood to pick up a few things or to drop stuff off at the charity shops.

The 1hour and under charges will essentially stop anyone from doing that and will effectively make Portswood and bitterne a ghost town as the small shops will not survive, you might as well shut everything down and sell it off now.

You are hobbling those with mild mobility issues as well, and making the quick pop to pick something up completely untenable - it's madness..

I am part of a local amateur theatre group with our own studio premises in Shirley. We regularly rehearse and have backstage and maintenance activities in the evenings and at weekends.

If we have to pay to park every time we go to the studio the costs will really mount up and prevent people from coming out to help or attending our shows depriving us of revenue.

The car parks are often quiet from 19:00 anyway so bringing in charges will raise barely any revenue and will just hurt small businesses like restaurants and clubs in the area who rely on evening trade.

Please reconsider these proposals and scrap the introduction of evening parking charges to help ordinary people and small businesses

It's not visitors to the city who will be affected, it's local residents.

Because car tax is already going up nearly double. This could also cause people their jobs, not being able to afford cars to get to work or pay for food. Not enough public buses running to be able to push this incentive

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### Risk to businesses already struggling

You will kill off our local shopping areas.

Being able to park quickly to pop in a local shop is their USP. On the Eastern side we will no longer be able to access Portswood shops once the bus gate is enforced, and the buses don't go regularly from Woolston to Bitterne so that isn't a reliable option for throughout the day or evening.

Driving and calling in quickly is why these local areas are valuable. So if we just want to pick up a prescription or buy a birthday card we will have to mess about paying for parking??? Or it will be quicker to drive out of town.

Do the councillors not actually live and shop locally? They clearly do not value our local businesses. I do. But I won't be messing about looking for parking payments in order to shop in Woolston, Bitterne or Portswood.

There are cruise ship passengers taking up long-term parking space in Woolston and Portswood - charge them more. They are not contributing to local economy.

I strongly oppose this. Charging for parking in district centres, eg Woolston and Bitterne, will have a huge impact on businesses and shops will close. With reference to Bitterne - where will parents drop or pick up children from school as Brownlow Avenue is already closed to traffic for 3 hours a day near the school.

### Local residents deserve free parking to keep visiting and supporting local businesses

This will negatively impact on small local shop owners and car users and will mean people using big supermarket chains who have their own carpark. This is another stealth tax on cars

Paying for parking will kill off the retailers and local businesses, it shouldn't be a privilege to park your car!

I feel it will affect the shops. People won't bother to shop locally and more small businesses will go out of business.

I feel this will stop a lot of shopping especially in Bitterne as every car park there is effected. This will also lead to every one parking on the streets in the local area, which will contribute to considerably more congestion & aggravation for the local residents.

As a long term resident of Southampton myself, I've witnessed the huge decline in council services. Being able to pop into Bitterne for a quick shop, especially on market day without incurring a parking charge has been draw to the area. Without this I am more likely to go to shopping centres outside the city.

We pay too much to park in Southampton city centre not fair to charge for Woolston

This should continue to support businesses. This will only make people avoid going to these places

I believe this is against the community spirit and charging for parking will not improve equipment.

### Yet another excuse to get more money from the ordinary person

The shops in the areas designated are already struggling for trade due to dwindling traders, let's not give people another reason to not visit. As someone who also lives close by I can also see it pushing cars into the surrounding residential streets and parking is already hard enough.

People will go out of Southampton to shop. The buses are not good enough to rely on. Free parking brings people into the area

This will be the final nail in Bitterne precinct coffin. Shoppers will just go out of town/clog up residential roads instead.

Free parking for short period of time is so useful.

I choose to go to smaller areas to shop rather than town, 1 to avoid parking fees and to keep the area alive and trading.

On a limited budget popping to pound land or savers in Shirley is very useful. Adding on parking fees maybe the extra money cannot afford.

I object to these plans. I often use the car parks in Bitterne. If the charges come in I will simply stop using them and go to Hedge End instead.

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I do not object in general. My objection is for charges on the Bitterne Carparks which are used by parents dropping children off and collecting from Bitterne Primary School and Preschool. From previous communications over the years, the council is aware that this carpark is used for this purpose and in-fact parents are encouraged to use this carpark for reasons of safety. The area outside the school is shut off for school streets and this proposal will put children at risk when parents try to park in inappropriate locations.

Some of these car parks are local shops and by making people pay parking you are deterring the public from going to these places, with Lloyd's bank closing in Bitterne this will also have a impact of footfall - these local places need to be supported and no barriers put up like having to pay to park. I hate having to faff around with meters as it is but a ticket for 2 hours free is a quick push of a button. It will certainly put me off and I would sooner drive to Sainsbury hedge end or Tesco Bursledon where parking is free to get what I need - Keep 2hrs free encourage people to local shops not deter them

People aren't using the high street enough in Shirley to support local businesses. If they have to pay / pay more it will kill the businesses.

Unreasonable and desperate. Where else can we eek out more avenues of revenue? This reeks of desperation.

Just another ill thought out, money making scheme to line the pockets of the powers that be with money extorted from people who are already struggling to keep their heads above the water financially.

Absolutely awful, another greedy way for the government to make us struggle financially even more!

Shirley high st is struggling already and paying to park will stop people coming into Shirley , they will then try to park in side streets outside people's homes or in a lot of cases illegally parking and main rd or pavements

These car parks are already in areas where shops are struggling. By doing this you will kill off the shops completely. Shame on you SCC

It will kill the shopping centers and force people to buy online . Crazy decision .

The council seem to think all motorists are easy picking for cash. Plenty of money to constantly dig up roads here there and everywhere with no coordination but oh yes, let's charge the motorist too at every available opportunity. Not everyone wants to sit on a crowded bus that goes all round the houses to do their shopping, and for a quick trip, the journey there and back by bus takes up several hours! Shopkeepers are already struggling to make ends meet. Give us a break!

Will deter people from local shops and/or encourage them to park in local residential roads, that then will in time because me permit parking at more cost to locals. Should be first 2 hrs free so keeps local shoppers and still has some income, option for commuter parking fee to n some car parks for those that park and get bus into city centre.

In Shirley people park on pavements and yellow lines with great frequency. There is little or no care that this is illegal. Introducing and enforcing car park charges is only likely to make this worse. Why not instead fine the illegal parkers, raising funds and making the streets safer.

Free parking at these locations really helps the local businesses. We don't need yet more closed businesses.

This will be another nail in the coffin to small businesses and will also affect the mental health of the elderly population who drive to suburban areas to shop and socialize. I will not pay to park to do my grocery shopping if I have an option to go where there is free parking.

My stopping any free parking means you will stop people coming to the shops and then putting them out of business

By reducing the availability of free parking more people will either shop online, which will be detrimental to local businesses, or park in residential areas which will negatively impact residents, schools etc

Our road is becoming overrun with cars already and this will exacerbate the situation if Marlborough Road is no longer free (Waterhouse Lane) . You will also stop the customers who just want to 'pop-in' on Shirley High Street for a quick browse or to pick something up. A bus from town to Shirley currently costs £2 and should be less as I can also get from town to Winchester for that price! Thank you

Local businesses are struggling enough as it is and you are driving people away from this city!

People visiting the Bitterne health centre, public library, church and nearby pharmacy will be charged to use these essential services at Commercial Street. It's not the situation I expect from a Labour council administration, Disgraceful

Shirley is a local high street for local residents, it is a bustling busy area where people come and go to do their daily tasks. The cost of living is high enough, we do not need to be charged for having to buy our weekly domestic items. It has such a varied clientele from all over Shirley with levels of both poverty and high earnings. I do not think we need to charge anybody for having access to their local highstreet.

A disincentive to visit the shops and businesses in Bitterne and Woolston.

1. It will create reduced footfall in those areas (I live in Woolston) and cause less revenue for the local businesses.
2. It will place increased costs on residents and local workers, esp those on low incomes.
3. Car users will seek free parking in nearby streets so will cause frustration and congestion for those residents
4. Families, elderly and disabled car users will find it harder to access essential services
5. Current public distrust in the councils means there is skepticism about whether the revenue from such an action will be reinvested in the local infrastructure.

We need to encourage parents/carers to park in Marlborough so they don't park too near the schools for the school run. If it becomes a paid car park they will park nearer the schools making it more dangerous for children to get to and from school. As a local resident who lives near Marlborough road carpark my road (Waterhouse Lane) will also become even more congested as people look for free parking to access Shirley High street.

This will negatively affect local businesses as people will be less inclined to pop to the shops when they face a car park charge as well.

Any local businesses close to the car parks will once again lose the small amount of business which they have. The cost of living is astronomical and people's wages are not keeping up. Young families are seriously struggling and this will not help. The impact is once more is people will default to online shopping. We ourselves are killing the high street and this will again damage it. Look to get more council revenue from the docks leave the residents alone. Charge the cruise liners for running engines 24 hours a day when in port as they are not allowed to use the national grid. It's immoral do not apply more costs to residents. It's not the answer!

I support local business and the 2 hours free parking you are proposing to end is yet another hammer blow for those businesses who rely on people travelling by car to support them. You have already made driving almost impossible in Southampton but at least the free parking makes that worthwhile. People won't get public transport to the same extent so business will suffer.

Re Westridge Road, this will just hammer a large nail in the coffin for the Portwood Road shops. As, I believe, you have granted permission for the destruction of the carpark at Portswood Centre, I'm guessing that more and more shops will be closing

The car park will be almost inaccessible for most people anyway after the Portswood road closure goes ahead.

It will raise no money for the council, as the policing of the charges will probably cost more.

I assume you just want everyone to go to Sainsbury's instead of the local shops!

I strongly object to the parking charge changes.

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This is going to have a negative impact on trade and visitors to this (once) great city. Free evening parking encourages visitors and residents to come out at night to eat/drink/socialise etc. Stop taking things away and imposing more costs on people and do something positive and good for once.

You are driving people away from the shops. Anyone shopping in Sainsbury's in Bitterness will no longer go there if they have to pay for parking to do their food shopping or any shopping. You just don't care.

I'm pretty skeptical that raising the tariffs would actually achieve any of the stated reasons - increased costs seems unlikely to deter those who need to visit their local shops, for example, especially without the robust public transport infrastructure to offer viable alternatives. If the issue is commercial vehicles taking advantage of the free parking, perhaps targeted charges would make more sense than a blanket approach?

Woolston & Bitterne suffer greatly with lack of customers to keep the business going but the main saving grace is having FREE parking so introducing payment will kill off any further trade for these shops and businesses. As for it making spaces more available there has never been a problem finding a space so the argument for payment to free up space is invalid.

It will stop people from going to shops. Not everyone us parking for two hours some of us park for max 15 minutes. West ridge rd what has the council done to keep this car park tidy?? Nothing the toilets have been closed for 15 years so what is the charge for???

Will negatively affect businesses and the less well off.

Life is already challenging and expensive and this will just stretch people's budgets even further. And will also have an impact on small businesses that rely on passing trade.

Will effect local businesses and cause closures and job losses

This will kill local businesses and damage the local community.

We pay enough parking, poll tax , Itchen bridge. Just another excuse to take money of people

I am 78 and have health problems.I cannot walk far so never go into Southampton city.I do go to Bitterne and Woolston for things like Post Office, eye tests, small amounts of shopping. We never park for long and have a small old electric car with limited mileage. We have a house which is expensive to upkeep but we cannot manage the stress of selling and buying a smaller property. We have lost our winter fuel allowance and get no other help. You now want to restrict us to never going out in the winter. We have mobility scooters but it is too cold in the winter and I am scared to leave it outside a shop in case the yobs steal it. As a council you have taken most things away from people I hope you are proud of this one.

Disgusting!! Cost of living/ house prices etc is through the roof and people are struggling to pay as it is! You will cause further depression and suicides for those that are struggling to pay for life already!!!!

The people will park on the local roads instead! This will put pressure on the smaller roads off obelisk road, more traffic to navigate round and more local residents unhappy as their parking reduced at school times

It would put me off going to these places.

Absolutely disgraceful. Already cars parked all over the place. Pedestrians in danger having to walk in the road, dodge scooters, bikes and poorly maintained pavements

People will only then park on residential streets

Charging extra for parking will reduce the footfall to local business wich inten will make business let likely to stay open and cause more loss of revenue to the council

Also it proves this council is determined to force motorist out of the city and into other city's to spend their money

Instead of puting up charges this council should be reducing them and incoraging more people into the local areas before we become a ghost town

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Terrible idea for small shopping areas that need footfall to survive. It will push shoppers towards the city centre and make that area busier, whilst damaging local businesses in the area

Peoples take advantage of the free 2 hour parking for several reasons. Mostly it is just for shopping locally in Bitterne or Woolston and sometimes cars are parked in Woolston (Portsmouth Road) or Bitterne (Lances Hill) to catch a bus into Southampton. Any additional parking frees are always paid for. This is more convenient for some people where they have a 15 minute walk to a bus stop and then have to wait 15 - 20 minutes for a bus. There is a more frequent bus service from Woolston and Bitterne. With the increase in bus fares shortly, and now this increase in parking fees, this will be an extra cost burden on people just to go shopping or to socialise for a short period in Southampton.

Either, more people will drive into Southampton where they can, causing more congestion, and then parking in West Quay or similar, or, even more detrimental to Southampton, they will drive to Whitely or Hedge End. Local shopping in Bitterne and Woolston will suffer.

Appreciate that the Bitterne car park is often full at some times of the day, but this is mainly due to Gym Members parking and school collection times. The lances Hill car park and Woolston car parks are rarely full now, or at least not at the times we use them!

You will put local high street business out of business

Loss to local businesses

Angel Crescent car park only allows 2 hrs free parking in any case and should remain. Adding charges for less than 2hrs will severely impact local businesses in Bitterne from gym, supermarket and local takeaways putting pressure on already struggling retailers. This could lead to more closures which will not be good for the local economy.

Local businesses in these areas are already struggling in a battle with online and large retailers. Adding parking charges will more than likely put people off just popping down for something quickly.

I appreciate that councils are really struggling and you could easily say, it's only 50p but the ordinary working person is being absolutely battered with increased costs everywhere and has to make choices. So spend 50p on parking and support local or buy it online with free delivery to your house or pop to a supermarket with free parking?

Measure will significantly impact local businesses

Scrapping the 2 hour free means more people will seek to find parking on nearby residential streets. People often use these car parks to pop into local shops to support them. Paying to park means people won't use them. People are being crippled with cost of living and you are just adding to it and pushing people to the bigger stores with free parking killing the local high streets off. I won't pay to park in Shirley or anywhere else for quick trips especially when the roads are terrible in the area and the state of the car parks (Shirley) with uneven surfaces and pot holes (Marlborough Road). You take and we get nothing back and people are becoming tired of this now.

I can only comment on Shirley area, there is already a huge issue with cars & vans parking on pavements & roads up Shirley high street, which will get worse if you charge for parking. It will also have a real negative impact on all shops there, as lots pop into a shop to get something quick & won't bother if they have to pay, also many take bags for the charity shops, again they won't if they have to pay to do this, also my guess is your going to make this cashless service which excludes certain people from using it. Would be better to have the 1st hour free.

These car parks are vital to the life of district centers to Impose a charge will effectively close some of the remaining stores especially in portswood as the Foot fall will fall off , So for the council to sit in the office but still cut of life line is counter productive in raising revenue. And will



the council accept that not everyone can cycle ,scoot, or have a regular bus service sort that out then attack the beleaguered driver again.

Bad affects.on local businesses and just another money making scheme at the expense of drivers

Limited mobility at present

No one will use local shops. Southampton has been destroyed by high salaried councillors. Just look at the continuing waste of time roadworks all over the City. We can't keep paying out while you line your pockets and waste our money. Listen to your residents.

I live near to Shirley and often pop in to use the local shops. I never have trouble parking behind Sainsbury's which you say needs regulating so parking spaces are available. As usual you have not visited this car park. Once again the council is wanting to penalise car users whilst pandering to cyclists who have no respect for the laws of the road.

The introduction of parking charges will not persuade me to use the bus it will make it extremely likely I will visit Romsey where I can park for free for four hours. You will do irreparable damage to the shops in Shirley and their footfall as I am sure many will feel the same way. Come on surely you can help people out in these difficult economic times but of course all you are interested in looking good because we have more( very underused) cycle lanes than anyone else.

Introducing parking charges in small local car parks will ruin trade for the surrounding businesses. People will go to the large supermarkets rather than smaller independent shops, increasing car travel times and therefore pollution. Livelihoods will be at risk and the local economy will suffer. Many people rely on being able to park close by the services they need to get to including local shops, doctors, gyms, schools, opticians etc to remove free parking will discourage people from using their local shops and this would be catastrophic to parts of our city.

While I accept that parking charges need to increase, due to rising costs of maintenance, I feel that it should still be possible to park for free for short periods of time. Perhaps make the free parking period only half-an-hour? A lot of people just want to drop off a heavy parcel to a Post Office or something else of that sort, and it is unfair to charge them for that. Also, it's a hassle paying for parking in a lot of car parks! You might not have the right change (that's another thing - the machines should give change), or you may not have a smart phone to scan & pay that way (a lot of elderly people don't - and they are probably the most likely to be affected) - most people will put up with the hassle if they want to park for a long period of time - but it seems excessive if the driver is only going to be there a few minutes.

Ridiculous increases unreasonable

I object to parking charges

Cost of living just adding to the squeeze

Facilities cost money to upkeep. Drivers always feel a sense that they should be provided with such things for free at the expense of other responsibilities from the council that they either don't use or are oblivious to. They will roll out objections such as it will close down businesses which is absolute twaddle.

Most people that visit suburban car parks park for a short period. I believe this will prevent local residents from shopping in the local areas and this will impact the shops in these areas.

There is a cost of living crisis. People are struggling enough already. By enforcing parking charges it will discourage people from going to these shops and cause more damage to the economy. If people have to park for work you are impacting them so much more

The not fit-for-purpose council strikes again. Imposing parking fees - both by removing 2hr free parking and extending the chargeable hours - does nothing for the local community you are supposed to represent. Small business owners who rely on footfall - people gone, income gone, business gone, jobs gone. Local community groups who use the car parks - communities isolated, locals health affected. Fitness groups, gyms, running clubs whose members rely on parking - communities disbanded, locals health declining. This ludicrous decision will tear the local high street apart. Instead of pulling more and more money from the local community, in a cost of living

crisis, spend your time looking at the careless council spending of our money. Represent your residents, for once.

This will put additional pressure on local businesses who are already struggling by putting customers off shopping locally

As a resident, and elderly, I need car parking to shop locally. Shirley High Street will suffer if this proposal goes through.

Myself like many other residents, use the free parking for two hours while getting breakfast/lunch or dinner on the the back of retail shopping, example The red lion, Pizza shop , irelands, Sainsbury , Poundland , superdrug, card factory , Greggs, the banks and shoe shops just a few to mention will suffer trade, I will just go to other retailers with free parking

This would stop me coming to local businesses

Why should we have to pay for parking we pay for enough

The proposed parking charges are another threat to businesses in the area. Just because the council can't manage their budget doesn't mean we have to bail them out with more charges

People that want to pop into shirley to get odds and ends will no longer get shop there so readily. This will affect local businesses and won't help them at all. People cannot afford extra charges. We already pay enough council tax etc.

I've already objected but adding additional comment as I've just noticed that the planned charges extend beyond 6pm, which would adversely affect attendance at our running club. I'm disgusted that the council think that this is a good way to claw back the financial mess they've made. This will affect business, people's access to healthcare services and leisure. I strongly oppose this proposal.

I think even more so that since cost of living has gone up, it will put people off of going to town to shop etc. also evening charges will badly effect people going out in the evening, to eat, pubs etc. so more shops, bars and restaurants will end up closing through high costs and less customers!

This will drive another nail into the heart of small businesses in each area. Woolston and Bitterne are already struggling without these charges being imposed

There should be minimum 1 hour free parking. I don't want to pay each time I visit my mother's grave in Bitterne. I also regularly pop into Bitterne for a 5 minute shop 4-5 times per week. I won't do this if I have to pay to park.

In my view this will not deliver the revenue the council expects. It will: a. funnel traffic into surrounding roads plus into Sainsbury's, Lidl and Waitrose car parks, therefore increasing stress; b. Potentially have a detrimental effect on businesses based in those areas, which could cause them to close, further diminishing the services available to local limited mobility residents. I can well visualise that this will lead to the closure of the Nationwide branch in Shirley as well, compounding the impact on local residents following other recent branch closures. It should also be noted that buses and bikes are not viable options for example if you wish to bring a bulky item to the post office. I would not be willing to pay the annual season ticket at the price proposed but how about a (for example) £50-£100 permit that allows Shirley residents to park in those car parks.

You are killing local trade with parking infractions everywhere. This city is a nightmare to get into so proposing charging for the local areas just adds to it.

We can't win with the government so we can just move cities instead. Southampton will die in time. Its already awful with the homeless, lack of things to entice people to the city.

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This is another way that people will be dissuaded from using our local shopping centres. I also doubt that any income generated as a result of these changes will end up being used as the SCC advertises. Effectively this works as another tax on the motorist, and strangely for a Labour Council (which I would otherwise support btw) it potentially adds more to our cost of living expenses, on top of the increase in capped bus fares to £3. It is all very well to hope this will encourage folks to use alternatives to cars, a really laudable intention, but I feel the uptake of that

will be far outweighed by the number of people who simply decide not to use our local shops. This suggestion removes any sense of balance. In the Portswood Broadway area, where I live, the trial Bus Gate will reduce cars through the Broadway at certain times of day - this will effectively lead fewer and fewer people to venture into what is already a suffering shopping centre (with closures etc.) So NO, NO, and again NO to these proposals

Because it will put people off visiting local independent shops in the district areas and encourage people to drive out of Southampton's. It will hasten the decline of local high streets.

I am a resident local to this area and feel this is going to be hugely detrimental to our standard of living and accessibility. As a local resident, sometimes I need to 'pop' into Bitterne for something and it's always been beneficial to have the free parking options for this. Additionally, one of the reasons given by the council for implementing these charges is to manage parking demand during periods that are currently not covered by the charging hours. In the ten years that I've lived here, there have never been any issues with parking spaces in these areas, so I do not feel this is a valid reason for choosing to implement parking charges. Further to this, the charges won't encourage making use of public transport as the majority of shoppers here live in the area. If anything, it will only encourage people to travel elsewhere in order to make their purchases, which will cause the shops in Bitterne to struggle even more than they already do. As residents, we'd like to see better shops and establishments in the High Street. Parking charges in this area will only discourage shoppers even more.

It will cost too much to police, especially after 6pm.

Will really impact local businesses and communities are already struggling financially in the current climate. Everything inflating and wages remaining low financially things are tight enough without extra outgoings.

It will have a derogatory impact has on local businesses, and taking Shirley as an example, people park in the free car park and walk the rest of the way to Foundry Lane school. I suspect a similar thing happens in other schools around the city. Removing this option will increase traffic around the school grounds.

As a Woolston resident don't agree having to pay to park your car whilst popping in shops for essentials and also Bitterne, 2 hours free parking needs to remain

2 hrs free parking allows people to spend money in local shops. The car parks are self regulating regards capacity and ability to park.

This is just a council stealth charge and is not for the benefit of the community.

Again the council see the motorist as a cash cow, it is nothing to do with making travel more sustainable, just an excuse to take cash from motorists and will increase parking in the local roads around the shopping area.

The council needs to wake up to the fact not everyone can use a bicycle, due to age or health, not everyone can use a bus, insufficient services in their area, so their only choice is to use a car.

Free parking for 2 hours allowed people to pop in pick up a few bits or their weekly shop.

If you insist in bringing in payment for parking, bring back cash parking machines, people are more likely to have a 50p or £1 in their pocket, and not everyone has a smart phone, and if they do, they are reluctant to use due to the scams, identified by the this council on the bar codes on the machines, you cannot scam cash.

Will the council compensate businesses when they start losing business due to people staying away from the shopping area.

The money raised will not be used for the upkeep of the roads, look at the state of them now, it will just be used to fill the hole in the council finances caused by bad management .

This is not about travel sustainability or environmental or improving local facilities, this is simply a cash generation scheme.

These proposals have the potential to put people off using local independent businesses with are the heart of the community in Woolston.

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Lived in Portswood most of my growing up life. Now visit Portswood daily regularly for social visits and small shopping.

Mainly due to free parking in Westridge Road car Park.

I tell you now, this will, kill of trade. And you will, have the local shop owners objecting.

Local businesses will suffer if we lose our two hour free parking, people going for appointments will suffer. If charges are to be made they need to be minimal as what does it cost to upkeep the car parks, very minimal from what I know.

This will drastically effect the local economy, people use the free parking hours to use the local shops, this is likely to mean far less footfall for businesses

The proposal to introduce parking charges in the current free parking car parks in Bitterne is short sighted. People are struggling financially in the present economic climate, so will take steps to avoid paying parking fee's. This will have an adverse effect on local business, as shoppers will find shopping outlets else where with free parking, or will park in residential area's causing, or in Bitterne's case, adding to already difficult situations for local residents with increased on-sreet parking traffic.

Parking charges will reduce people shooing in the area ! Will increase people trying to park in nearby streets Affecting shops and residents alike , and will be changed in MAY local election

This will add to the already difficult commercial climate that local businesses are navigating at the moment. It will be a false economy as you will lose commerces from the city centre when their businesses suffer due to reversing this parking policy. As a consequence you will lose business rates and all that comes back to you from a thriving city centre. A short sighted policy reversal, like many policies here in Southampton, this is not a well thought out change proposal.

People are struggling already. The people of Southampton are reaching breaking point. Not just the public but also the shops and traders will be badly affected!

Yet again it's the motorists that are targeted, there will be an affect on local small businesses. It can only be described as greed from the local council.

You will drive local people to shop out of town , putting local shops and businesses at risk of closing down , but this is what the local council wants

Absolutely insane having to pay a parking fee if I wanted to run into Sainsbury for a pint of milk. I won't be shopping in bitterne again until parking is free. I'll take my custom somewhere else.

If you can pay a CEO £200000 a year why are putting up charges. We cannot go out in the evening and travel by bus because there isn't any. During the day buses are often taken off probably due to the horrendous traffic situation in Southampton caused by this idiot of a council.

It'll stop people going to local shops.

It will the end of people visiting shopping centres, it's killing our town centre....

Present system works well and encourages and supports local trade and businesses. Thus us another nail in killing high streets.

You're spending money on a new playground At Bitterne and bringing in charges that will kill the shops and make a playground unnecessary.

This will kill trade in Portswood. My husband and I often use the cafes and like the ease at the moment of parking for free. I will no longer visit Porstwood if this plan goes forward. This could mean me adding extra damage to the environment with having to travel further.

Will stop people coming into these areas and so will eventually have an effect on local business so more businesses will close. All the council seem to be doing is stopping people using cars, if this is the case they need to get more public transport and reduce the fare prices

There is very little free parking left. It hurts local businesses!

I am a pensioner and can barely afford anything these days - certainly not extra car parking charges which are being levied to rake in money. I already pay enough money in council tax, thank you.

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If charges are brought in on suburban car parks I will not shop there any more. I dare say a lot of other people will stop parking there too, thus killing the high streets all because the council were greedy. I suggest you think again.

As a pensioner like losing the winter fuel by the penny pinching labour government the labour council is doing the same penny pinching from the people who can least afford to pay the parking charges. It also puts people off from the shops as their customers cannot afford the parking. It is unfair and not good for local business or customers want to use the car park

If the number 7 was more frequent people will travel by bus and not car park. It is also very unreliable. People are being late for this reason.

Damage to use by parents of children at Bitterne Cof E school at pickup and drop-off  
Damage to residents of nearby roads whose environment will be harmed by drivers parking in their streets. We live in Downside Avenue

Damage to the viability of Bitterne District Centre, which is essential to the wellbeing of many local residents

Damage to use of Sainsbury's as drivers will be prompted to park at Hedge End and Portswood stores. There is a risk to the viability of Bitterne Sainsbury's. It is our local supermarket and its loss would harm us all, especially local older and disabled people

Damage to the viability of Puregym, which is my local gym and key to my health and wellbeing

Will stop people visiting the high street and result in more places closing

Enough is enough ! People have had enough of labour PROMISES and LIES AND NOT GOING TO CHANGE

Local business will be affected

As a member of the church and a local resident in the area I'm extremely unhappy about the prospect of charging people to visit the listed carparks. I frequently pop into Bitterne and have done my whole life- I am very concerned that charging people will have a detrimental effect on both the shops and people visiting. I also attend Holy Saviour Church and from your current proposed plans it will cost me hundreds every year to attend my own church.

I live on Ruby Road myself and a secondary concern of mine is that people will park along my residential road and walk into Bitterne to avoid the charges. This will potentially mean access is blocked to residential properties and more traffic surrounding the area. I also think I will struggle to park in my own driveway.

I would very much like these charges to be reconsidered.

I'm a local trader and this will result in lost business

I am disgusted at the proposal to introduce parking when this is just a 'get rich quick scheme' as posed to considering the needs of Bitterne village. The footfall has been in decline for years and the economy of Bitterne is hanging by a thread, business will close, because employees who work in Bitterne, like the estate agents, who need quick access to vehicles for appointments will not be able to afford these charges and employees/business will crumble. There is no other consideration for these charges other than finding ways to make money for the council who we all know are struggling. But these charges will have a knock on effect. Businesses will leave, the council will not generate any revenue from business rates and the units will become abandoned as well as the parking. As a resident of Bitterne, and an active church member, you will isolate people from attending church, the overall footfall will decrease because of these charges. I'm sorry to say Southampton City Council, but you have really let yourself down here. If you do this, you will destroy Bitterne and it will fail

Free parking is essential for local businesses

I will have to park outside some one's house where it is free causing more issues for local residents unless the timing can be restricted and not charged for after 6pm.

These car parks have been free for decades and I see no valid reasons other than greed for charging to park in them.

Local business are struggling, with these new tariffs, it will kill the high street. Public transport is NOT good or affordable enough to rely on. If you want people to use the high street and local shops don't murder it!

My running club meets at the Woolston feather on Tuesday and Thursday evenings at 6:45pm, with many of our members parking in the car park next to it (the car park is usually empty at this time!) If the parking is now not free after 6pm, then members will be faced with £120 + of parking charges a year.

Many members attend club so that they have someone to run with during the dark evenings, for social/mental health reasons and as a way of keeping fit. These extra charges are an added expense will prevent people from being able to do that.

These car parks have been free for years and I see no good reason for this to change other than to make money, and to stop cars coming into these local areas.

The oakbank car park is crucial to several community based running clubs. Removing the free evening charges will decimate attendance for these clubs, and likely see them fold

Stop putting so many cycle lanes in the city and save your money that way. Penalising the motorist, families and everyday people is crazy!

As Chair of a local Running club that has been using Oakbank Road cp twice a week for the last 10 years, the provision of a charge being levied for use after 18:00 will be the death knell for our club. The councils argument that this will allow for extended use by others does not hold for a cp that other than evenings when we run or Southampton Fc are at home is largely empty, especially as at present it is free, why would people suddenly park there because they now have to pay for the privilege.

The cost and regularity of public transport is also a block to its use. With many of our members living between 5-10miles from our meeting spot of the Millenium gardens in Woolston their average yearly cost for attending two club sessions a week would be £80-100 a year. With more challenges on household incomes this may make this untenable for many of our members and thus mean our club is no longer a viable option.

In a time when we are all advices to exercise more to help reduce the strain on the NHS the effect of members stopping running could be huge on their physical and mental health.

With this in mind I ask you review the addition of this parking tariff and remove it from the agenda.

Regards

Chair of Itchen Spitfires Running Club

As a local to one of these car parks this will stop me regularly shopping in the local area therefore another knock to the economy..

I'm sure this will be the thoughts of many. Small businesses don't stand a chance and business is hard to come as it is.

People will no longer use local shops they'll go to out of town superstores and therefore small businesses will suffer very shortsighted of the council

Heavily involved with local running club relying on local free parking. This would destroy our club Will impact local business with potential to encourage shoppers to pursue areas with free parking. Parents use angel crescent car park to drop off children to nearby school this will create more traffic on surrounding roads.

Commercial street - used heavily by patients attending appointments at bitterne health centre. No onsite parking available at the health centre for patients and limited parking on surrounding roads.

Impact users of local libraries and churches

This will stop people visiting the area's then the shops will close!!

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It will discourage local shopping and activities, I already pay enough taxes and charges

Stop hitting people with taxes. There are many businesses in Woolston that rely on people from outside the city. My dentist is in Woolston and I don't need any more costs loaded onto me. Before implanting any new taxes/charges, consult with business owners. If a majority reject your proposals, then scrap them.

These areas are already dying in front of our eyes, if you start to charge for parking that will accelerate, I thought the idea was to encourage growth, obviously not !

It's just yet another way to get at drivers

There's nothing left for free in this life a free bit of parking shouldn't be taken away from the public. Day to day living is costly enough

You want to encourage drivers to consider alternative forms of transport. Driving in Southampton is a nightmare it took me 1.5 hours to get from my house in Woolston to the general hospital - and when you get there it costs an arm and a leg to park.

All this will do is make people decide to go elsewhere and the few local businesses which are left will close due to lack of customers.

Another anti motorist proposal from this Labour Council!!

Car owners should not have parking subsidised by the non-car driving population.

Private car journeys need to be discouraged/penalised. Demand needs to be managed

Parking should be free to safeguard businesses. Labour council can give 2000000 pounds, to director. yet they no idea how the public feels about traffic ..and I take nearly 6 months to repair road when in Japan they can repair the road within week ...all these signs about road closures..yet no ones working ..

As a running club, we meet in Woolston twice a week. Introducing these charges will mean that we are not safely able to get to club midweek evenings with public transport and the only alternative will mean a considerable increase in cost across the year, with parking fees. This will have an impact on finances and mental health.

Will impact on shopping in the areas

I use oak bank road car park to join my running club (itchen spitfires) weekly and find the charges ridiculous.

I attend a running club that meets at The Feather just next to the car park in Woolston. Many members park there in the evenings because they come straight from work. Charging us will impact on our members who are engaging in an activity which has positive benefits for our mental health and wellbeing as well as physical health. From a wider perspective this is saving the council money.

Additionally local businesses are really struggling given the cost of living crisis and cuts imposed by the new Labour government, charging for parking will decrease footfall in Woolston impacting these already precarious businesses.

Charging for parking in Bitterne and Woolston will stop people visiting small businesses, causing them to go out of business

Maskers theatre company (amateur) have premises close by, in Emsworth rd. we rehearse in the evenings and use the car park. It will be very expensive for our members, if they rehearse 3 nights a week. We are a community group and perform regularly to our audience. 5 shows a year. It will I am sure, discourage people attending, if they are on a tight budget. Surely we need to encourage people to visit our high street, not discourage. Another nail in the coffin! ☹️

This will stop people visiting much needed areas. Also our running club use the car park in Woolston and this will impact greatly on club members, costing additional money every week that some of just don't have and will impact on safety.

This is really not the way forward. It is already not appealing to go shopping in places like Bitterne. If you take away the two hours free parking it will definitely have a bad effect on the shops trying to trade there.

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This will reduce local shopping in the area deserved by those car parks. It will dissuade me shopping in Bitterne after work for example and instead i will shop somewhere with their own car park where those charges dont apply. I support ecological initiatives but i find this one detrimental and local shops/business will be greatly affected with less footfall. The 2 hour free car park need to stay in place.

Not good for local business

You're going to finish off small businesses and shops as people will not visit as much and everything is so expensive as it is!

This will cripple small businesses across Southampton as people will not pay

Will prevent local clubs and social events taking place. Particularly in the evenings. Also will impact school drop off safety happening in Bitterne.

I'm very angry as they get people for parking a few minutes after there tickets run out , I had to turn in a bus lane and got a ticket too I only just turned as I saw it was a bus lane still got a fine as the camera got me . I think they get to much money for fines as well as car parks and if they charge in evening too all the local businesses that pay a lot for rent tax etc will close down . I lived in Spain and they never charge for any parking at anytime and that encourages people to go to towns day & night it keep all the shops and restaurants open , there's nothing worse than getting to Southampton town in the traffic then trying to find parking then paying for it ,That's £7 you have to pay before you get to town . Mybe they should look at trying to encourage people not the other way round as I think all the businesses will flourish.sue steel

There wii be an increase in people parking outside houses so blocking access also clog up roads. So still accessing free parking for a longer period. I like others use the car parks in Shirley and bittern and like others if we have to pay will stop using the local shops.

I attend a running club in woolston and feel that having to pay will

- 1) have an affect on the numbers that attend our group
- 2) affect people mental health as they won't be able to attend
- 3) if we attend our running group twice a week we will be paying £120.00 in parking fees for the year
- 4) parking should be free to help support the local community and business
- 5) I pay enough in council tax to support the upkeep of car parks and the toll bridge
- 6) why is it fareham offer free parking after 6pm and Winchester has free parking in the city all days Sundays but this Council drain oney from their residents
- 7) free parking in the surrounding areas will keep traffic down if bus links are frequent into the city
- 8) the council need to budget better and stop wasting money amd then expecting residents to pay for this bad choices

There is already a lack of available and affordable parking in the local area. This introduction of charges will undoubtedly affect local businesses which are already struggling due to other traffic related issues in the city. Given the appalling state of the roads in Southampton, coupled with the equally appalling planning and execution of repairs and works, I strongly oppose these suggested changes.

No one will afford to go shopping in town if they have to pay extra for parking. Even a quick stop to get some bread and milk.

Small businesses will suffer as people won't pay so won't visit

It will drive people away from coming to the shops



### Woolston shops need support

I am a Woolston resident and member of Itchen Spitfires running club. The club meets at the feather in Woolston twice weekly and is a superb club for meeting friends whilst running and helps mental health through exercising which is a major issue nowadays. The club membership had grown recently and the prospect of evening parking charges which have always been free being introduced is likely to deter those on low incomes from attending if they Don't live in walking distance. The prospect of these charges on top of the two Itchen bridge toll Increases recently is ridiculous during a cost of living issue.

What's your reasoning for charges..? Not everyone can do a full shop by bus together with other needs...just to do shopping and meet a friend for coffee, get medication. So you're going to push people to park in all the side roads . How do you think this will affect local residents. Family visiting. But no doubt you've already decided what the outcome will be!!!

I think this will encourage the use of public transport or active travel.

This will destroy BITTERNE i for one will go to Portswood sainsburys instead, i usually pop in other shops, just another way for the council to punish and bleed drivers

It is not good news for residents and local businesses. I use the car parks on a regular basis

Small business will suffer , pay for long term parking yes but keep charges as they are.

The new charges will deter people from attending community events held in Woolston, Bitterne and Sholing especially those of an evening when more than 2 hours is needed to park.

People can not afford to pay for parking and so will likely reduce their social participation. This includes myself - I won't be able to afford to park at my run club and dance group events in Woolston and Bitterne.

The proposal to use public transport instead is not satisfactory, adding yet more cost. The very poor bus and train services create additional stress and discomfort for people.

This is going to massively impact small businesses as it will push drivers to go to stores with free parking which are larger chain businesses. This is a poorly planned way to just try and milk more money out of the public and will push more people to shop in other locations like Whitely due to the constantly increasing cost and time needed to shop in Southampton

Charging for these car parks would be bad for local shops in Bitterne and Woolston and impact Saints matchdays too

Free car parking allowances are essential to support local high street communities. Introducing mandatory payments to local car parks will significantly reduce footfall to the smaller high streets impacting local business, which is already struggling.

The removal of free evening parking after 18:00 is also completely unacceptable. In general parking fees will push people to find alternative on street parking but particularly in the evening which will have a significant impact on local residents. Furthermore, Southampton city outskirts parking allows people to park outside of Southampton city centre to walk in or use public transport to access the city centre. Increases to charges in these location will remove that emphasis pushing more people to use the city centre further increasing traffic and congestion.

In Woolston in particular you have also just increased to toll bridge fees which are meant to be supporting road maintenance (still waiting to see that!) but in general the council should be better utilising the funds provided than having to charge local residence to access local high streets.

I wholeheartedly object to this proposal, I hope for a change you actually listen

It will put even more financial pressure on people who are already struggling. It will stop people from visiting shops in Woolston and affect businesses there. A lot of events taking place in

evenings will be affected like club runs, dance and fitness classes. It will exclude a lot of people from taking part in community events.

Southampton is a retail centre for many people. High street retail is a major employer and many people live locally. Free car parking next to local shopping centres is necessary to attract footfall into the local centres. The government have imposed significant extra costs on high street retailers through the budget and the loss of customers which will follow the introduction of parking charges will encourage customers to move their shopping to areas where charges are not imposed.

The steady stream of people travelling from Southampton to Hedge End will further increase and these proposals will ultimately result in further job losses in Southampton.

I would have thought that after the reaction to the budget, the Council would begin to think very carefully about its actions and recognise that increased taxation has a negative impact on business activity.

Killing off local business trade at a time when people are counting every penny both as traders and shoppers, because the council cannot wisely control it's budget/spending. Always hitting the little people in their pocket, with no doubt extortionate rises in council tax to look forward to next year. You are rapidly shooting yourself in both feet.

This is terrible, please keep this car park free 😞

We use it 2 x evening every week to join our running club. There is no reason to impose a charge in the evening. I feel we would be penalised for exercising & socialising.

It would be a very bad decision, please reconsider the implications of this decision.

Incredibly unreasonable. Part of a local running club who uses the car park in woolston twice weekly. I can tell you now I will not be using the car park if evening charges are enforced and therefore this will affect my fitness and mental well being by not attending the training sessions. There is no need to charge for evening parking when no local facilities are being used. The running group itchen spitfires is a staple part of the local community, who bring local individuals together. I fear the introduction of parking fees may cause this group to disband. Please reconsider local communities are far more important and valuable than minimal revenue.

It will affect people parking there and this will impact the local businesses even more

If SCC want to help businesses within the central areas of the city, this will not be a good idea. At least finish the day and give free parking after 6pm.

Will kill of shopping in Bitterne, make it difficult for us old people to get to shops.

Stop this nonsense of increasing parking charges, people can not afford any extra cost to their monthly outgoing. How much money the council are saving for not cleaning the streets.

How can we encourage foot traffic to these local areas if we put charges in place!! This is a sure fire way to say goodbye to the high street!!!

If this goes ahead it would be the death of any small local business. The car parks are used for quick shopping, 5 mins here and there.... Whichbucksnap the small stuff. We have already killed off much of southampton, why are we looking to do more damage to the local economy....

It will divert customers to the larger retailers where parking is free

You will loose all local trade, shops will close and you will ruin communities. I rarely go into town as the charges are to high. You are just being greedy.

This will have a damaging effect on my business. Customers use the car parks in Woolston to visit our practice. The bus service is a shambles, what choices do my customers have? They will likely visit elsewhere. This will have an impact on the business community in Woolston. Shame on you for not supporting us.

I do not agree with all these parking charges that you are going to put in place in Bitterne/Woolston area's. Car owners pay enough with fuel, tax & running costs. All the

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businesses in these area's will be losing customers & will go out of the city to do their shopping. Support local shops in every way that you should

Where I live the bus is not accessible. As a woman I do not feel safe to walk to Woolston/Bitterne, so I can go shopping, use the gym and at night to go to my run club twice a week, that is why i use my car. Apart from that, the impact on the local businesses is to be taken into consideration

I work in a local Podiatry/ chiropody practice. Our clients come to us and find it easier with the adjacent free parking , even if it was free for 1 hr would be very beneficial to these clients, that are already struggling . I do feel it will affect a lot of the local businesses too.

If you introduce charges in Bitterne I will shop at Portswood or Hedge End Sainsburys instead so the other shops at Bitterne will not see my wallet.

I'm a member of Itchen Spitfires running club and we regularly meet in Woolston in the evening. Charges will create an unnecessary hassle that will put off membership to a group that does so much good for people's mental health and wellbeing.

Evening charges is just greedy and unfair to the night time economy when businesses are already struggling. I'm also assuming you will pay enforcement officers to check car parks so I can't imagine the net benefit to you will amount to much.

I feel that the businesses in bitterne would be badly affected. I don't feel there is currently enough there to warrant paying for parking so would deter a lot of people from going there at all. I am a member at pure gym which i may reconsider if i have to pay every time i go and i wouldn't feel safe as a woman walking there after dark.

I really feel that there shouldn't be charges at the one in commercial street as it is used by the doctor's surgery and they don't have a car park. Some patients may not be able to afford this and I don't think it's on a bus route. It is also used by visitors to the library, a lot of whom are elderly and walking may not be an option. There are also local groups for elderly, children etc at the library and church hall that may really suffer.

I really feel that any benefit you would get by the income of these charges would be massively outweighed overall when you look at the bigger picture.

As an local business manager we are facing tough enough times as it is. With increase costs imposed by the recent budget our customers face increased costs to. Further parking charges will only impact small businesses further i really dont see how any of this is viable.

We are a small business operating from Portsmouth Road, Woolston and we run a Chiropody Clinic for the local population. Many who come are elderly and often have to rely on transport from loved ones; with the rising costs of every day living, recent increases generally all over with utilities, fuel, food, loss of fuel allowance and pension cuts and allowances, patients are already adjusting appointments to space out further because of financial burdens. Many find the 2 hour free parking extremely helpful and often comment about the benefit of this. I feel it will just add further financial burden to the population if increases are introduced and the 1 hour and 2 hour free facility is removed from the street parking bays and car parks.

It will have a negative impact local shops, many of whom are already struggling to survive, driving more people towards online shopping.

It will also be detrimental for sporting activities in the area - gyms and running clubs where members would not necessarily feel comfortable about waiting for public transport (if available) on their own

I feel it's unfair you should be charged in the evening for parking. In particular I am an active member of the Spitfire Running club that meet at the Feather in Woolston twice a week in the evening, so people of all ages can keep fit and remain active (reducing costs for the council longer term!) and it feels unfair we should be penalised for being active and trying to lead healthier lifestyles. As many members travel from across the city to take part in sessions, the car park can be well used by members. Running as a group is even more important during the winter when it is not always safe to run alone, especially, sadly, for females, so these types of clubs should be

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supported and not indirectly penalised by changing policies. I know finances are tight for the Council but it is unfair to ask people to keep to shelling out more and more. This type of policy will only increase already limited, on street parking.

#### We need free parking

These out of town shops will suffer as less people will pay to visit. Local streets will become hard for residents to park.

I will visit Shirley less often as a result and do my Sainsburys shop elsewhere as it will be harder to park in the free car parks

Parking on double yellow lines along adjacent roads and near junctions is already a problem and this will only make it worse. Woolston is a popular location for lower income local residents and having a parking charge will put people off shopping locally particularly if they are unable to walk to the high street. There are enough parking charges in town and I am already unconfident about how the council is spending money locally. For example, traffic easing measures on swift road nobody either needed nor asked for instead of using those funds to prevent suicidal jumps from the Itchen bridge on what seems to be a weekly basis. Please consider the actual needs of the council tax payers rather than trying to extract more money however possible without considering wider consequences.

So many people use this especially the elderly what ever next

Yet again another reason for people to avoid the high street and local business, when is this labour government going to realise what's needed to keep the city alive, people, spending money with local businesses going to local people.

Bitterne just about survives with a continuing fall in foot fall. The investment / regeneration in the town seems pointless as people wont pay to come in to town for parking. They will just shop online. The use of the gym will fall dramatically. Also you will only encourage parents to block roads as they try to park in surrounding roads to collect children from the school. It would be better not to regenerate, saving money that way than introducing parking payments. I only use Bitterne for the cheaper shops with free parking. Couldn't you just allow 1 hour free with a ticket, then start charging?

#### Not good

Toll bridge is already at ridiculous prices parking NEEDS to be free

If these proposals are put into action they will seriously damage small businesses forcing some of them to close down.

Considering that the car parks are used by residents on extremely low incomes for purposes of visiting health care sites etc, I think it's wholly unfair and inappropriate to considering imposing these parking charges.

#### I don't feel it's necessary

Charging for parking will discourage people from shopping in local centres. We need to encourage more shopping in the local centres such as Bitterne otherwise all that will happen is that people will go to retail parks and this will be damaging for the high streets, the small businesses in these areas and for jobs.

Having to pay for parking will have a detrimental effect on local shops who currently face so many difficulties just trying to stay in business.

To impose a charge for these car parks would have catastrophic consequences for the businesses in the area. Places like Bitterne and Portswood already struggle to get the footfall and introducing these charges would be ludicrous. You are currently investing in the improvement of Bitterne Precinct, why would you then deter people from shopping there by introducing the charges?! Absurd!

Unnecessary to implement charges for stays under 1 or 2 hours. This will adversely impact the poorest, hardest

This will discourage people from using these areas to shop. They will go elsewhere or online. It will be the death of Shirley and Portswood. Bus services aren't up to par so it's no alternative

The shops in these areas are already struggling to keep going this will keep people away and reduce their turnover and will likely close businesses. You should be trying to encourage people to these areas not discourage them from going

It is hard to find reasonably priced parking in Southampton areas and to put prices up or start charges will force people to stop visiting gp surgeries, health centres for appointments or even local libraries or groups which will have a worse effect of local health as well, as the economy

As a resident of Woolston, I can only speak for how it will impact locally, but without doubt the same will be true for other areas too. One, people will look for the alternative. This will not be to get the bus, get a deathtrap scooter or to walk. Those who drive will just find somewhere else to park - and this will be the residential Streets nearby. On roads not suited to lots of extra traffic, causing extra hassles for the residents and the risk of conflict due to the lazy attitude of people, and lack of compassion when they park over / semi-over a residents driver. I am a resident of Portchester Road in Woolston. You should see the state of parking in this road when the school (St Patrick's) finishes and when the Saints are at home. I fear it would be an even more common occurrence

Will decrease even more people coming to shop in areas that desperately need customers. Don't know how the Council think these little independent shops can keep trading. How about some help from the Council - just for a change??? Why should we, the public, have to bail out the Council yet again. Fuming!!

I have no issue with parking charges but those charges should finish at 2000 not midnight.

You want to support the venues in Southampton which in turn help with council funds you need to be aware that if people have to pay to park after 2000 they will chose to get a taxi rather than a bus as our bus services are not reliable enough by far.

Charging for parking until midnight means higher costs in wages for staff to work unsocial hours to monitor the car parks.

As for the money going to the upkeep of car parks and roads etc try using your share of road tax for what is it supposed to be used for which is the upkeep of roads.

Better still. As a council stop wasting monies, which by the way belongs to the tax payer, on schemes that do not help local communities in a effort to make someone in the council look good.

There have been no real changes made to benefit the people of this city for many years although there have been many additional charges levied.

It is very difficult to get to Bitterne by bus from Weston. It will put me off shopping and going to the Christmas tree light in Bitterne . Also will put me off shopping in Woolston especially with heavy loads( eg paint etc )

Our running club meets at the feather in Woolston on Tuesday and Thursday evenings, and the nearby car parking is vital for our members to get safely get to and from club particularly as for much of the year it is dark. The club serves as an important outlet for the physical and mental health of its members and although every effort is already made to ensure car sharing is in place already, punitive parking charges at a time where the cost of living is impacting many of our members will restrict access to this valuable resource. While I'm supportive of the idea of disincentivising car travel to provide cleaner air for our city, I'm not convinced this particular scheme is the right one. Improving cycle lanes and bus routes would be a better initiative.

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Simply pointless. People aren't using these car parks for city centre trips, they are small car parks in low income areas. People will end up needing to sleep in tents in the paid parking spaces after selling their houses to stay alive !

In this economic crisis it is hard enough to make ends meet, let alone adding additional parking charges which was once free with a time limit.

This would also put small businesses at risk, as this would be an extra cost just visit your local shopping high street.

If public transport was affordable, efficient, clean and not an attraction for inappropriate behaviour to take place, then it might be considered..: my daughter was inappropriately touched by a male on public transport she was aged 23 at the time, the police, and Blue Star did not take it seriously. She has not taken public transport by herself since then, this episode has affected her mental health

I think this will have a huge negative impact on the shops in Bitterne, Shirley and Woolston, I will simply drive to the bigger stores where free parking is available. I certainly don't want to add an extra £ or more every time I need to fill a small shopping list

We shouldn't have to pay for parking to get to shops, we live here, just making money, making everyday life harder, give something back, don't keep taking

Local shops need local people. Not everyone can afford parking charges and once they are in place everyone knows they will increase substantially. Also if they are made card only, again more shoppers will be lost.

You will negatively affect the small local businesses by taking away free parking. You will give business to the supermarkets that offer free parking if you shop there. It is a stupid idea. You will also send more people into the city centre.

Local businesses will be severely impacted creating empty precincts.

My first reason: It is against custom to have to pay for parking. Since the high street was developed it has had free parking. I have always used the free car parks. As custom trumps council policy and legislation it would be clearly illegitimate to change this custom. Please see the authoritative book: William Blackstone, Commentaries on the laws of England. Section the third, Of the LAWS of ENGLAND. II. 3.

My second reason: No impact assessment has been carried out as to the economic impact for the businesses in the area.

My third reason is that it is unreasonable to destroy the businesses foot traffic. Many shoppers in the daytime are elderly and depend on their vehicles.

The car parks have provided free parking for decades and should remain so. There should not be a charge for every single car park in Southampton. This is just greed, we pay enough Council tax. Continuing in this fashion will only drive shoppers away & the shop owners will suffer in the long run and could potentially close. I will not shop in Shirley if I have to pay to drop items off to the Charity shops & I certainly will not carry large items on a bus at my age!

Will possibly affect local businesses and put people off visiting Southampton

The new charges will deter people from attending community events held in Woolston, Bitterne and Sholing especially those of an evening when more than 2 hours is needed to park.

People cannot afford to pay for parking and so will likely reduce their social participation. As a runner, this will prevent a lot of people from attending, which decreases the number of people running together, so especially during winter times, safety in large numbers will be compromised.

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The proposal to use public transport instead is not satisfactory, adding yet more cost. The very poor bus and train services create additional stress and discomfort for people.

Free parking in suburban areas encourages people to shop there and although proposals are not introducing high charges for short stay it's still has potential to effect shops in the area and drive people away ... there should always be some free parking up to 2 hours - it makes sense for those just popping to the area - are you trying to completely drive people away !!

If you take this away from the car parks I. Shirley then people will try and park on streets and also use Sainsbury's car park which in turn could end up with them charging too !

Parking and charging drivers is getting beyond a joke! My daughter lives in emergency accommodation and because of the extreme parking charges in Southampton she has to park her car a mile and a half away because she can't afford to park where she is staying and risking herself as she has to walk in the dark to get home! Disgusting!!

Another death fell for local businesses

Sufficient revenue is taken by the poor motorist. Its unfair being penalised all the time.

Please no more money grabbing schemes to hit motorists. I want to see the councils current finances breakdown to the penny on what our current council tax is paying for. Tackle your own waste in council spending and leave these money making schemes out of any further proposals.

It is terrible for local business, it forces them out of business and leaves another generic high street of no interest and cheaper at hedge end. Southampton will become Now'tHampton, and GhostHampton by 6pm.

I have lived in Bitterne for over 20 years and used the car park many times I can't believe you are going to start charging people to park Our Poll Tax Road Tax and Car Insurance have all risen along with everything else

making it really difficult for people to live Why must you keep pushing people to pay more ? It's so unfair when the services and facilities we pay for gets worse and the extra money doesn't improve that particular service or facility

I am a Member of Maskers Theatre Company based in Shirley. Parking charges will adversely affect our members during rehearsals and performances. The charges will adversely affect audience members who often use bars and restraunts on performance nights. The knock on effect will see a downturn in local trade. It is bad for local traders and jobs.

I would not visit those surburban shops as the additional cost would make it not worthwhile. Plus the likelihood of forgetting and getting fined is too high. When yo7 introduced the pay after two hours. We all knew you would slide into charging. It's very underhand and another form of taxation.

This will kill small business trade they rely on this for a living

It's been a free car park for most of my living in Bitterne, I do remember one car park there did charge for a short while, but this soon reversed as nobody parked there. It will kill the village, which is already struggling, as most banks have left it will kill it even more.

I think parking is extortionate enough without this charge and i think this will be the end of small businesses in smaller areas such as woolston, Bitterne etc,

The question is are you in support of local businesses?

This will effect my cost to go to work and the ability of patients to the podiatry clinic in Woolston to attend for their appointments, they will now have to pay to park.

Also this will reduce my quick trips into Shirley high street to the shops there as I will not be able to park for free for sometimes a 10 minute shop. So I will do less shopping in the local high street shops.

I think having a reduction of the free time limit to one hour will prevent people not using the car parks at all, whilst also increasing the revenue.

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Is the Council SO in debt and badly run you have to do this? Shocking 🤔

Hopefully the free parking for disabled badge holders will continue.

I feel that introducing parking charges on Sundays and in the evening may reduce foot fall during these times, especially over the winter when it is dark in the evenings. As a woman, I would much rather be able to drive into the city in the evening, rather than taking the bus. Also the bus routes in my area do not continue in from late afternoon and would mean that if I wanted to get a bus into town & back I would have quite a walk to the main road. In the winter this walk is very poorly lit and I do not feel safe.

This is terrible for Bitterne.

Parents use the car parks for school collection and drop off, on their way to work. This will make parents late for work if they cannot park near the school and will make the local residential areas really busy.

This will effect local business. The council needs the business rates which will decline if businesses cannot operate and close down due to lack of customers. People are attracted to park in the suburbs and use these shops due to free parking and will go elsewhere, like Hedge End, if it's not free to use.

This parking is also used for the local church and will effectively charge people for going to church.

I think this is a really morally questionable policy and that it should be scrapped.

There will be yet further knock on effects to the surrounding roads which are free of charge

Bitterne precinct is full of empty shops, we need them to be filled, this action you propose is shocking, you should be promoting reasons to shop there not make it more difficult by having to pay to park, absolutely crazy. All I can say is roll on next May when hopefully this woeful council will be removed

This will negatively impact on patients attending appointments when they are already struggling with their own mental well-being. It will be detrimental to patients and is unnecessary

More nails in the coffins of local businesses. More penalties to motorists.

Will hurt local businesses I know I will no longer shop in Bitterne because of it, I also run with Itchen spitfires who meet in woolston and I won't be able to afford the extra costs

Will have an impact on small businesses and have you considered that on Marlborough Road south there is a preschool entrance that that car park which would effect parents/staff!!

We need to encourage people to come and shop not put them off. Shops are closing and this will negatively impact on people going out and spending money to keep these businesses going.

Absolutely terrible idea.. object object object this silliness. Very poor on the councillor who proposed this.

Struggling . Rinsed on everything, free parking should stay . Ppl don't have the money

The sustainable transport is funded by the government and the wardens are provided with EV to patrol the parking. There is no reason to increase parking charges.

Unreasonable to ask the constituents to cover your budgeting errors. This is ridiculous

I believe by charging for parking the small shops served by the proposed car parks will suffer a loss of earnings. Side streets will be used for parking causing problems for residents

Will affect local shops, small businesses elderly and disabled people.

I meet at the feather twice a week for my running club, we meet on a Tuesday and Thursday evening to run in the local area, some of us live too far away to walk and busy do not cover every area, buses will also add cost to getting to club runs, we also sometimes meet on a Sunday for social and mental health support runs, this will have a huge impact on our club.

Please don't do this.



I work at a local business and this may put our clients off from choosing our company.

Totally unreasonable plus it will be another negative action which will impact shops and employees.

I think this is yet another money grab from the council. Making the charges go until midnight? Bigger cities don't do that. Instead of fixing all of the issues the city has with traffic being horrific, you constantly try and get more money out of normal people.

Many of the car parks included in this proposal are used by people just popping into e.g. the post office, the shops etc for a couple of errands. Things that take 30mins or less. In some cases, people use the local areas precisely because they can park for free unlike in Southampton City Centre. If they have to pay for parking anyway, they're more likely to go into Southampton where there's more choice - putting another nail in the coffin of local shops.

The argument that more people will be able to use the car parks is just rubbish - most of the car parks have spaces available and plenty of turnover.

Encouraging people to use public transport etc is fine but be realistic - taking a bus to a local shopping area involves a walk to a bus stop, hanging around for a bus then at the other end, you finish your errands and then have to hang around again for a bus and then walk back from the bus stop. That all takes much longer than just getting in the car - people work and have busy lives. Just be realistic instead of trying to pretend that it's viable for everyone to get on the bus or cycle/walk etc. Incidentally I cycle the majority of the time but it's not practical when you need to transport large items and I can completely understand why people prefer to drive than cycle in the rain and wind or stand around at bus stops.

Commercial Street - introducing parking fees may deter people from attending mobile breast screening

Test

Introduction of all day parking fees (£8 per day or 6/12 monthly fee) will have the opposite effect to the one intended of opening up more parking spaces. People who work in the vicinity or use the car park as a 'park and ride' will park there all day preventing local people, potential customers and visitors from using the local facilities.

This will affect the footfall for businesses (especially small business) and thereby their profit. It's not practical to carry heavy shopping on a bus, so I will drive to a superstore to shop where I can park for free, rather than support local shops. What a shame as this will mean that eventually they will close and this will affect older & more vulnerable people in particular. Not everyone can afford to pay to park and this will hit the poor again when prices have risen substantially and we are all struggling! I don't feel the council provide a good service for the taxes I already pay.

You are surely suppose to be encouraging the public to visit the area to shop and this proposed action will leave the public to go elsewhere. The shops will suffer as a result.

This is another addition fo4 Amazon and larger corporate shops with free parking. No high street no shops no business rates, stop this before it is too late

Once again this council is actively discouraging people from using the already-dying high street shops. I probably go to Bitterne shops at least once a week to visit the pet shop. I won't be paying to park there, I'll either park in a nearby residential street or use amazon.

Have mercy on us trying to get by financially with what money we do have

This is not solving anything. It just makes people's life more miserable, not to mention how the high street shops will be affected - they need more people and people need parking.

Public transport in its current state is not appealing in the slightest. I'm sorry. I know the council is bankrupt, but you already take a lot of taxes. And what is enough is enough!

Local business are already suffering so we want to encourage people to visit these business not send them else where.

I suspect the Labour council will ignore the will of the people and business and push ahead regardless.

High Street shops are already struggling and introducing these unnecessary parking charges will basically reduce customers even further! All have an option to shop online and not pay these absurd parking charges!!!

Utter disgrace to start charging for car parking in Bitterne. Motorist being used as a cash cow for Labour government. If people are charged they will go elsewhere and All shop and services would suffer and close down and will be like a ghost village.

Labour council waste enough money doing stupid project for no gain.

Keep going this way you won't be in government long, no more votes.

In my view yet another nail in the coffin for local shops when more and more people use thr free parking in out of town sheds. as a pensioner living on a hill and with poor knees I often just pop up to Bitterne precinct for an odd item. 50p isn't a lot but add up the number of times its visited then it all adds to the cost of shopping which has risen considerably over this year.

As a user of Oakbank Rd Carpark Woolston after hours, I am appalled to learn of your intention to apply charges after 6pm. I'm a member of the local Community Club which meets at the Feather in Woolston. To add an extra £60 pa to my expenses is unfair & unjust. This Carpark is always empty after 6pm unless us, as a club are using it 2 evenings a week. There will be absolutely minimal revenue generated from this plan.

What you will actually succeed in doing is ripping the very heart out of the very community you state you are trying to help. Taxing the motorist is not the way forward.

Charging for parking in currently free car parks in Shirley.

It will impact the local stores near the car park, people will just go to places with free parking

A provision should be kept for short visits; 1 hour free parking to preserve viability of retail outlets in the area

I am objecting as a resident of Shirley and as an active member of Maskers Theatre Company. I am particularly opposed to the extension of the charging period up until midnight and think the "reason" given is unconvincing. The car parks in Shirley never get full in the evening - but do provide an important facility for the Maskers' audience, for many of whom alternative transport does not exist.

Denying local business trade

It will negatively affect the area, and drive people away from shopping locally and supporting our local shops. They are more likely to go to out of town retail parks where you don't have to pay instead.

Very unfair - will stop a lot of people shopping in the city centre and deter night-time activities. Restaurants etc. will suffer. City Centre will be a ghost town. Not everyone has access to convenient bus routes.

It will stop people from using the car parks or area at all

Will reduce shopping in these struggling areas.

Again having to sort out payment with methods eg online type being harder to use not good enough connections.

You actually don't provide a service of keeping car parks in good order so why should we pay.

Just money making all the time at our expense.

Why don't you go round & fine those that park on double yellow lines at school entrances

Negative impact on small local business, will give SCC more money to waste other not required and unpopular projects.

This will just put shoppers off and kill more struggling businesses.

It might be affordable to Councillors and high paid staff but it's another blow to the pockets of Joe public.

Whilst I live outside the Southampton Council area, I have relatives in the areas affected and regularly visit and shop there.

This will help with over rising cost of living and also not deter people coming to Shirley to shop.

small business are struggling already without putting people off by parking

Suburban off street parking places are a godsend for quick visits to local shops and businesses. The current 2 hour free parking limit is adequate for most people's needs and stops all day parking etc.

Changing this will create yet more resentment by hard pressed local shoppers who will just not bother to go shopping in those areas, thus causing a great detrimental effect on shops and businesses.

Not everyone lives near a bus route or is capable of walking any distance, especially with shopping ! Think again !

We're in the middle of a cost of living crisis with many old people unable to heat their homes. Now you want to increase their financial burden by taking away free parking. Also as a regular user of Bitterne Precinct if parking costs are introduced at Pear Tree Gardens all businesses there will be impacted. Those that are able will simply go to Sainsbury's Portswood and those that aren't will suffer. I don't understand why money is being used to develop Bitterne Precinct if you're just going to drive all the businesses away by introducing parking charges. All to force the public to fund the monies lost due to the councils mismanagement of public funds.

Yet another ill conceived initiative by SCC driven by money and trying to force people out of their vehicles and mask it as something that benefits us! Do you really take the people of Soton to be idiots? How is introducing charges going to encourage visitors? Most of the car parks in Woolston are never full any way and that's with them being free for up to two hours! They are mostly used by locals who use their cars to carry their shopping and groceries home. I'm sure the local traders aren't going to be too impressed either as you'll probably find that as a result even local residents who do their grocery shopping in Woolston will probably go to the FREE out of town shopping centres instead, such as Tesco at Bursledon or Sainsbury's at Hedge End. Oh and as a result spend even more time in their vehicles creating even more pollution! So introducing charges is likely to have quite the opposite effect to what you are suggesting you want to achieve! Also, any visitors that do come to Woolston will simply try and park on residential streets instead. And finally, SCC never spends money on Woolston anyway - the roads are crumbling, the pavements are crumbling, drains are rarely cleaned, leading to increased flooding, so it's pretty obvious this is just another way of squeezing more money out of residents at a time they can't afford it! Worst still, this is clearly yet another example of certain councillors trying to push their own anti vehicle agenda on the people of Southampton - not very democratic! But no doubt you'll introduce the charges any way!

Everything has become too expensive.

Making the drivers pay for parking on the street, will force them to go elsewhere to shop

These car parks require minimum upkeep and the tariffs suggested are well above what is required to offset the cost. We already pay enough. Won't this just put people off using the high street, with longer term economic effects

Use many shops on Shirley High Street. Most times for short periods.

Bitterne precinct is already losing businesses, this will be another nail in the coffin.

High street and local shops struggling as it is. More reason not to use!

Bitterne should be encouraging people to come here to shop. You are just building a new play area for families but then these people may have to pay for parking or even paying to get on a bus, this will impact the visitor numbers, surely the council should be encouraging people/families to come and visit the area and not have to pay for the privilege. Visitors to Bitterne have seen a steady decline what with Banks closing as well next year.

Rather than keep stinging the motorists, why don't you cut the bonuses of those within the council! Given outrageous amounts in bonuses! These car parks have always been free. They help the local shopping areas the retailer's are already struggling, there is a cost of living crisis! Its not enough that you have roadworks dotted about all over main routes in the city causing mayhem for drivers to get to said shopping areas, you want to take away the 2hr free parking! Wasting public

money hiring the likes of balfore beauty to manage road works, who half the time aren't at the site or just standing around doing nothing and the road works go on for months! Money management with in the council needs a huge overhaul!

Shirley shops already are struggling. I shall not be going there as much so coffee shops will suffer . Being a pensioner I can't carry heavy bags of shopping so I use my car

Not Everyone will be able to afford the extra charges that you are proposing. also using the buses is not valid because people will not be able to carry their shopping to the bus stops and get on because the bus will be full from town. Likewise the Train to Woolston only runs twice an hour and the station is at the bottom of Lances Hill. Therefore I am against the increase and keep the first two hours should be kept free.

I object for many reasons...

Charging for local parking is an inconvenience and unaffordable for some

People visiting church should not be penalised and shouldn't have to pay for parking to worship

Local businesses will suffer because some people may go elsewhere where they do not have to pay for parking eg Hedge End, Eastleigh, business parks etc

Local roads and free parking sites will be busier due to people parking there instead

Parents/carers dropping their children to local schools/pre-schools will have to pay for parking which is unfair or they may start parking illegally/irresponsibly instead for the few minutes they need to drop off their children and then go onto work etc which will cause congestion and Safety issues

High parking fees do not help local businesses.

Absolutely ridiculous, businesses in woolston and bitterne are already struggling. Add on parking costs and you will see people go out of the local areas to shop, you will close down businesses to earn very little.

There needs to be free parking as it is now it is completely wrong to remove this when there are a lot of people who rely on it The Southampton Council are just trying to stop people from being able to use a car and most of these people will be locked in there homes having to rely on other people to help them out.

**THESE MEASURES NEED TO BE STOPPED FORTHWITH**

We require at least 2 hrs free parking for the elderly

The council needs more money and people are obsessed with using cars for five minute nonsense trips. Make them get bikes I say.

This will stop people using local shops as they will just end up driving to larger supermarkets and shopping where there is free parking

I live in Romsey but do visit Shirley and other Southampton suburbs for shopping variety. This is likely to deter my custom.

This only encourages people to no longer visit these areas. I am tired of money being wasted on the city on vanity projects at an inflated rate, then us residents are being forced to pay for more and more services previously available to us at no charge. The evening charge itself is ludicrous when car parks are usually empty. How will this create an uptick in revenue when you kill the village high streets so the parking areas will no longer be required when the shops are all gone?

This will reduce attraction of local shops. Reduce profitability. Increase shop closures. Less Council tax from empty shops.

Will kill local business, Shirley used to be and can still be thriving. The council must stop ruining what we have

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Alternative means of transportation, cited are not adequate and should be improved first before removing free parking from so many locations, example no bus route between Sholing and portswood exists.

This will also increase usage of street side parking in proximity to these areas. Has this been factored into the proposal?

Are you trying to put people off from going to these places?  
Parking charges will kill them,

This is yet another stealth tax!

Shirley High Street needs all the help it can get, and introducing charges for short stays would be very detrimental to trade, as it would put people off from visiting, due as much to the inconvenience as to the amount.

I don't object to charges for long term parking, but not for residents and not for short stays of 2 hours or less.

I believe introducing parking charges will only serve to discourage people from visiting local businesses which are already struggling to thrive.

Introducing charges for short stays will discourage people from making short visits to local shops and independent businesses. It will divert parking to supermarket car parks which will become congested.

Parking charges will kill off district shopping once & for all. Where I live I have the choice of going left to Tesco superstore (or Hedge End) or right to Bitterne. They're the same distance from my home. I like Bitterne for the variety of shops but actually Tesco has all I need. If you bring in the parking charge I will choose Tesco. It has everything I need.

The current parking arrangement, free for the first 2 hours is fair and reasonable for people to go about their shopping & other needs in the proposed change locations. It facilitates business & removes the anxiety of paid parking, a very important benefit as people tend to conduct more business when relaxed and not under parking pressures. Introducing charges as proposed, though not high at present, will erode this and act to discourage people from using these car parks. More will try to try to park for free elsewhere, putting pressure on neighbouring streets. This opens the ability to easily increase parking fees in future which will be to the detriment of local business. There is plenty of competition locally with free parking so people are more likely to go there instead.

Woolston High Street is already hanging on for dear life, with the failure of Centenary Quay to create an additional viable retail/leisure area as had been planned, and the car parking/lack of lift maintenance in that area making it very inaccessible to people with mobility issues or prams. It's vital to make sure people continue accessing what shops and cafés are in Woolston. Charging for parking is a deterrent and a bad idea.

You are talking about charging for parking in the Bitterne area.the shops need help to get people in not drive them away.

The council are redoing the area with a children's playground and rest area.

What is the point of no one will go there.

It should stay as it is ,being able to park for 2 hours that allows plenty of time to do what they need to do

This is re

Suburban Off-Street Parking places

I have no issue with the parking prices proposed but do object to the evening and Sunday free parking being lost. This will prevent many people going into town to enjoy things such as the theatre, street events, etc.

Will bankrupt local shops.Need my car for heavy shopping .Bus poor service and comes no where near me.Taxi too expensive.Shopping helps with loneliness Does anyone cares or listen?

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This will increase parking issues in the lanes around these parking places, not allowing residents to find parking around their houses, as visitors may have parked on the streets to avoid the charges.

Should preserve the 2 hours free parking where this already applies. And you've just had increased funding for buses, use some of that to subsidise maybe?

This proposal will deter people from shopping locally in the suburbs, adversely affecting trade in those areas and potentially increasing traffic into the city centre.

2 hours is fine free, if you wanted to more you pay! Woolston is a dying area of shop, people will not pay park in woolston as nothing there and will go to town instead.

To support local shops and the local community. If pay to park is introduced this will have a major impact on the local economy!

I use evening parking to attend my running club weekly and also to allow me to get to local shops at a more convenient time around work and school. Parking charges is not a solution for sustainability. Better public transport is! I live in Bitterne and bus routes are few and very inconvenient locations and times. Please take these objections into consideration, when cost of living is such a struggle for so many.

I believe that the first hour of ALL parking should be free. I am convinced that these changes will have a damaging effect for small shops etc who rely on customers (especially the elderly) who call in regularly I think it will make shoppers use the out of town/city stores with their free parking causing these other shops & businesses to cease trading, It will cause problems for parents who use these car parks for dropping off /collecting their children for school causing them to park dangerously on roads around the schools causing danger to ALL people on the roads around schools-there are enough problems already

Bitterne and Woolston are already dying high streets sadly. A lot of people regularly pop there for things and having to pay to park will deter people and just send them online or to the big supermarkets instead. This will dramatically impact small businesses that people should be supporting.

Its outrageous! You can't park anywhere therefore it will put people off visiting shops and spending money! These locations are not like the town centre, these are small businesses and not locations people use to park in for work so it's completely unnecessary and greedy!

Is the city that cash strapped that it needs to do a [REDACTED]? While the cost is low, it sets a precedent for further changes that will disincentivise people from driving to these places. With public transport between these areas so infrequent, it will only push people to use online resources, further harming local businesses. Is it really worth it?

This scheme will be the death of local shopping areas like Woolston, Bitterne, Shirley etc as they'll go to Sainsbury in Hedge End or Portswood. It also adversely affects the less mobile and the elderly. Failing that there is always Whitely.

Cost off living is high enough, how do you expect people to keep up with rising cost... How will parking charges improve the parking situations? Where is this money going?

Parking close to local businesses is vital for me. Due to mobility, time constraints and finances. Particularly Bitterne and Woolston. If I cannot park free I will not stop to shop. Keep 1 hour free, and no more than a £1/hour for longer. Don't make locals pay just over greed and poor spending decisions by the council.

This will make life even harder for small business who are struggling to survive after hikes in minimum wage, national insurance and all the other increases because if people can't park for free they will not visit these shops.

This would have a detrimental effect on local businesses and cause parking issues in residential areas.

The reasons for this change are unconvincing and unreasonable. If the goal is to adjust for inflation, it would make more sense to apply increases to parking durations over two hours. Eliminating the free parking period entirely will discourage people from visiting city centres and hurting local businesses, potentially forcing them to close. Additionally, this decision will limit

opportunities for social interaction, which could negatively impact community well-being and mental health.

This is a penny-rich, pound-poor proposal. This will only lead to people put off from making quick trips to the shops and spending money there, and those that will are likely to just flip their hazards on and mount the curb and find other ways to park to avoid this increase. Dumb proposal.

**Bollocks**

You will kill the small businesses in these areas and they rely on the car owners as well as the general public.

**We need people to use local shops they will be put off by charges**

Charging for parking will deter people going to these areas and we reduce the footfall for the shops in the area. More shops we close down reducing any potential business rates for the council. It will end up costing the council more money than the potential income. This is a anti business practice when the council should be doing everything it can you support businesses and jobs in these areas.

**We all pop into Shirley on a regular basis, I'm a pensioner, so I don't plan to go to shopping area where I have to pay, this will greatly reduce my visits**

Removing the initial free period of parking will disincentivise using local shops, further adding challenges for these businesses. The free period of parking also encourages use of the car park over local street parking, leading to safer, less congested streets.

While the overall raising of parking prices may be justifiable given the rate of recent inflation, I believe that the removal of the initial free parking period would be counter productive in terms of raising revenues due to the potential for businesses to close due to reduced foot traffic.

**Small businesses are struggling and this will encourage out of town shopping even more.**

People will not change their driving habits and the problem will just be moved and not solved. People will park on streets around the car parks instead.

Why not keep the free periods for people that only use the car park for short periods of time and instead increase the tariffs for the periods past the free slot.

This will reduce incentive for people to travel to and shop in the proposed areas. It is a clear money grab and a complete waste of time.

Instead of managing the times people park in these areas, or "encouraging other modes of transportation" it will reduce the incentive for people to travel to these areas.

As it stands Woolston is struggling with footfall for businesses and this will once again reduce the number of people going there.

I am a local business owner in Woolston and this means I may lose customers if they are over 2 hours!

I also pop to Bitterne many times a week which I will not do if I have to pay each time

**With the cost of living crisis free parking in suburban areas is important for local residents.**

I can't afford anything. I can barely afford to survive. My quality of life in Britain has been destroyed by this economy. I have nothing left. Please stop making decisions that further ruin my life. I have five higher degrees and a good job but this is not first world living. Please stop it.

I understand you have to raise money but charging will not help the already strapped retailers or customers as they will either not visit or will spend less time in the shops. Also a lot of people do not carry cash so will be caught out and may not return, as they may then decide to visit out of town shopping places as it's free parking or the internet more! What you need is to encourage new businesses as then you can get business rates at least.

I cannot get on/off buses. I am aged 77 and rely on my son/daughter taking me shopping once a week. Why should I have to pay to go shopping, which I have to do, or I would starve.

I work in a chiropody and podiatry clinic and a lot of our patients rely on the close parking, this could affect the business due to rising costs. If any charges are brought into place it should be first hour free and then charge from there.

Another nail in the coffin for Southampton and its businesses.

And another survey the council will ignore.

I will no longer drive into Woolston for lunch.

This will not help the small businesses.. i am completly against this. Councils are wasting so much money.

Introducing these charges will result in many people staying away from these districts. I have seen it suggested that more people will use buses to access these areas. I do not believe this will happen, partly because people who have cars do not want to pay to travel by bus. Car drivers will wish to continue having the choice to shop by car and park free for short periods because this is much more convenient and flexible. Anyone with heavy shopping needs to be able to use a car rather than struggle on the bus. These shopping areas have already been decimated from the affects of covid. This will be the final nail in the coffin for many shops and traders in these areas. Another ill thought out labour idea.

I am writing to express my unequivocal objection to the proposal for implementing paid parking in the vicinity of Shirley High Street. This proposal is detrimental to the local economy and imposes an unnecessary burden on the residents of this community.

#### 1. Economic Detriment to Local Businesses

Introducing paid parking will have a severe negative impact on the local economy. Shirley High Street is still in the process of recovering and reinventing itself after the COVID-19 pandemic. Implementing paid parking will deter residents and visitors from shopping locally, causing further harm to businesses that are already struggling to survive. The financial implications of this decision cannot be overstated.

#### 2. Unjust Burden on Residents

The proposed paid parking scheme places an unwarranted financial burden on the residents who regularly visit the high street for essential shopping. This will discourage quick, frequent visits to local shops, directly affecting the livelihood of business owners and reducing the vibrancy of the high street.

#### 3. Failure to Address Core Issues

Instead of penalising residents with parking fees, the Council should focus on enforcing existing parking regulations. There is a significant issue with vehicles parking illegally throughout the day on the footpath, particularly delivery vans that ignore the allocated delivery zone parking in side streets, such as Church Street in Shirley. The current lack of enforcement against vehicles parked over double yellow lines and those causing obstruction during high traffic periods is a significant oversight. Addressing these issues through proper policing would be far more effective in managing traffic and parking concerns.

#### 4. Alternative Solutions - Resident Parking Permits

A more sustainable solution would be to introduce resident parking permits for the suburb. This measure would control the excessive number of vehicles, particularly those that remain unused on the streets for extended periods, thus alleviating congestion and making more space available for active residents and visitors.

#### 5. Insufficient Economic Justification for Paid Parking

The proposal for paid parking lacks a formal economic study and clear evidence to support its benefits. This plan risks reducing footfall on Shirley High Street, as parking costs may deter



residents and visitors. This could lead to decreased patronage for local businesses, reducing their revenues and potentially causing closures. Consequently, fewer thriving businesses would result in lower business rate revenues for the Council, undermining the financial viability of the scheme. Without a thorough cost-benefit analysis, this proposal appears short-sighted and overlooks long-term economic consequences. The Council must present a well-supported case demonstrating how the benefits of paid parking will outweigh its adverse effects on local businesses and the community.

I urge the Council to reconsider this proposal and focus on measures that truly benefit the community and support local businesses without imposing unnecessary financial burdens on residents. Failure to address these concerns adequately could lead to significant opposition and dissatisfaction within the community.

Thank you for your attention to this critical matter.

This will have an impact on already struggling local shops. People will be more inclined to park on the roads. Car users already contribute to road maintenance.

I'm a frequent user of some of these car parks and I firmly believe that these charges will drive trade away from these area's. People like me could well head off to other area's that have free short term parking so we can get our shopping done .

There are lots of shops in the high street and places to stop and eat/drink.

These will be impacted if people are paying for parking as we only have finite budgets

It Will deter customers from shopping in Bitterne. And clog up the roads around the area with cars that would otherwise be in the car parks.

There has been a real push by the shop owners and those living in Woolston to create a thriving community. We now have beautiful flower beds, nice cafes and several community based shops and creative centres which all help to improve life for Woolston residents. I feel very strongly that to start charging for parking will discourage people from visiting the shops and cafes. It will also make people think twice about dropping items off to the charity shops. Let us encourage people to visit Woolston and to help the area to prosper rather than give them a reason to stay away.

No free parking will sound the death knell for small businesses in Bitterne and Woolston. There are many residents in the area who cannot use public transport (however good it is) and it is incumbent upon the Council to look after all its residents, not just those who merrily trot along to its sustainability song. Please do not remove the free parking in the City.

The high street shops are already suffering enough that by enacting these charges for short term parking will effectively end passing trade.

Understand the reasoning... but as parking in Woolston is mostly free this is going to have a big impact. Especially for locals.

Charges should be used to discourage longer term daily parking.

Propose amendment that first 1.5 hrs is free. This would encourage use of local shops still whilst those who use parking to avoid city centre charges would be discouraged

For an underdeveloped business area a parking charge is a guaranteed way of removing any potential growth in footfall.

Originally Marlborough rd was 5 hrs free and 2 hrs other side. These car parks are used heavily in the day bringing people into Shirley. Parking on the road is already a challenge with dangerous parking and on the pavement parking in some areas this is likely to increase or people will use other shopping areas or Sainsbury's car park which is tight already. Where are the EV charging points?

Keep the two hours free otherwise local business will suffer as a result.

This will put more strain on the independent business in woolston. I think it's disgusting that customers can no longer just 'pop' into Woolston without paying OR parking in Lidl and taking

their business to a massive company?

As a resident and trader I think this is ridiculous.

Woolston struggles to compete with other small town shopping centres and adding costs to these car parks around there would damage the trade just as woolston had started to become busier with a lot of this due to the dog friendly attitude of most shops and the woolston Gardeners sprucing up Victoria Road with plants every few weeks, they also brought more trade to the area. If you want a solution have a 5hrs max parking and make all the side streets permit holders only, that way you will collect money for the permits and stop the already crowded side roads from being dangerous and inaccessible for ambulance and fire engines.

These charges will drive people away from Bitterne and cause local business to fail. People who work in Bitterne could be hit with £50 per week parking charges. My young son is on minimum wage, works in Bitterne high street and could not afford this, he would have to consider leaving his job. These parking charges are not welcome and not needed. There would be a serious decline to Bitterne if this was successful.

I will not be able to afford to go to Bitterne to use the gym (as I go 4 times a week) shop in Sainsburys or shop in any other business. You will drive people out of bitterne high street and the area will go down hill with business having to close down ..you will drive a vibrant area to disrepair!

In general I support the need to raise funds and encourage other forms of transport. I only object to the 1 hour charge and lack of free parking for short stops. I think this will stifle local business from customers returning from elsewhere. 50p and the inconvenience to pay is enough to stop enough people from "just nipping into the shop". A 30 min free period would be a good compromise as it encourages that spontaneity but gains funds from longer, likely more planned visits.

This will cause a negative effect on all people wanting to go out into the areas and deterring people from using services like food shopping. People will eventually start using online services and we will end up with boarded up shops in these major sub-areas of the city resulting in people to travel into the city centre which is already jam packed at this time of year which will start making it fundamentally worse

When will the penny drop (forgive the pun)? There is a direct correlation between making parking difficult and the slow decline and eventual death of our suburban shopping streets. Don't believe me? Go to France where most such areas have free parking and experience vibrant and thriving communities there.

The high streets are dying and people are avoiding them because it's hard enough to visit, let alone afford the parking charges. This will dissuade even more people, plus inconvenience many. The recent publication of council leader salaries should be where to look for extra revenue! You need to stimulate an economy to grow it, not throttle it and put up barriers!

This will kill off any foot fall to these areas and likely lead to loss of employment and business rates. The areas will then deteriorate and it will have a great impact on the character of the area. In addition, people are struggling as it is, this is going to impact the poorest the most.

Parking is an issue already, with some of the parking being only 2 hours, Woodley Road is a prime example, as a resident we normally have no issues parking BUT have to use the carpark from time to time when someone parks over our driveway, making it so that the Woodley Road carpark is paid will cause major issues, Plus people will not bother to pay anyway and as there are not enough checks on the roads anyway

Labour kill business

The anti motorist measures are spiteful, despised and potential killing shopping centres.  
Human climate change is a globalist scam.  
CO2 is a beneficial gas and plant food.

I am writing to object the proposed parking charges of up to £8 per day due to the significant negative impact it will have on pupils, local businesses, and the community.

For pupils, these costs will impose a substantial financial burden, potentially making education less accessible, particularly for low-income families. For local businesses, high parking charges risk driving customers away, reducing footfall and revenue, and making it harder to attract and retain employees.

Rather than implementing such prohibitive fees, I urge the council to consider alternatives, such as reduced rates for students and employees, short-term free parking periods, or improved public transport options.

These changes are vital to support education, local commerce, and community engagement. I kindly request the council to reconsider and engage with stakeholders to find a more equitable solution.

Yours sincerely,

I oppose the proposed changes to parking fees as they may disproportionately impact local residents and small businesses, making the area less accessible and reducing foot traffic. Increased fees could discourage visitors and harm the local economy. It's crucial to maintain parking options to support community growth and ensure fairness for all users.

Will discourage spending at local shops

I will take my business somewhere else where I won't be charged for parking.

Will destroy the local shopping areas that are outside of the city centre.

It will increase parking in residential roads nearby, reduce footfall to local shops in the areas & decrease activity in the local shopping areas.

I visit bitterne daily to use the gym, my vehicle is too tall to park upstairs. 90% of the time I grab a bite to eat or pick up things I need down the highstreet. If these changes are implemented, myself and the vast majority will just switch gyms and go elsewhere. The cost of parking for the month would be nearly twice the cost of my gym membership. I may as well join a luxury gym and enjoy the benefits that go with it.

There is no need to introduce charges to the district centres, concentrate on the illegal parking, charging for car parks will only make it worse.

You say charging will help manage the demand of vehicles ... there are no traffic enforcement officers to currently manage the demand for those who stay longer than allowed, nor those who park illegally.

No matter the time I visit I am always able to park. However, charging will put many people off, and our already struggling district centres will fall into further decline. Charging from 8am to midnight will have a big impact on the relatively small night trade that the district centres have. Leaving rundown areas with empty shops... not the vision the leader of the council portrays for the district centres.

Alternative transport is becoming ridiculous, there is nowhere safe to park bikes, and no safe cycle routes into the district centres. Buses are expensive with very poor service. The e-bikes and scooters are expensive.

We need free parking. Can't go anywhere without paying. Can't afford. I live in Shirley.

This, like the Portswood bus gate, will severely affect trade in Portswood and everywhere else in Southampton. It's almost as though you actually want to stop all cars traveling in the city? Surely not?

This is going to kill Bitterne and the businesses that trade there

Will negatively affect businesses

The parking is already limited in the time we can use it. People on low incomes and who have poor mobility are less likely to be able to afford it and this will have consequences to access community resources. The toll for the Itchen bridge has already been increased as has our council tax.

Parking charges being introduced

Local businesses will suffer, it makes no sense to start charging people this far out of the city centre where you have already upped the charges and offer no free parking. You've even started charging people over night in the city centre. And you still charge for itchen bridge

Completely unnecessary, it will discourage more people going to shops when they are struggling already and it will cause people to block roads and pavements parking illegally

Bad for shop workers and shoppers

Local businesses will be affected as there will be a drop off in trade. People are struggling as it is. Maybe if the council could manage there budget properly they wouldn't have to rob there residents

As a retiree I occasionally need to pop to Woolston and Bitterne in the car to access the local shops for 20-30 minutes. If charging is introduced for car parks then I am more likely to head to supermarkets or Hedge End where paring is more convenient without having to buy a ticket.

This will affect businesses

I disagree with parking charges.

I agree with the charging in all of the car parks apart from the Sainsbury's car park in Bitterne. I have no objection to people parking outside of our house but there are very few spaces in Brownlow Avenue due to yellow lines, dropped kerbs and restricted access during school times. This means parents trying to drop their children at school have no option but to park in this car park. Having to pay £1 to drop/pick-up their children at school feels unfair. There is so little parking for the school and many parents have to drive onto work. Also the one shop that is keeping Bitterne alive is Sainsburys. Without this shop and the free parking, I fear that Bitterne shops will suffer.

No benefit to visiting local shops and high streets if having to pay for parking

Many businesses and clubs rely on the small footfall in Woolston. Placing charges onto an already financially stretched part of the community is unfair. Woolston high street is not thriving, please see the amount of charity shops and discount shops, alongside betting shops and hairdressers. This is not a sign of a thriving community, and charging residents to park outside their own house is punitive at the very least, as well as devastating if you are a 2 car family as there will be an additional bill of over £1000 to park. Coupled with charging visitors, Woolston will only decline from its current position, which as I have already stated is not a great place to start with.

This will only have a negative effect on the already struggling high streets.

Our older generation use these public car parks for their weekly shopping as they cannot walk far and/or struggle with public transport. These charges will deter them from shopping locally and may make shopping very difficult for them; especially as the cost of food shopping etc. is increasing much quicker than the increase in their pension.

These suburban car parks are used by local people doing routine shopping or visiting dentist, surgery, solicitors. It's not leisure shopping like in West Quay. It will kill even more small businesses in the suburbs. Empty shops and less business tax. Strongly oppose.

Charging parking will encourage online shopping and more local shops will close, also, it might make people to park illegally or on adjacent roads.

Honest businesses are already struggling, this will accelerate the closure of businesses and place additional pressure on local retailers.

I use the Shirley car parks for short stays to visit the high street. If you are going to charge me to park I'll take my business elsewhere.

It's a shortsighted proposal. I object in the strongest terms.

Woolston is on its knees already and this proposal will just be another nail in its coffin. The City Centre is a dump, dirty, tacky Christmas markets, who want's to pay parking charges to visit Southampton when they can drive to Portsmouth and shop in a city that is proud of it's heritage as well as having a fantastic travel hub? The car parks are disgusting. I bring the car into Southampton when I'm shopping in West Quay because I will carry some of my shopping back to the car before returning to finish my shopping. I walk into the City Centre from Sholing if I was eg: meeting friends etc. so I am not anti walking, cycling at all.

I am sorry but this Council has destroyed my city which I and many of my friends agree with me. These parking charges will just drive even more people away!

This hugely inconveniences shoppers who visit their local shops. If the council is looking to raise funds to invest back in to these car parks then perhaps the first 1-2 hours could be made free for regular shoppers then any longer stays should be chargeable rather than charging from the first hour.

I am writing to formally object to the parking fee policies implemented in Portswood, Bitterne, and Woolston. While I understand the need to manage parking availability and support local infrastructure, the current fees and enforcement practices have raised significant concerns for residents and visitors.

Key Concerns:

#### 1. Economic Impact on Local Businesses

These areas rely heavily on local shops and services. High parking fees discourage visitors and reduce footfall, ultimately harming small businesses that are vital to the community's economy.

#### 2. Unfair Burden on Residents

Many residents who do not have access to private parking are disproportionately affected by the fees. This creates financial stress, particularly for those on lower incomes or those requiring frequent short-term parking.

#### 3. Insufficient Public Transport Alternatives

While encouraging alternative transportation is commendable, the current public transport options in these areas are not adequate or reliable enough to replace the need for accessible and affordable parking.

#### 4. Negative Environmental Impact

High parking fees can lead to drivers circling the area in search of free or cheaper options, increasing congestion and emissions rather than reducing them.

#### 5. Accessibility Issues

The fees also impact individuals with limited mobility who may find walking longer distances from cheaper parking areas impractical.

Price increases would hinder business in Woolston, an area where lots of shops are already closing down

This will reduce the footfall into district shopping areas and so reduce the income for local shops. Some of the carparks are directly used by those visiting supermarkets in order to transport heavy loads of shopping. This proposed policy just reflects the council's continuing lack of care and concern for its voters.

Not good for local businesses or anyone during the current cost of living crisis. The 'working people' are taxed too much already.

There should be 1 hour free parking to be able to use the shops and it should be free after 6pm for people to be able to go to restaurants

More money making for council will destroy local businesses.

In regards to parking in Shirley this new charge will affect the amount of customers to the local shops ie. Loss of trade.

Cars will park where they like along Shirley to avoid the charge making it even worse than it is now. Cars just park anywhere now.

This is ridiculous. Your charging us for leaving the house??? I do my weekly food shop and have a gym membership at the two parking spaces around bitterne. So basically I'm being charged a premium for exercising and needing to eat. You can't tax everything. Seems to me you gotta be rich just to leave the house. Won't be long before you start charging for air. Where does this stop???

For commercial street car parking this is access for the health centre and essential services for midwifery and eye support. To charge for this parking is unreasonable. For a pregnant lady this is not reasonable to use walking routes which are often slippery and not safe on all weathers.

For the car parks in Bitterne village if used for the gym and sainsburys the other car parks are used and without this charges would be incurred for shopping at a supermarket.

I often pop out and park locally. Yesterday I parked in Woolston for 10 minutes. Going on my experience with parking apps it would have taken me longer than 10 minutes to work out how to use the app. I don't mind paying but find the technology defeating.

Given there is little or no enforcement of the yellow lines/parking on the pavement on Shirley High Str unless enforcement is to be stepped up all this proposal will do is further infuriate local residents who do stick by the rules and use these car parks. It now seems that they are to be charged whilst those breaking the existing parking regulations will continue to do so.

I've recently moved out of Pound Street and one of the main reasons was the parking situation. There are more cars than there is space just for residents. Even with free parking, we'd get people (staff and shoppers) parking there to go to Bitterne. With the added charges, this will get significantly worse.

Not to mention the impact this will have on an already struggling high street.

This is a perfect example of thinking about pennies but losing pounds. Shops will close, rates and rents will disappear and everyone loses. Bigger picture thinking required.

Considering how poorly serviced roads and parking in and around Shirley is, it is unreasonable to charge to park here.

Why should we have to pay parking and rush our shopping

i don't believe alternative means of transport are sufficient as viable alternatives for driving, take for example, those with mobility challenges, where driving is their most suitable and viable form of transport for them. Instead, if payment is required for all these car parks, it would unfairly punish those who have no alternative but to drive. Imagine elderly people, who struggle with walking anyway. Having made their way to the shops, and then being first asked to walk and pay for parking, before they can continue their shopping for basic necessities. Making the first hour free may be a feasible compromise

what is the reasoning behind charging after 6pm, when options for public transport is dwindled? Do you have usage statistics for these car parks after 6pm? I stipulate they are already sparsely used after 6pm, thus charging for parking after 6pm will further discourage shoppers from spending money in the local shops after 6pm. And it is an unfair levy on local residents who appreciate somewhere to store their cars overnight, after their work day.

It is my personal belief that public infrastructure, such as car parks, should be maintained using

public funds, and not to rely on charging for parking in order to pay for their upkeep. They are a public service that is already paid for by the public, who should not be expected to have to double pay to use what they deserve.

It is right that people pay a small fee to store their cars on public land.

It would be a great disadvantage to businesses and to the elderly who need a car to get about.

Shirley area is mainly used by local people. Adding charges is not going to help the local people or businesses. I would like to see no more cars parked on the pavements though.

I am a pensioner who lost out on my winter payment, and now the council want to charge me parking when I do my shopping, I have difficulty walking, so driving is my only pleasure, but that to will be denied me as well, not a lot left to live for.

With regard to changing the parking fees, I am opposed to such a move.

While the charges themselves would not directly affect me, the knock on effect would.

I live in one of the roads near Bitterne Precinct. Some time ago while the Whites Road car park was temporarily closed the Brownlow Avenue and Deacon Crescent junctions were dangerous.

There was nose to tail parking along both sides those roads making it much more difficult to allow vehicles to pass each other.

Even now, with free car parks available, vehicles trying to exit Brownlow Avenue into Whites Road make it difficult for vehicles trying to turn into Brownlow Avenue because of the vehicles which are usually parked near the junction.

If charges are applied to all the car parks the situation will become very much worse during the day when the charges would apply.

The parked vehicles also made it difficult for motorists to see pedestrians trying to cross and similarly for the pedestrians to see vehicles.

I can only hope that if this proposal is implemented the subsequent desertion of Bitterne by businesses will result in far less traffic on the local roads.

I would support if you provide more regular bus services on Hill Lane and Westwood Road!

Shops are suffering enough without these charges being applied. It will destroy the community and encourage more illegal parking which is already dangerous.

To introduce parking charges in car parks which are currently free will discourage drivers from using car parks and result in drivers parking in the local streets instead.

This will cause congestion in the local streets and effectively convert the surrounding domestic streets into car parks.

This effectively happened on previous occasions when free parking for only two hours was introduced and drivers did not use car parks, but instead parked vehicles in surrounding streets.

As an example please personally visit and inspect the Bitterne car parks on weekdays when they are semi empty but the adjacent streets are effectively turned into one way streets because drivers park their vehicles in the streets instead converting streets to car parks.

This inconveniences residents living in local streets.

The other effect is that shoppers will be forced to drive to out of town shopping centres with FREE parking. This is already happening.....look at bank closures in Bitterne precinct and all the post offices already closed....but TOO many nail bars and Turkish barbers !

Also any staff working in the shops will be penalised by being forced to pay EXTORTIONATE parking fees. More shops will close and local centre shops will suffer financially.

PLEASE reconsider this proposal and at least offer some free parking for busy times for customers and shop staff NOT just midnight to am.

As a healthcare worker, the Woolston Health Centre would be massively impacted, and this would become a barrier for patients who may have low or no incomes. This would also impact staff working there, who already are underpaid and overworked, and may hinder recruitment for this reason. I am sure this is the same for the other areas you've mentioned.

This will increase congestion and parking on roads around these car parks. Shirley Ave already has significant parking issues as parking is unregulated. This will make matters worse unless accompanied by parking restrictions on Shirley Ave such as residents permit parking and free parking limited to 1 hour.

I'm all for encouraging people to leave their cars at home, but I suspect people visiting Shirley will just park their cars in even more ludicrous places than they already do (pavements, yellow lines, too close to junctions). I'd prefer you to keep free parking for 2 hours, and properly police (and punish where transgressed) parking in Shirley.

Parking charges will kill off local shopping areas, ie Bitterne, Portswood and Woolston. We have a successful market in Bitterne, and why has all the money been spent on revamping Bitterne Precinct if no one will pay to park there and use it.

Bad for local businesses and residents near shopping parades. Shoppers will either not use local shops or park on residential streets.

I am an independent small business that relies on the car park being reasonable.

The proposed changes (Shirley) will push drivers to park on local residential roads that do not have parking permits (I.e Shirley Ave). It would be better to have 1 hour free and charge after that - limiting impact.

We visit Woolston about every 6 weeks, and go round the shops to look and buy. If you are charging to park we will go out of town which is free

No reason to continually penalise the motorist, seems like vengeful attack on drivers and local shops

There is no where to park in Bassett when I go to the gym at Southampton University, adding that cost to monthly membership so unfair

As a parishioner of St Boniface Church Shirley Road, we already have unassociated members of the public using our private -and small- car park at all times. The car park has insufficient spaces for those using it legitimately. Also, this means our patio nerds have to park elsewhere to attend services and would therefore incur extra costs.

People will stop using neighbourhood shops and drive to out of town shopping centres. Many people cannot carry their shopping home using public transport. Where I live we only have the university bus service which is useless to get to local shops from Bassett/Swaythling.

Will put people off coming to the high street. Most high streets are already struggling, this change during what is described as a 'cost of living crisis' by the press, is helpful to anyone.

I feel that imposing charges for these areas would affect businesses negatively

Myself and my husband visit the Chiropodist whose clinic is situated in the Woolston shopping area every seven weeks and whilst there, during the two hour free parking time, we visit the other shops situated there. If parking charges are introduced we shall no longer undertake this and may even change our Chiropodist.

Shirley high Street gets alot of trade from the users of free car parks, these people will dwindle away and shop elsewhere if charges are levied. At present there is no control over illegal parking on side streets and High Street itself, which will only get worse if charges for parking are introduced.

Makes economic sense to have free parking for 1-2 hours as people are more likely to shop and spend money rather than alienating car users. All this is going to do is kill the high street.

This will impact people not visiting these smaller towns and supporting local shops. Not everyone wants to go into Southampton due to parking charges so this is so unfair

Many pensioners shop in Shirley and drive there as buses do not go down roads where they live, bus stops being a long walk for many. Introducing a parking fee is penalising them for shopping locally.

As I am rapidly approaching 70 years old I won't walking to Bitterne and returning with a heavy bag of groceries. The only direct bus is the Hoppa that runs infrequently. I will probably spend an extra 5 minutes driving to a place with free parking. Therefore I, and I can see others like me



increasing traffic due to longer journeys whilst the businesses in those areas will become less viable. I could certainly see Sainsburys quitting Bitterne entirely. The loss of these facilities will then mean longer journeys for everyone.

We shouldn't have to pay for the Council's mistakes. We are struggling to make ends meet. Yes, the current charge is somewhat manageable for some to pay, but in no time, it'll increase to £1 for an hour, then £2, £3 etc. It will never end. Look at the increased costs at Marlands & Grosvenor car parks? I couldn't afford the new costs so I had to park elsewhere. My health is not the best (I'm currently attending hospital appointments) for me to walk or catch the bus, so I feel I'm being penalised for driving. The buses are unhygienic. They should be regularly cleaned & have faux leather seats. I had to catch the bus 2 years ago to my hospital appointment (my car was in the garage) & I'm still haunted by the experience. I've never seen so much dust before: I have a dust allergy & some of the seats had big rips and vast questionable stains on them. I felt sick. Next time, I'm making sure I have enough for an Uber. I would feel uncomfortable using the buses now due to the certain 'clientele' that uses them. There's no law or order in Southampton anymore. It feels like a disaster movie. We did not have any of these concerns under the Conservative government. Now we're paying through the nose to drive and on limited road space due to all of the cycle lanes that are barely used. Yes, I completely object. Stop taking money from our pockets & pay for your own mistakes.

I am rapidly approaching 70 years old I won't be walking to Bitterne and returning with a heavy bag of groceries. The only direct bus is the Hoppa that runs infrequently. I will probably spend an extra 5 minutes driving to a place with free parking. Therefore I, and I can see others like me increasing traffic due to longer journeys whilst the businesses in those areas will become less viable. I could certainly see Sainsburys, Wetherspoons etc quitting Bitterne entirely. You have spent a considerable amount on regenerating the play and seating area. People will not make use of this if the shops close down.

I shop local as it's convenient to park & not have to pay. If I've got to pay to park I won't bother. I'll just drive the extra few miles into town. Stupid idea, it will just kill the local shops.

Surely we want to attract customers to the shops in Portswood? Charging for car parking (combined with the bus gate plan) will send people to other more convenient shopping areas. Alternatively people will try to park along the roads which are already lined with parked vehicles. It can be hard to navigate up and down Westridge Road as it is, especially because people park opposite Muse and block traffic turning off Portswood Road.

We're also concerned about inviting guests to our house on Westridge Road during the evening. It seems unfair that they should need to pay to visit friends or family. Even if you have to charge during the day, surely it could still be free in the evenings?

Even if the buses were free, I don't think people will want to carry shopping especially in poor weather. They will use their car because they can carry more, it's dry and warm, and because they can go from A to B to C rapidly. Buses will never replace personal vehicles for that sort of journey.

Too much money is already taken by the council in car parking fees. Leave the poor motorist alone for a couple of hours!

People are already struggling with the cost of living crisis, it does not make sense for the council to put extra financial burden to its residents by introducing amendments to parking charges.

Cost of living is too high with no match to salary increases. Council tax goes up every year, if we have to start paying for parking we have less disposable income and no chance of saving at all. As it is everyone is really struggling

I work at Bitterne Health Centre & am very concerned that patients will be put off accessing our services if they have to pay to park opposite. Or, they will park on the side of the road which is already congested

Our district centres are struggling. Just look at the footfall in Bitterne. By providing 1 or 2 hours free parking, you are encouraging people to shop locally, to attend church, social activities and keeping the centre alive. We are constantly being told of social isolation and imposing a charge on

short term parking is another factor to discourage some from going to where they may see others and perhaps have some social interaction. Already people on the eastern side of the city go out to Whitely, Hedges End and use the large supermarket where there is free car parking. Please, please reconsider

I live on the Brownlow Estate and Downside Avenue and Brownlow Avenue are already used as parking by people working and shopping in Bitterne. This charging is obviously a way to raise more money, but I suspect that people who use Angel Crescent car park to shop in Sainsburys will just shop in Hedge End instead. There are precious few shops left in Bitterne and this will just cause shoppers to move elsewhere and the closure of the last 2 banks we have.

I believe it will not help already struggling businesses, as people won't be able to afford to park near by. Everyone is struggling with the cost of living as it is , so charging for the 2 hours that is at the moment free will just put more pressure on shoppers & the area will suffer from lack of customers!

The charges are manageable, and given the state of council finances the funds are needed to reduce strain on essential budgets.

Because there is a strong backlash against the proposals and although I don't live in the city, I do drive in to Southampton and understand the frustration of local businesses who feel it will be detrimental for them, in deterring people from briefly stopping at a store for instance. Therefore, at least a half hour free park would be better. I don't think it will make any difference in traffic volume, just that people may park elsewhere. The cost of bus fares are also increasing, which is not encouraging alternative transport. Local homeowners should not be penalised for needing to park outside their home and anyone visiting local homes in the evening will find it even more difficult to park. Finally, visiting health centres, pharmacies or schools etc, places costs on poorer or more vulnerable people in the community, rather than charging higher tax on the corporations and those more able to afford extra costs.

Shops in these local areas are small businesses and struggle with customers already with people then having to pay for parking will kill their businesses

I have lived in bitterne since I was 5 years old, the reason there is community within bitterne village and the presinct and shops still get used is due to the parking available. Most people who park in bitterne are doing a bit food shop at either Sainsbury's or Iceland, going out for food at the pub there, or visiting church perhaps - these are all things you would normally not pay for parking for as they would have their own car park. This will drive people away from bitterne, quite literally, and they will run errands elsewhere where there are no parking fees. This is also very inconvenient for those who find it difficult to walk to bitterne but it's not far enough to warrant a bus or taxi and therefore them driving is their only means... the footfall in bitterne will hugely reduce if this is to go ahead and I think that would be a big shame. I personally would no longer shop in Sainsbury's in bitterne and would go to Asda in west end instead for free parking just out of sheer principle.

Woolston parking is enough of a nightmare as it is, people constantly using the loading and disabled bays on the main highstreet so charging for car parks is only going to worsen this problem and make it near impossible for us businesses to have deliveries dropped in.. Furthermore people will not pay to park in woolston as there is little amount of shops so trades will be cut down and small businesses will lose traction and accessibility to passing trade

As a regular visitor to Angel Crescent car park, I've never experienced issues of finding a car parking space, and find it very convenient, whilst also supporting local businesses, implementing charges by stealth will only discourage potential shoppers and visitors to the area, and potentially force them to park further away in residential areas, coursing stress and anxiety for local residents. Your reasons for invoking these charges have no substance, and are only revenue driven.

Please don't raise the cost of living, life is so hard now, that is the basic of living

Not necessary

That will increase the living expenses.

Increase our living expenses.

I will not come out to shopping if don't have two hours free parking. This will affect the business of the shop.

Insufficient street parking in city

Sometimes just park the car to buy some trivial things, should be free

Some car parks listed here are always below capacity even if they have free hours. I don't see any benefits to both residents and the council by canceling the free hours. This will only trigger more undesirable off road packing

This policy will have a further negative influence towards the local business as it discourages people to visit the local business as parking is not free

It is an unfair for their customers!

I live on Downside Avenue in Bitterne and we struggle to park outside our own homes as it is now and with these changes everyone will be trying to park on our road which would cause carnage for residence and for public services like bin collections (road narrow when cars just dumped on verges) and other services. Also the shops in the precinct would start to close as having to pay for parking will put people off coming and therefor the precinct would be empty of shops. No maintenance that I have seen is ever done on the local car parks so unsure where this money will be going. 2 hours free parking is adequate and charging over 2 hours is the way forward. I think this is very damaging to Bitterne and the other towns you are trying to ruin. Unsure how you believe you will be voted in for another term doing things like this that just damages the local businesses and people. Think looking to save money should be done within the council not at our the tax payers expense

I hope the city government will not add more pain to the people when their livelihood is poor.

We need free parking for 2-3 hours to keep our vibrant high street alive. Introduce parking fee's from the first second and people will either start parking dangerously on side streets or just not visit the area.

As a resident in Shirley I don't drive into Shirley centre however it is already littered with people parking on double yellow lines. If you make the car parks cost then many more will park in dangerous and obstructing places. You would need to pay someone 24/7 to monitor the bad parking in and around Shirley High Street, which doesn't seem like a good use of money. Keep the car parks free then at least most people are more likely to park there.

This will discourage individuals from visiting these areas, where retail is already struggling and the area is faced by a large number of vacant shops which is disappointing and unsightly. Lots of money is currently being invested in to Bitterne Village, yet the vacant units are being left to crumble. This will also have an impact on residential roads such as mine which will likely feel the brunt from parents doing school drop off at the local primary as they will no longer park in the Sainsburys car park.

Businesses will see reduced numbers of customers and may have to close completely thus increasing unemployment. The suburbs will become derelict.

This is not the way to treat hard working residents or attract visitors.

Living costs are rising in every way already, please give me a break

I think that no charge parking , helps local businesses and shoppers alike, parking I local area's is very difficult and will increase , and become more challenging for drivers and local people , Personally if I have to pay for parking I would go into town !

I live in Garton Road and have been trying for a long time to have temporary barriers as it is a one way in/out during drop off & pick up for St Patricks School. I and a number of my neighbours have complicated illnesses and during these times the emergency services would be unable to attend. The car park on Portsmouth Road is a 2 minute walk and would be perfect for the school users. The hope was that school traffic would be able to park there to drop off collect children. If this is

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taken away by charging this would impact us badly. I have sent a request to our councillor but 2 years later nothing has been done.

As a small business owner of 2 high street businesses in Woolston this would cause serious harm to our businesses. The proposal states that it intends to bring parking charges in line with the Southampton town centre and other surrounding areas... but Woolston is not at a level to compete with the Town Centre. As it's just over the bridge, increasing the parking charges will just drive our customers into the Town Centre. Woolston's high street is almost entirely comprised of independent small businesses - with the exception of Lidl and, to a lesser extent, Spar. This decision will have a negative impact on every business in the area and may cripple some businesses. There is a community of Woolston Traders - independent business owners in the area - working together to build Woolston back up - we didn't expect the council to actively work against us and attempt to cripple our businesses.

Terrible idea, will cost local business lots of customers, will drive people to larger shopping areas that have free parking.

It will further discourage people to go shopping.

This will just increase parking in residential streets not "currently" affected by these proposals. I've no doubt that there are plans to further expand this.

This is literally the definition of 'Highway robbery'!

There are already limited free parking spaces within the city, and city centre parkings has been unreasonably extended for a longer charging period, shouldn't charge more for these suburban parking spaces and add unnecessary finance burden to people

Definitely objection

Introducing charges to district car parks is going to

- \* damage local shops and businesses as people will prefer to go to out of town retail parks where parking is free.
- \* cause unnecessary further mileage pollution and congestion on the roads.
- \* prevent older residents from going out so frequently
- \* prevent the poorer in our city from going out so frequently
- \* increase the vulnerability of the public to fraudsters as payment for parking/ meters is currently targeted by them.

Woolston High Street is already suffering economic decline as it has for a number of years. There is recently some new businesses here which has brought more visitors to the area I think that adding parking charges to the car parks that are free will put people off visiting here and will not attract any new businesses and will lead to local independent shops closing down and becoming an area which attracts crime and anti-social behaviour

Woolston is just starting to come to life. Parking charges will put people off coming into the town

Discourage people hanging out for shopping.

It will discourage people to visit the places.

These new proposed parking charges removing the 6 pm curfew and the removal of the 2 hours of free parking will only be detrimental to the development of Woolsten and the community as a whole. I am a member of 'The Bunker' as well as one of the small businesses that are setup within the old bank.

These parking charges are going to tank both our events and the business as a whole.

People needs free parking off streets!

No inflation anymore

Much increase my expenditure in future

I object most strongly to this proposal to charge for short stays in the Bitterne car parks. It will further depress trade in Bitterne. A good compromise would be to limit free time to 90 minutes.

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Whats the point of spending thousands on play area and other improvements and then doing this?

Are people going to pay this or are they going to go local ASDA, Lidl or Aldi or anywhere in Hedge End?

I suggest this will also affect other district centres in the City

As the manager of PureGym Bitterne and speaking with other managers of local businesses in the area, this action will heavily damage the amount of individuals that will be able to afford to travel into Bitterne

This will have a negative impact on local businesses as it makes it less affordable and less convenient to park in our local area. Local people are suffering enough without having this extra pressure.

I am one of several small business owners that work in Woolston. We have spent the last year trying to make Woolston inviting again. New shops have opened, I'm part of a small team trying to bring back a monthly artisan market, community events, community interest prices etc. One of our biggest problems in doing this has been footfall and we've started to see an increase in recent months. I oppose this because this will only have detrimental effects to the footfall and work against us as well as massively affecting our small businesses financially. I don't just speak for me in this but also several of the local traders who will also be writing to you individually. Please don't take away the two hours free parking. The car parks are never full. If the council needs more money then perhaps think about increasing the amount after the two free hours that are already offered. Many thanks

The free parking is why I visit Shirley. I'm a very busy self employed vet. If I need supplies, or the post office, I can park close by, and be back on my way and doing my business in ten minutes. That is now impossible in Southampton city centre, between the ridiculous road works, dreadful traffic light delays/timing, the lack of parking, the time and cost of parking and time to take to make the payment machines work, and time to get from there to any useful premises and back. And the beggars and layabouts on the high street totally blight it.

I use the car park in Woolston once or twice per week for a safe space for my car when attending my running club. The incurred fees of having to pay for this car park would cost me £60 to £90 per year. There are not many alternatives and the car park is hardly ever full at the time of usage. Public transport links are not suitable enough at this moment in time to replace driving for this purpose.

If there was not free and easy parking to go to the local shops I would not go! Parking charges in my view would encourage more shopping on line and not supporting local businesses in person. This change will also impact on people's social time / mental health and reducing social isolation... not good. Please do not be greedy

Unnecessary will encourage people to NOT shop or visit shops and do everything online. I do NOT think that ANY sensible thinking person would want to drive even more people AWAY from shops. Increasing any parking charges, residual the removal of the free 2 hours will adversely affect the small businesses in the area. Small businesses are being squeezed enough as it is, people will go elsewhere, like Whiteley where they get 2 hours free parking.

In relation to Angle Crescent and Peartree gardens around Bitterne precinct. I believe these proposals will cause absolutely devastation to the businesses of Bitterne. Anyone with a vehicle will take their business to an area where there aren't parking charges. Such as Hedge End, Sainsbury's Portsmouth and Woolston Lidl. People will not be willing to pay to stop for a quick visit to the shops. I work in the Coral betting shop on the precinct. Many of my customers have stated that they will go to a different shop to place their bets as they do not wish to pay to visit my store daily. From a customer who drives point of view, I will definitely shop elsewhere if I have to pay, to go to the supermarket.

## Regards

The car parks in bitterne have been the same way for years with they way charge for parking and it works for everyone, bitterne high street is already dying off with banks closing and shops shutting putting this on top people will just move on to other places to shop and it also makes it harder for those that work on the high street to have find somewhere else to park as they already budget to park there, it's struggle already now but with the cost of living going up people won't be able to afford that every week

We use local shops to support them and to avoid town centre pay car parks - I shall go into the town centre now ...

the impact on local traders as it will discourage people from using them

Shouldn't need to pay if working in one of the local stores. Furthermore, quick visits to the area shouldn't warrant having to pay to park. The area has operated fine without additional charges and doesn't warrant having them put in place. Don't make the average person suffer because the council can't keep track of their own books and decided to bankrupt themselves

This will make Bitterne, Woolston, Shirley, Portswood ghost towns. If you implement this traffic regulation order by taking off the free two hours parking it will affect working parents collecting their children from school, attending doctors and dental appointments, leisure, businesses, oaps who drive to attend appointments, oap clubs etc.. Churches will now be affected, attendances are already low. Its no good promoting the busses as they don.t run to time and often missed out. The only route that seems to be good is the 17 route as they run one after the other.

I believe the motorists are being used as a cash cow to support other questionable services.

It will damage the local economy and in particular small independent businesses

I feel this would kill Bitterne and have a detrimental effect on the small businesses that are there. I enjoy popping to the shops there and having a wander around.

Are you actively trying to kill off the local businesses?

To introduce parking charges in the suburbs will definitely drive away shoppers from these out of town areas. There has been a significant number of shop closures in the proposed areas and no doubt this will continue to increase. I cannot envisage introducing parking will attract visitors from outside areas.

If the intention is to help with road repairs why has the large car park by what was Toys R Us not been developed for parking. I presume Soton City Council own the land. This area has been neglected over a number of years. The income generated would now be a significant amount considering how long this area has been closed.

Shoppers will find alternative free parking in surrounding roads to the annoyance of locals.

Please rethink this atrocious decision.

For me personally, I'll go to Shirley High street only when I have a reason to - and when I do go I will no longer browse several shops, I'll just go where I need to and then leave (pay for as short a time as possible). I want to support my local shops but if I can park free in a supermarket to buy food and also get free online deliveries for other things, where's my reason for going into Shirley if you put obstacles in my way?

And if others feel the same, imagine the impact this short sighted money grab will have on local businesses? I'm so disappointed in this Council. You've been asked for ages (years!) to do something about the illegal and obstructive parking around Shirley and instead you do this. Fed up with your war on motorists. Won't vote for a labour councillor again.

I am a member of the Maskers Theatre Company. Our premises are situated off Emsworth Road in Shirley. To make people pay for parking near our venue would be disastrous for us. It would mean our audiences would dramatically decline.

I think that putting charges at the car parks in Shirley which at the moment allow 2 hrs free parking will be detrimental to all the shops and cafes which are struggling to keep their heads above water already

These car parks take away free access to local amenities by those who need it most. This is also discouraging the public from using local small business when its needed. This can only have a negative effect on the already struggling local economy in areas like woolston.

It will cause more people to

Park in side streets etc clogging traffic. Effectively lose people their businesses as people will order on line so shops will shit . Crazy madness please dont do it! Also many people cant walk far including me as I have bad asthma and a chronically bad back due to years of nursing before we had hoists

People needs free parking

This is not going to help the already struggling High Street businesses! It wil drive shoppers away from the High Street shops specially Shirley.

The high street shops will lose revenue, due to people shopping online instead and will discourage shoppers to use the high street.

For many people the ability to quickly pop in and out of places is vital, and adding a parking charge will deter many people from using different shops and services in areas that are already lower on trade than they were years ago. Woolston High Street is a prime example of this as it is full of shops that are run down and often empty, I will use a few businesses due to the ease of parking but if I have to start paying I am unlikely to visit the area as it's not worth my while.

The high Street will die. Businesses that are already struggling will be negatively affected. People will shop online more. We need places for people to park to keep our community alive.

Whilst I understand the need to pull in some revenue, I cannot understand or believe why you would take away free parking from the local districts of Southampton.

The whole idea that it was put in place was to keep the small centres thriving. To keep the local shops open.

If you add these costs to our already increasing cost of living no one will be able to afford it!

The district centres will die!!!

Please don't even mention 'new bus routes' because even they are rising in cost from January. You've just spent thousands on the centre of Bitterne precinct, goodness knows why because no one will be there to use it!

A member of the Maskers Theatre Company based in Emsworth Road. To attend evening rehearsals 2 or 3 times a week would be too expensive to park in Shirley, Southampton.

Absolute disgrace! Any way of making money and clawing back the billions of £s of debt!  
SHAMEFUL SCC!

By enforcing new charges you making it more expensive for people to shop locally. This will impact on people then looking at out of town shopping instead where parking is free. This will be detrimental to the local businesses who potentially will see their income drop or even send them out of business. This will result in local shopping areas becoming run down and lots of vacant premises.

I work in a local small business in woolston where one of the best features of the area for our customers is the cheap parking available near by. It would negatively affect us if this were to change

Can't believe this is happening especially when Warwick is asking parents of st Patrick's school to park in the car park at woolston on school runs as it is free, now you want to charge. Yet alone the local shops will not have any customers. The roads around woolston are always blocked with cars from people parking up and then walking over the bridge to work as they cannot afford the parking charges in town.

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Ruins local freedom of movement and effects small businesses

A lot of car parks like Peartree Gardens are used by ordinary residents when shopping for groceries. Low income people and elderly have to use the car parks too. When buying a lot, driving is much preferred than taking a bus.

Kill off local business- stop people going out to shop/coffee/meet friends because of the additional cost of doing so.

There is already parking restrictions of only free for 2 hours that stops cars parking all day but this will stop the trade and memberships of small business and gyms in these local areas. The suburban area will end up ghost towns especially with the cost of living issues.

This will hinder park and stride for the local primary school. Charging should be made for 2+ hours. Or not within school drop off pick up times.

It will destroy local business

The area is just dull of small independent business and people that gisit dont stay for long. Why need for parking and breaking the small husiness down. If parking goes up no one will visit them. Think ajout us human beings for once and not jsut money making scheme that the council only thinks of.

It will push parking to local residential streets where the parking spaces are already limited due to overdevelopment of flats, and there aren't any regular traffic wardens to monitor 2 hours permit parking zone either.

Charges will negatively effect businesses.

Charging for car parking in Shirley will kill the shops trade & will force more people to shop online, this will be damaging to Shirley as a town.

Convenience to shops, unlikely to shop with these charges. High street will suffer & 90 min current options will become busier & less appealing therefore I will avoid whole area & drive elsewhere with parking convenience.

This is outrageous and the decision is irresponsible as it will finally kill Bitterne and maybe some of the other areas. Bitterne especially has been left to decline anyway. This will now stop people just being able to pop in for a short stay because it will make them think twice whether it's cost effective. It's an insult to local residents and any other people thinking of visiting to have to pay for every second that any of us visit our local shops! Once there are charges we all know that this will only be the start of a money making pit and the areas that you are doing it to will never receive any of the benefit! This must not be implemented at any cost! Thank you

Its going to stop.people popping into Shirley and being able to.use smaller retailers for goods. Sometimes the items are cheaper out of town at bigger shops, but the free parking helps offset that. With parking fees the items will become much more expensive, and I shall take my business elsewhere. To shops where I can browse and take my time without paying a fee.

Its a shame, I have used Shirley all my life and supported smaller shops but as an older person I would generally go for little but go often....if paying I shall go rarely but use every minute I have paid for.

This once again eats away at the income of the older generation who maybe need to visit the doctor, podiatrist, pharmacy or just go to the library. They will be paying for a while as the time in the surgery is unpredicrable....and possibley paying this regularly. This will kill the small shops.

I want to be able to support local businesses by visiting Shirley High Street and not having to pay for parking

Small local shops and businesses will struggle if customers desert them for stores offering free parking

Local businesses will suffer

as people will just go to out of town shops

The council don't need any more of our money

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This move will blight local businesses.

People will just park irresponsibly in the local area to avoid paying, leaving the car parks empty. What is the point of having the car parks if they are not used? Most people use them for quick visits. Could you do first hour free, then pay after?

The scheme will be highly detrimental to businesses in Bitterne and the local community by reducing shoppers. Moreover, people will not give up their's cars for expensive and unreliable bus services. It will also mean more car traffic in other areas as drivers seek out free parking.

Because of the current economic downturn, people's lives are difficult.

People will not use that car park. The High Street will suffer as the remaining free car parks will be impossible to use as they are at busy periods already.

It will take trade away from local areas. I think people will be more inclined to shop at large supermarkets, even for small shops, rather than have to pay 50p to pick up a couple of items. Shame on you.

These new tariffs will drive people away from Bitterne, Portswood, Shirley and Woolston effecting all business but especially small businesses who are trying to get people back to some of these dying areas.

How will the council cover the cost of operating the car parks when a decline in people visiting will surely happen.

Will people that need to use their car to get to work after dropping children off at school, or can't use public transport because the buses are not regularly running on time or because there is not enough space for disabled people or help on the bus, a discount to park?

Even an hour free is better than nothing!

As a resident of Bitterne and a user of Portswood facilities, I would like to object to the proposals as I believe the proposals will impact the areas around the District Centres as people try and park on street to avoid the charges.

Bitterne car park charges will affect the usage of an area that already struggles for patronage. The charges in Bitterne affect all age groups including the elderly getting their shopping and parents with children, who will now be effectively charged for using the new play facilities.

The charges in Portswood will be implemented at a time of great change as the bus gate is implemented and therefore the effect of introducing these charges could impact the monitoring of changes caused by the bus gate.

The concept of introducing these charges is surely against Council Policies of encouraging growth in District Centres and will affect smaller local businesses.

Inflation rise

A further nail in the coffin for local businesses who pay very high council tax to trade. This is driving shoppers on line or further out to retail parks.

Introduction of parking charges at Peartree Gardens by Bitterne Precinct seems a foolish plan. It is likely the number of people parking here to use the local shops will decrease. I am more likely to shop at a Tesco Express, Amazon or go to a superstore in Hedge End or Whiteley than support a local business. I will probably move my gym membership. I'm more likely to drive further where I can park for free rather than walk/ride.

I suggest to you the results will eventually be a reduction in businesses and subsequently business rates and possible increases in other problems. Is the small increase in parking revenue in the

short term worth it in the long term?

Even West Quay gives 30mins free to park!

Shoppers will go elsewhere, ruining local business

Low income

It will increase the cost of living and make people more difficult. As well as it will create an obstacle to people who cannot easily access the public transport

I object to this proposal for multiple reasons.

Firstly, high street shops are already struggling to survive. Online shopping and the aftermath of the Covid pandemic have resulted in many businesses on the high street closing. In Bitterne, where I live, we have lost many of the banks and building societies already, with the last 2 set to close in the summer of 2025. There are many empty premises as well which is a blight on the area. Introducing parking charges will just further exacerbate this issue and we will end up with "ghost towns" of boarded up shops. In Bitterne, Sainsburys is a major shop and used by many people on a daily basis. Parking charges will mean people travelling to other stores, such as Hedge End, Portswood, and Shirley where Sainsbury's offers free parking. This will impact Bitterne precinct, but more importantly go against another key Council objective of reducing traffic on the roads as more people will travel further. With these parking charges being introduced, there will be fewer people using these areas, which means local high street/precinct businesses will have reduced trade and coupled with the increased business rates will result in many of them calling it a day and ceasing trade.

Secondly, these car parks that the proposed charges are being applied to are used to help reduce people parking in the surrounding residential streets. Introducing charges will just mean people not using the car parks and parking in the residential streets. In my area of Bitterne, these car parks are used as safe drop-off zones for school children. Introducing these charges will mean that parents will resort to trying to park on residential streets near to the schools further increasing the chaos at school drop-off and pick-up time that the recent "School Streets Experimental Order" has created. People park on single yellow lines, half on the pavement half on the road, and in front of peoples drives. The introduction of charges will just increase this issue, creating more traffic in the area of schools and thus making it less safe for children as they go to and leave school.

I would be grateful if you take my opinions in to consideration when making your final decision and that you decide not to implement the proposal.

I look forward to hearing from you.

kind regards

It will continue the decline of in town shopping. People can go to retail parks and park for free. It is mean and unfair many people cannot afford to pay these additional costs.

We understand that the government's finances are tight and we need to increase revenue. However, when parking lots in the suburbs require charges, people's living standards will greatly increase, and it will also make it difficult for people to live a reasonable life. This is not a solution that the democratically elected government has considered.

I object, I would prefer to use the money supporting the local shops that surround the car parks

I'm paying enough council tax and paying for a car to be parked on the street outside my house which I find an annoying liberty by the council as it is without more parking charges when I go out, I'd rather spend the money in local shops so they can survive in the current climate

It's all very well stating that there are better bus routes etc. however who can do a full shop and cart it home on a bus!! We should be doing all we can to attract visitors to our local shopping areas. Also why on earth is Commercial road going to be restricted to 2 hours only? People using

the church, church hall & health centre can attend events that regularly last over 2 hours, I think you will be affecting many vulnerable people with this limited parking timeframe.

Maybe council should focus on how to save money instead looking in residents pockets? Is there any competent manager in Southampton City council? These chargers are not going to encourage the people to use alternative transport, it wil drain theirs pockets. We know how much in dept your action has put this city in to, but maybe instead of increasing charges for service's in the city, someone should think how to save money instead? Or is it just simply to much for that council?

There is no reason to increase or change these charges. It's pure greed and you'll be affecting a lot of small independent businesses who are already trying to make ends meet.

retailers private ones especially are feeling the results of all the recent road closures and road works and are loosing profits which wi eventually close their business this will just push people to shop elsewhere where it's free and easier to park

Introducing parking charges in Bitterne is complete madness.

It will lead to people seeking free parking in other places such as Hedge End resulting in loss of income for shops in Bitterne, leading to their eventual closure. The precinct will become run down full of empty shops! Also, with Brownlow Avenue closed twice a day outside the school parents park in Angel Crescent to drop and collect their children. How can they afford the extra charges when household budgets are already stretched. It will also push more cars into surrounding area causing more congestion in already narrow roads with very few parking places at present!

Refrain from charging all the car parks in Bitterne in order to protect the shops in the precinct. There are already very few shoppers around after 3.30pm, parking charges will be the death knell of the local shopping centre.

Too charge extra on car parking,will effect the local shops and push the customers,to the free car park area's at hedge end and other area's like them. The 2 hours free car parking allows people Too pick up the quick shop small purchases

The decision to increase Parking Charges in the areas indicated in this proposal is a very serious issue that could bring about the closure of already struggling shops and other amenities due to considerably reduced footfall brought about by the removal of a Free Period of 2 hours in most of the affected parks . I understand that due to the Previous Conservative Governments Savage Cuts to Funding there is a Shortfall in available resources to maintain the Parks but the removal of Free Periods absolutely will not bring about an increase in revenue but will probably devastate the local economy. As a way of increasing revenue a much better idea would be to reduce the free parking to 1 hour and introduce charges for any additional time for those wishing to stay longer which is much more likely to increase much needed revenue, and would lessen the effect on Local Business .Please give very serious consideration to these suggestions , they are logical after all .

This is ridiculous!! Commercial Rd is used for so many reasons. What happens if there is a long wait time in the health centre. Not a good idea

2 hours is not enough considering elderly and pregnant woman use health centre and people that attend church. All about making money off people as usual. I do hope disabled are not included in this too

This will directly impact on the Maskers Theatre charity which is based in Shirley. The only opportunity in the area for local people to access and participate in theatre in Shirley. It will also affect footfall and access to Shirley shops and realistically make the traffic and parking in local roads even worse.

I feel that these charges will discourage car users to use local businesses who rely on their income in these difficult times. Southampton will appear to be a less welcoming City and so will suffer by less revenue.

Free parking supports local businesses.

As a resident in close vicinity to SCC car parks (the polygon), who also owns their own car, I think people should be discouraged from using their motor vehicles for most errands within the city.

Too often do people drive short distances, or to transport goods that could easily fit in a bag or on a bicycle. Research has shown, time and again, that realtors overestimate their patrons who have come by motor vehicle (e.g. the Bedford Place car park). As a resident I feel that my (our) health and comfort of living should not be subordinate to other people's lack of wanting to explore other transport options. Finally, this is public land. Land that could have been a park, or any other kind of space for people, humans, to enjoy, but is not. Parking income helps the council fund other efforts to run the city, and make it a good place to live.

In short, I support the price changes. If people choose to stick it to Southampton by not driving into the center anymore: thank you, that's exactly what will help us make our streets safer and our air cleaner.

There is no viable alternative to car transport from Upper Shirley to Shirley High Street and shopping area, for purchases or using the library, building society, local council office or to meet people for a coffee. The only bus service to Shirley goes hourly and stops at 2pm! It is wrong to impose charges when residents of Upper Shirley are already penalised by having no viable alternative means of transport either into Shirley or the town centre. It is a 40 minute walk, which is fine in reasonable weather for a fit person, provided there are no heavy items to carry home, but not for those of us older or with health or mobility difficulties which are not classifiable as disability. It angers me to read the rationale as to "encourage people to use alternative transport" when there is none, and when most of us would prefer to use a bus or train, for environmental and financial reasons. As a volunteer reading coach who uses the library to conduct this essential service I am also concerned that not only reading coaches but their readers might cease to use these services for financial reasons.

I can see why parking shouldn't be free all the time but I do think it is vital that the first 1hr should be free especially for those who want to "pop" into the shops. I think that the small businesses will be effected if the first hour isn't free. It does leave the rest of the day for those who wish to park for longer to pay. You say you want to let more people able to use the car parks, which they would be able to if only the 1st hour was free. Surely this scheme will cost the council a lot more money to operate as you will need a lot more "carpark attendants" to operate especially as their working day will be longer than their existing. If these proposals are implemented I for one will be going to out of city shopping areas or supermarkets that have free carparking & lots of other people agree with me.

I use most of these car parks regularly and see no need at all for this to be imposed. It will not improve the situation only make it more stressful for the drivers that use them.

2 hours is ridiculous especially as it is a car park for the church and the health centre and the church hall. This is a community car park which people should not have to pay for to go to church or a medical appointment

The Council should just be honest and say that they want more money. Increasing the charges and removing the free parking period will not encourage drivers to use other forms of transportation. The council should look into their processes and procedures and review Lean working processes rather than just increasing costs because it's a short sighted way to improve a situation.

You need the shops to get supported in Bitterne. Now having to pay to park will put people off.

There are already too many private cars in Southampton. The city must find ways of persuading people to leave their cars outside and come on by cleaner, quieter, less intrusive means. Anything that persuades people in this direction is helpful

We must have incentives for people to change behaviour from harmful habits like using a heavy polluting vehicle for short journeys that most folk could do by cycling walking wheeling or bus. Facilities for active travel modes are much improved in the areas proposed for increased parking costs but the stick is needed as well as carrots and the true cost to everyone of driving in built up areas must be reflected in the user paying more.

This will obviously deter people from using local businesses and increase parking in local streets.

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I am concerned about the impact of charging for short stays (under an hour) on the businesses on Shirley High Street and on those of us whose walking ability is limited but who do not yet qualify for a blue badge.

My comments relate to Shirley only (Cannon Street, Marlborough Road (both sides) and Howards Grove) although the principles probably apply elsewhere.

Shopping locally is self-evidently good for social cohesion, and free local short-term parking greatly supports that. Charging (or charging more) for short-term parking in Shirley is likely to encourage car owners to drive to less local retail parks, which would not only damage the micro-local economy but also increase car mileage - not a good thing.

Shirley already has a problem with inconsiderate on-street (and on-footway) parking, and charging for short-term off-street parking can reasonably be expected to make that problem worse.

Although Shirley has a growing evening cafe/restaurant/bar presence with some beneficial impact on social cohesion, the car parks in question are not in that area; there is no need to "manage parking demand" in the evenings.

It is of course important to encourage drivers to consider alternative means of transport, but we might achieve that better by making the footways safer for pedestrians, the roadway safer for cyclists, and buses more accessible for people living away from the main roads.

Will damage small businesses and cause further parking issues for local residents

Without the 2 hour free parking, it will make it even more difficult for people to do groceries shopping

Car users should pay to have their vehicles stand idle for prolonged periods.

Sometime soon I hope, the realization will come that we all need to change deeply ingrained thoughts and actions. Even with electrification the planet cannot support this abuse.

In these times council budgets are tight this is a great way to grow revenue whilst increasing incentives to use public transport. With the bus fare cap set to rise it's only right that those who can afford a car see the parking costs rise to maintain the incentive to use the bus.

The news about new bus routes on Hill Lane is exciting and in Wollston we've already seen much needed increase to the 19 frequency on a Sunday and with buses now even on Christmas day the reasons to use dangerous, dirty and expensive cars that sit on the traffic choked bridges are becoming fewer and fewer.

A great move by Southampton Council!

I do have to wonder how you think this will impact local areas and businesses as I believe people will go elsewhere, will the revenue make up for the lost business?

I live in Downside Ave Bitterne and I wish to protest at the plan to make the car park at Sainsburys a paying one. This will without doubt drive people to park on local roads and at school dropping and collecting times it will be horrendous. This council has no idea and it is typical of their shortsighted schemes.

It's vital for school runs and the safety of the kids around.. especially with the traffic that builds up around the school.. it will also stop a lot of people using the already dying Bitterne which eventually will just end up derelict

This will be the death of shops in places like Bitterne and Portswood

This will be hugely detrimental to the much-valued local amateur dramatics company in Shirley that I'm a member of.

As well as Shirley locals, we have members and audiences who visit from all around Hampshire,

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many of whom come from areas where there is no suitable bus route. We do car share where possible but rely on the local car parks to be able to come and participate in activities at the theatre company. The removal of free evening parking will also very likely put audiences off coming to our shows and this could mean we're no longer able to keep running.

I am deeply disappointed that SCC should remove 2hrs free parking & propose full parking charges.

I am mainly commenting on Shirley as I live in Shirley Avenue:

\*This will severely impact local shops & restaurants.

\*The current 2 free hours enable customers to shop, then vacate their parking space, allowing another shopper to park.

\*This will 'kill off' the Cafe Culture that so adds to customers remaining in Shirley, potentially spending more money.

\*New charges will increase the cost for Restaurant customers. To enjoy a relaxed meal, they will need to pay for 3-4 hours parking.

\*Charges will impact patients of NHS Walk In at 'DAMIRA DENTAL' creating parking costs for those who can least afford it.

\*More recent property developments in Shirley do not have allocated parking. Surely, SCC planning consent would not have been given if free local parking was unavailable. How can the new charges be justified?

\*Shirley is a working class, low cost housing environment which in turn, attracts proportionally more people with poor health &/or disabilities, especially with its proximity to Southampton General Hospital.

Surely, increased parking charges are unfair.

\*Introducing charges will push vehicles into local roads that currently have no restrictions eg. Shirley Avenue that is already congested & regardless of the 20mph speed limit, speeding vehicles remain a menace. (Introduce a speed camera for instant penalty notice revenue!!)

\*More recently, Shirley High Street has developed a strong restaurant environment & I strongly feel that parking charges will severely impact this success.

General comments ref. Proposed charges near open spaces: eg.

\*The Sports Centre in addition to the area adjacent to the Bowling Green, also Weston Shore.

\*Whilst our obese population is being urged to lose weight, improve their health & engage in activities (eg walking), introducing parking charges to these open spaces will deter people from exercising as many would drive to these areas. Charges create yet another barrier for them.

PORTSWOOD PARKING:

\*Similar comments to my comments about Shirley (except a little more affluent).

I regularly use the 2 hour free parking in Portswood. I will no longer do this if charges are introduced.

\*I am sure my comments are also a reflection of other areas, eg Bitterne & Woolston, This will destroy our local communities at a time when 'out of town' commercial centres are

contributing to the downfall of smaller shopkeepers.

Thank you for reading my comments.

While I get your objectives, surely a fairer way, which wouldn't impact casual / short-term visitors, is to grant each vehicle a certain number of visits [or a set duration] per year, which would be free, up to a certain amount. It wouldn't be such a good offer that anyone would think of getting a spare car to bypass it, but at a level that starts to penalize those who visit daily [thus use the facilities more]. ANPR could sort this.

That way, those prepared to think ahead, and perhaps plan to achieve several things per visit, rather than make several different visits each for one of several different purposes, might be tempted by the "free" parking, but wouldn't, necessarily, stay longer than they need [thus creating car-park 'churn', which you prob. want]. They might also consider other means of transport, esp. once they've reached their allocation-limit.

The problem with imposing even minimum charges is that drivers are tempted to see what else is on offer. Those round So'ton's edges have the choice to cross a boundary into another authority's space, so unless councils all co-ordinate removing free parking over a swathe, visitors will take their trade – not just the business they specifically went for, but the side-stuff that they're triggered to do on the fly – elsewhere.

Bitterne [the suburb most familiar to me] is already struggling, and would further lose capacity if hit by a cut in visitor numbers. Woolston has similar, poss. greater, issues. You're spending, and have spent, much on making it more attractive, but that's giving with one hand to take away with the other — or wasted if the people vote with their feet / wheels.

I wouldn't go to West End Rd C P to, say, catch last posting at the P.O. opposite, if I were charged merely to enter the C P. As I use it currently, I may go to any of the bigger or smaller shops in the precinct, which are still open at the time of last posting [4 or 5pm] while I'm there.

While I may walk to the Library [nearer me], I'd be reluctant to carry a normal-sized shopping haul back home.

I can see why you don't want to offer a free short stay [to cut the need for wardens to patrol the spaces] but if you're going to employ remote monitoring for that job, you could also offer that carrot-&-stick m.o. Free short-term parking strikes me as a good system, overall: it doesn't discourage those who need to stop at a place for a really brief errand, but [even tho' a few may be missed by not having enough wardens] most will fall into line for fear of being fined, or clamped by over-aggressive implementation,

We are already pay more than enough in council tax and road tax.

For those who are using the car park for less than an hour, these charges seem unnecessary. For example, to park in order to pick up prescriptions may take less than 20 mins, and the added concern for the payment and working out how to pay adds time and potential fines if not done or done incorrectly.

For those who do not use the car park frequently the added charge makes them less likely to go out as they will have to find alternative modes of transport such as walking or cycling, whjich may deter people from going to the high street and/or socializing, reducing amount of footfall in public areas.

For those who have regularly used the car park at about once per week the cost becomes £9.03 per week if they purchase the yearly permit or the charge forced upon them when paying seperately, which before they did not have to do so. This creates an added inconvenience to them, especially as local banks are being shut down and change is no longer simple to come by.

The currently existing schedule 1 is sufficient to deter those who park and leave their vehicles for long peroids of time. The schedule both rewards those who stay short term by the lack of charge and asks for compensation from those who stay long term.

The proposed schedule 2 punishes those who use the car parks regardless of the term of their

stay, and discourages people from using or going to the areas in the vicinity, reducing the high street footfall as well as socializing with people in person, which leads to potentially reducing quality of life, especially from the elderly or introverted youths.

This is an extra heavy burden, on top of the already increased council tax and road tax. It will suffocate the already difficult small shops in those area and adversely affect the economy of these area. This is a shortsighted proposal.

It is not essential to proceed with those arrangements at this time.

The 2 hour free parking is what makes wanting to shop in smaller high streets or shopping areas more appealing. If I have to pay for every hour just to pop into a smaller shop. I would just pay for Amazon delivery. This initiative will not help the local small business owners. Only hinder them.

Not enough time to do shopping or look around the shops/or go for a coffee with your elderly family members.

I write to object to your proposal to change the charging structure to a number of car parks as listed in your notice

The car parks listed already have restrictions and or pay to park rules in place

This actually works really well. It deters people from using the car parks and bussing to the city centre to work for the day. It also affords people sufficient time to shop and conduct other business without the need to pay. If you know you will be longer than two hours there is the option to pay for extra time.

Parking is an essential requirement for any retail are to survive. If the new charging arrangements were to be introduced I fear the public would be less inclined to use these car parks. This would have a negative effect on the footfall of the surrounding retail and business premises

Business have already been hit with huge extra tax burdens announced in the recent budget. Many businesses are fragile at the moment. Even if the new arrangements only reduced the sales by 5% this could be enough for job cuts to be necessary or in extreme cases could even make the business no longer viable and force closures

Also consider the problems we have already with illegal parking. Southampton City Council is utterly useless at enforcing parking rules.'1 fear that there would be an increase of illegal parking, potentially putting members of the public at risk. Also residents nearby would find an increase of parking on the roads by people seeking to avoid charges.

For many years now parents have been encouraged to use these car parks as part of Park and Stride. Should parents be forced to pay for parking to do the right thing and reduce traffic around our schools. Even using the shortest pay period twice a day this would amount to £5 per week.

Other car park users that would be affected are those attending appointments with GPs, dentists or other healthcare professionals,

In summary, if these new charges were to be introduced, you would be penalising people going about their day to day business just because they need to use a car,

Please reconsider and do not interfere with what is working really well already.

Car parks work well now allowing uses the choice of, as they are now it allows people to park and use the already suffering business , by changing the tariffs it will deter shoppers from the convenience of the local shops , also will cause impact on local residents roads as drivers will look for a free option to park rather than pay in the car park if a quick trip! Also will encourage more pavement parking where people will chance just popping in to the shop, people are already suffering financially it's highly unfair to increase parking across the city in more localised areas because if feel where the council made a hideous plan to knock down 2 very well used car parks in



the city centre , the council have now realised the amount of lost revenue from these active car parks and have realised they need to recoup this income elsewhere... so I object

Continual punitive measures against car owners discourages from frequenting shopping areas. I live in Totton and used to travel into Southampton and Shirley to spend time shopping in various stores. Due to the abject misery of driving into Southampton, exacerbated by ridiculous sequencing of traffic lights this is no longer the case.

The traffic lights used to be intelligently controlled to assist the flow of traffic but seem to have been weaponised against the motorist.

I am objecting to this proposal because this will affect the small businesses as people will not be encouraged to go for a short period of time. At the moment you have a two hour of period to shop and in that time you can go to several shops and not worry about time. Therefore supporting the local businesses.

To use alternative transport instead is still more expensive as a bus ticket is currently £2 so why would you leave your car at home.

None of these car parks are ever full and they will be even less full as people will find alternative parking which is on the road.

The central car parks of the city can take the cost but the outer areas cannot as it could loose the footfall to keep businesses going. Closure of businesses is not good at the moment.

The council should be encouraging people to visit the area not deter them.

I try to support local businesses in the current cost of living crisis and regularly use the Howard's Grove car park for a short stay. However, as I already have to pay to park outside my own house, I'm not prepared to pay for parking to do my shopping. 2 hours of free parking is adequate and for those who need more time charges are already in place. ARE THE COUNCIL REALLY SHORTSIGHTED ENOUGH TO RISK THE HEALTH OF THE BUSINESSES ON AN ALREADY STRUGGLING HIGH ST?

This is just another way of ripping the motorist off. We need car parks in Woolston for example to encourage people to come there. Trying to make it sound as if it's all to the good is pathetic. Keoagh has always hated the car and he has done terrible damage to our roads infrastructure

If the car park need to pay, we don't go to there any more

I often use the Shirley car park to quickly drop off donations in the Sue Rider shop. Making it chargeable and not giving any free time will discourage me and others from doing this. It will also make the sainsburys car park full of people not wanting to pay and make it hard for people actually shopping at sainsburys.

Impact on local businesses & more attacks on car drivers

Local businesses struggling already. This would deter customers. Would encourage parking in local roads which are congested enough. Park and Stride for schools would incur cost which is unfair.

Putting charges in will affect business' and a lot of shops will be forced to reduce staff or close. Residential areas already have people parking just to use the bus to town and it's has an impact on those that live there.

We are already paying more than enough in council tax and road tax.

This effects local community and should not be actioned

Affects this on low income to attend appointments

I oppose the city council's decision to cancel the two hours of free parking in suburban areas and to introduce night-time charges. The council continues to raise council tax prices, and citizens are also paying a significant amount in road tax, which entitles them to the service of two hours of free parking! Conditions like potholes on the roads have not improved, and this proposal only highlights the serious dereliction of duty in the council's financial management.

These charges with have a very negative effect on

Local business

Independant business

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Local residents

Cost of living

Local roads will be used instead leading to tensions

No more popping to the local shop on the way home from work

Scc are supposed to support its residents and local business not treat them like the enemy

Unfair to charge patients coming in to woolston health clinic as well as staff

This will impact small local businesses and just push visitors to these areas onto neighbouring roads.

It will result in shoppers going out of town to free car parks rather than to local shops. Keep these car parks free for 2hrs to keep businesses going please.

This would stop people just popping into Shirley, Bitterne to pick up a few bits and will kill the smaller shop trade.

Free 2 hour parking is vital to keeping our high street alive, our children safer around schools in the area, and to avoid congestion and blocking up the side roads with many more vehicles parking.

I love near one of the car parks effected and street parking is already a problem, getting in and out my drive can be very difficult at times, when people seem to totally disregard not only the neighbours but also drop curbs, there is no enforcement on this.

Both woolston and bitterne are trying to keep shopping local, this is not going to encourage shoppers to stay local.

Are parents expected to pay School pick up and drop off?

Without a shadow of doubt,if you implement car parking charges it will have it will have a massive negative impact to all the traders in Bitterne precinct. Personally ,I use the car park to shop at sainsburies and iceland.I also use the car park when I need to visit some of the other traders .I use the little car park in west end rd opposite the post office when I need to send a package.If I have to pay to park to shop I will definitely be less inclined to use these traders .I will go else where.This is a fact . Another problem will be people parking in the near by streets to avoid the charge.I live in Downside Avenue and I have already noticed my road is much harder to park in because of all the trees that have been planted to stop people parking on the verges.So it will only get worse and more congested with your plan.Is the person responsible for this crazy plan the same one who thought it would be a good idea to make the road from Bitterne into town and back a single lane?Only an idiot or a bunch of idiots could have thought that one up! That all had to be reversed and it cost an absolute fortune to put right.Maybe if you did your job properly back then and not wasted hundreds of thousands of pounds of tax payers money ,we wouldn't be having to charge people to shop now. Just a thought.

With the stress being suffered by small & medium sized businesses, it seems heartless and counterproductive to increase or commence car parking charges, and hence deter people from calling into their local shopping areas. My wife and I both have bus passes, so won't be directly affected by the charges, but indirectly, if this is the last straw that pushes businesses into closure, we will be all the poorer for the reduced choice locally, and poorer in our pockets if the council collects less in business rates, and has to increase council tax even further. Don't forget that the charges may push people into using out of town outlets which do not charge parking fees, and have much larger and more convenient car parks.

please can you ensure that local people are not charged parking fees for local car parks.

I am a regular long-standing member at PureGym Bitterne and frequently visit various Bitterne shops before & after my gym visits. It is not feasible for me to walk to the gym from home, as I live too far away. There are many other gym members like me who give their custom to Bitterne shops.

If the proposed parking charges are introduced, I will be forced to shop elsewhere and to seek out a different gym.

This proposal will close more businesses in Bitterne as people will drive to other nearby places that don't charge. Also this will affect the ever diminishing number of old people that attend the 2 churches and the public house.

At a time when cost of living is difficult it seems crazy that you would impose cost on consumers and drive down footfall in areas where small business is already struggling. this is a counter productive measure and will result in the closing of businesses, losing jobs and local tax revenue for a few extra pounds in the short term.

As residents of Brownlow Avenue, our concern is that charging for all Bitterne car parks will cause problems and congestion in the surrounding streets as motorists seek the closest free and unrestricted on road parking. Unlike in the centre of Southampton, most residential roads in Bitterne around the central precinct shopping area allow unrestricted parking so visitors in cars will park in the residential roads instead with only a short walk to the shops to avoid paying the parking fee.

Reducing 5 hour free parking to 2 hours was fair . Most people pop into town to pick up bits from the shops etc. But if you need to stay longer than two hours fair enough you have to pay . But this is the assumption it's just a once a week visit and it's not!! People drop children off for schools and events like cub scouts etc. That's why a free two hours is fair! All you have is a greed for money and what will happen is people will stop going to those shops and businesses will end up closing and children will stop social interaction as parents can't pay the charges and buses are not safe in the darker hours and not practical or even available. Everyone will suffer including the council as car parks won't be used in the capacity they experience now.

By doing this it will be going down the path like Totton did and now the car parks by the three score ten club are virtually empty.the shops will see a decline in trade and the shops will close to not only that but also due to the rising cost of running their businesses.just for a trial period do away with the parking charges.having said that before the council started charging people to park everything was okay and everyone was very happy ?.

People will shop elsewhere and shops will close, very bad for the economy, and car parks won't therefore be used anymore so what advantage is it for the council.

Kids will no longer go to social activities like girls brigade so they will suffer as well.

This is a bad decision for everyone including the council

Believe in a cost of living crisis this is just going to increase pressure on the residents. Will have it re-think items like gym memberships where I attend at times all other businesses are closed except the gym. Others could be faced with the same concerns and so it could also lead to a reduction in the health of the area.

People already park over my drive because they think the Marlborough road car park has a charge.

This charge will drive people away from shirley impacting the small businesses we have in Shirley High Street. The bigger businesses will not renew leases shops will become empty and the area will degrade in turn driving down the value of properties impacting my lifestyle and my families and other families wellbeing.

Following on you will then make it permit parking adding extra cost to our cost of living. This will force people to either, cheat or move out of the area and the value depreciates and the circle continues.

What will you be doing with the income? You certainly won't need to fix the drains because there aren't any as they have had tarmac put over them.

This will deter people from shopping locally which will put small businesses at risk.

Taxing local people to drop, pick up their children and shop locally thus keeping local shops alive and open.

What is in place already works well. Detrimental for small businesses and people going about their general duties. Will deter people using the already struggling shops in the community.

Making people pay to park in Woolston and the other small commercial areas in Southampton is madness. We go there because it's easy and convenient; there are no big commercial draws there so we don't mind the limited shopping as it's easy and cheap to get to.

More than that, it's a social hub and an important lifeline for many people including the elderly and vulnerable. Don't put another barrier in the way of that. It's the small businesses that will suffer and then they will leave and we'll be left with ghost towns.

I do not believe it is fair to enforce charges of this nature, which low income families, and even middle income - when bills are constantly rising, will struggle to afford. This will have a detrimental impact on people's ability to carry out their daily lives/activities, especially when southampton does not have an affordable, reliable and frequent public transport service as an alternative. Public transport is also generally not feasible when shopping for a large number of items.

The majority of people are not spending more than a couple of hours shopping/visiting these places, therefore anything under 2 hours should remain free.

The car park is convenient and essential to all who use the library surgery or the church and also the funeral directors and would be a shame if these parking regulations changed

We are in desperate need of reduced car usage for increased safety on our streets, increased air quality and additional health benefits for people that will ultimately reduce pressure on the NHS.

It would prevent me from visiting the shops on the High Street if I have to pay for parking

It will kill Shirley

These proposals will have a detrimental effect on the neighbourhoods close by were shoppers will park on the streets close by rather than paying to park in the car parks.

This will impact us further on match days at St Mary's, as we already get a number of people park on our road to walk to the stadium. This will increase with many fans choosing not to park in Woolston now.

Businesses are already struggling in these areas and introducing parking charges will only add to that. It will reduce the number of people visiting the shops in these areas. Personally if I'm having to pay to park somewhere like Shirley I may as well make the trip into the city centre and have the wider range of shops. It will stop people just popping into these places to grab the one or two things they need and then also looking round the other shops while they are there

I am supporting retailers of smaller shops who need passing trade.

A lot of elderly come to Bitterne to do their shopping because its local and don't have to deal with manic people rushing around pushing people, ramming them with trolleys. It's a friendly place where people have time to chat, yesterday I was in a queue lady in front husband had passed couple of years ago and lady behind me lost her husband last year so all got chatting about this and that none of us in a hurry we had time for each other. My point is the elderly in our society are being hit hard with what this government are doing and now you want to charge them to have a little bit of friendliness for couple of hours. Southampton you have put parking fees up so much in Southampton can you just leave little shopping areas alone or do you want to hit our most vulnerable in society again and possible stop many coming into Bitterne. Council tax goes up every year but what do the people get in return not a lot and here you are looking to get more out of us. Be Kind

Extremely unfair to people who shop locally and drop and collect children before and after work . Why cannot a 30 minute free slot be available for parents , pharmacies and essential shopping . As a resident with a 5G construction in my constant view I know your consultation process means nothing , as all deals are already made . Residents views are not valued , it's hard to believe you serve the local community .

Free parking periods encourage visitation. I am not aware of any location where the removal of free parking has done anything except contribute to the decline of an area by driving away visitors.

People will stop going to Bitterne Village to do their shopping and it will also limit people meeting up for coffee /meals . The council are spending money improving the look of Bitterne Village but that's that's a waste if people move to shop else where because of parking charges.

The car parks impacted serve the local communities and will have longer term impacts for our currently dying local tradesfolk. Our local traders are on their knees with the exorbitant rental charges on their properties, the taxes and increased charges having imposed on them. Although these costs seem minor initially, we know how this will work- in a matter of time the charges will increase. These charges will add even more costs to shoppers, and encourage more to go on-line and contribute to the continual eradication of the high street.

These charges add an additional burden on local households when families are already financially struggling and highlights the lack of empathy and lack of effort the council put into seeking alternative revenue sources choosing to take the easy and lazy option

Whilst I appreciate that you will get a lot of people objecting to these proposals, I fully support them as part of measures to discourage unnecessary very local driving. The provision of free short stay parking just encourages people to hop in their car, when they could walk or cycle, a small fee might be enough to nudge them to leave it at home. The limited scale of the charge means it isn't going to put off anyone who genuinely needs to drive from outside the immediate local area. I just wish you could specifically channel the funds raised into more bollards to prevent anti social pavement parking, widen pavements on key routes to Woolston centre to encourage walking and provide better on street commercial bin storage - to make the environment more attractive to those of us who do already walk, and to act as an enticement to those that should be. You'll no doubt cop a lot of hassle from the car-brained folk in Woolston and Weston, but there are many of us quietly very pleased to see the 20mph zone, the slow but steady improvement to our access to alternative modes of transport and we keep our fingers crossed for more LTN style access reductions within the 20mph zone in the future.

Small businesses are having a hard time - this will make it worse. People will which to out of town shopping where parking is free.

Are you trying to ruin all the local independent businesses? because that's what you will achieve.

Having to pay for parking in Woolston will just kill off an already struggling community!

Needs to cost more than bus so people use buses (or walk or cycle)

This proposal which discourage the evening out to mentioned areas in Portswood and other side city areas

It will lead to less people coming into town

There isn't enough space at the best of time, know you want to charge for parking no to that idea.

Local businesses will suffer. Please reconsider this.

Killing businesses

You drive people out of town.

I support any measure that encourages people to travel by public transport or cycle instead of driving.

I go to pure gym on angel crescent and also shop here a lot, why will I now pay for parking when I can go to portswood and do my shopping and go to the gym there for free. This will hurt businesses in the bitterne area which I use a lot.

I use pure gym and the shops often and I won't be paying for parking. I would swap gyms and not go there for shopping at all

Very hard to get street parking

This will harm small businesses in those areas.

Will affect local businesses

t Free parking encourages me to use local shops. These proposals will decimate the livelihoods of small businesses. A compromise might be to reduce the free time to one hour. Please use common sense here. The people of Southampton already pay high council tax with deteriorating standards of support. Think logically please and work with people instead of suggesting arbitrary actions. That's what you're paid by US to do..

These small high streets have been struggling and there is finally some rejuvenation in those areas but introducing the charges every day all day and night it will drive people away and they will instead choose to go to the city centre. This will have a detrimental effect on those areas. If it's necessary to introduce payments then it should be limited to Mon-Sat and to stop charging at 6pm. Even the city centre car parks offer concessions in the evening! Additionally this will negatively impact the local residents as people will instead choose to park on the residential streets instead of the car parks. As a local resident who already struggles with people parking on my road to access the high street this proposal would make the problem worse and would then leave me struggling to park near my house not only during the day but in the evenings and weekends!

Introducing these parking charges to these sub urban areas will surely have an adverse effect on these small businesses that are already struggling. No one is going to want to pay these parking charges when they can just go to the city centre. If these charges are absolutely necessary, then they should be limited to Monday to Friday and stop charging at 6pm and weekends. Even the city centre car parks stop charging after 6pm or 8pm. In addition to this, those that do still choose to come to these areas will avoid the car parks and look for on street parking in the residential areas. Overcrowding the side streets and blocking people's driveways and residents such as myself will not have anywhere to park near where they live. In addition to this, people will more likely opt to go to retail parks such as Whitely or Hedge End where they have an extensive free parking area. The need for these parking charges surely does not outweigh the loss that these smaller businesses will surely suffer

I have read all about you promoting people shopping locally in your 'small business Saturday' where you say:

I believe that every time you walk into a local shop, or use local services, you're helping to create jobs, support local families, and keep our city vibrant. You're also helping to preserve the unique character of our neighbourhoods and districts. Our independent businesses are the heart and soul of Southampton, and they deserve our support.

Wow, you've laid down how important these districts are to society and the economy and then you think it's a good idea to charge everyone to park. You want to encourage the use of buses, this doesn't always work when people are hurriedly moving between work, gym, shopping, medical appointments and picking up their children. This is also a tax for predominantly women, the poorest in all societies, who in most cases are doing the shopping. It's an utter disgrace. I'm furious with you people in your towers looking down at the paupers and telling them to catch the bus.

Charging a fee for free parking will reduce numbers visiting the local area/shops

Woolston high street struggles enough without introducing parking fees.

A lot of shops depend on trade passing through and cars stopping whilst driving through the main street. Introducing fees will stop that happening and deter people from visiting

It is nonsense as it will discourage people to go out spending and shopping. Also we have already paid a high amount of council tax.

There should be no further increase in any car parking fees. You have milked the motorists enough. Consultations should not rely on The Echo and social media to get the views of the City's

residents. Proper consultations should take place on all matters affecting city's resident's, with relevant correspondence posted to all.

Southampton City Council are RIP OFF MERCHANTS STEALING UNLAWFUL TAXES FROM THE WORKING CLASSES YO FUND VANITY PROJECTS THAT FO NOT BENEFIT THE INDIGINOOUS

Shirley high street is already in its death throes. If these proposals get the ho ahead it will signal all the end of many small businesses in shirley that are dependant on footfall which is dependant on the free parking. The only businesses that will survive is Sainsbury's and lidls with their own parking. The loss of these businesses will be catastrophic to those that don't drive and with bus prices wildy out of control (£4 for a return from lordshill to the general hospital) no one will bother travelling to shirley via public transport. There are a large number of charity shops in shirley that will absolutely feel the brunt of this. What will the council do when shops close and the loss of business rates means that no one will want the car parks? Presumably they will sell off the car parks just as they have been asset stripping g southampon city's portfolio over the past few years such as guildhall square.

These small shopping areas are already struggling  
Paying to park will the small businesses

Taking away the free parking in Bitterne will kill off people shopping in Bitterne. You could reduce the 2 hours free down to 1 hour so that people could pop to shops without incurring a charge. Hopefully you will lose votes in the next election and we can have a better team in your place, you certainlt wont be getting my vote.

This proposal to start charging at the Angel Crescent car park will hit at the heart of the community. People use the car park to drop their children at school and these individuals will need to park in adjoining roads if charges,ate introduced in the car park; this will exacerbate existing congestion issues in Bitterne. People also use the car park to attend church. It is the most convenient parking space for the elderly and families attending services. It will impact on those attending gyms. It will also affect businesses in the precinct. I am fortunate yo be fit enough to walk to the shops and I use Sainsbury's on an almost daily basis. If charges are introduced, I fear those who currently drive to the Bitterne store will go yo Pirtswwod or Hedge End where parking is free snd then Eainsburys will close. The precinct has been decimated in the time I have lived here and this will only make it worse. I feel the Council has no concept of what it is like living here. They've introduced ridiculous cycle paths that are barely used and have made congestion so much worse, they've taken away the only driving centre this dide of the city and now they plan to destroy Bitterne precinct. All that money that is being spent on the playground in the precinct will be wasted if people no longer come due to parking costs. And don't tell me tge costs are low because I know that they will bd hiked up and probably very quickly. As fewer znd fewer people park there, the costs will be put up to keep the income stream going - like the most if stamps. I cannot tell you how strongly I object.

As an elderly person I object for financial reasons

Speaking as a local resident of Shirley, what ARE you doing SCC? Shirley High Street and the weekly market are already struggling as it is, so abolishing the two hour free parking will have a negative impact on all the retail businesses/charity shops in Shirley. If this plan goes ahead, I will certainly think twice before visiting my local shopping area. Its no wonder people are choosing to use out of town retail parks, thus causing more pollution/congestion in getting there! For goodness sake, just think about what you are proposing. Every Council is strapped for cash and facing high demand for its services but surely you should be managing our money in a better way rather than once again penalizing the easy targets.

This is just a money making exercise, this action will stop people from using local shops in Bitterne, woolston and portswood .

It will drive customers to shop out of town to the big retailers.

I will be reluctant to shop locally if I need to pay for parking. Local business can't compete considering Amazon free delivery.

Local businesses are struggling already with passing trade. Free parking is a vital lifeline to them and locals. I volunteer in a Sunday Kitchen, transporting food and goods to the venue. This would prevent me carrying on my volunteering.

There's no need to control parking with charging people when there's plenty of parking even during busy periods, just robbing people of money that people are struggling with already

Doesn't seem too exorbitant

I visit Woolston to attend an evening community group at the craft centre. I don't live local and am on limited income. To add a parking fee to my trip out will make the evening more expensive which means I will have to consider my options. I enjoy the company and it's usually a lovely evening. I don't think there is anything similar in my local area and it's too far to walk.

unreasonable

The damage it will cause to small local businesses would make these places ghost areas, and also they are important to our communities.

Because sometimes people literally need 10 or 15 minutes to do something and it will cause so many issues! Picking up medication or dropping in a prescription etc, just makes it hard for everyone and it's totally unfair! They need at least half hour free for short visits!

We have lost enough shops in Woolston, having to pay for parking will stop people visiting and cause more to close.

I think charging for car parking in these car parks is going to take away some of the business that the High Street has which will make the High Street in the long run suffer so I think charging will have a negative effect on the High Street businesses

We've paid Council tax and road tax already.

2 hours free is very useful, both for quick shoppers and local businesses

Money grabbing scheme it will affect Bittern's community including the church and all the shops. It is too expensive to park in the city centre so people will tend to go to Portswood, Shirley, Woolston etc, and therefore support the local shops. Rather than paying for parking, you will see people will tend to park in nearby streets (many are narrow) and will upset residents that live there.

Have you heard of the cost of living?

Whilst I understand the necessity for the Council to increase its income sources, I think that the proposal should be amended. 30mins free parking would allow short term visitors to the shopping areas locally, whilst generating income from longer term users to the area such as the gyms/pub. I also do not want to have to faff around with tickets when only popping to the shops for a few bits and pieces.

I would like to object to the proposed changes as access to some free car parking is essential for those on lower incomes or have mobility issues which could also reduce income. I work in an NHS facility near car park in Cannon Street and I think this would be really impactful for those wanting to access the service. I think it is essential that there is some free parking available for residents to enable them to access public facilities and get close to the high street. Increasing parking charges could also impact the high street impacting on local businesses

Local businesses are already on their knees, are you so short sighted and willing to put the final nail in the coffin of the local high street? The way to acquire more income is to get rid of your contractor partners (ie. Balfour Beatty) who very obviously to the general public are robbing the council, hence the tax payer blind. Unless that is the slices of the pie are being shared around.

I frequently pop into Woolston and also do a crochet class at Kookies Crafts and the nearest parking is proposed to have a max of 2 hours only parking which is not enough. This charging for parking will really damage small local businesses who are already struggling.

With regards to charging for parking in the car park behind Sainsburys in Bitterne, this carpark is used daily by parents to drop and pick up children from Bitterne CE Primary school. Charging from



8 till 6 would mean that parents have to pay to drop their children to school or park on the local roads! There is minimal on road safety parking in the area and I feel would lead to greater risks of accidents in the area. I have been a parent and governor of this school and have seen the impact of cars in the local area.

In addition to this, I would no longer shop in Bitterne. I would go a supermarket where I don't have to pay to park.

Removing all free parking in local car parks is neither safe or good for local businesses or residents.

I think taking the 2 hrs free away is just going to kill off trade to shops in bitterne precinct, I think the council need to rethink this proposal as this is just going to make trade suffer just because greed for money - you are putting a play ground in at the moment which you and I know will not be appreciated and looked after.

You will stop local shops & businesses from thriving. You waste money on completely incomprehensible roadworks & then expect us to pay doubly for your incompetence through parking charges on top of council tax

The cost is very high for parking

I like to shop local, and feel that free parking at my local precinct (Bitterne) makes it more attractive to visit. I regularly visit at different times of the day and have never not been able to find a space,so I'm not sure that reasoning given around managing parking capacity stands.

I purposely choose to shop in Bitterne over Portswood as Portswood is extremely difficult to park in and am absolute nightmare to get to with the ongoing St Denys bridge works, and would be less likely to pop to Bitterne to support my local business if I had to pay to park.

With respect to encouraging using other means of transport, this is not always an option for everyone and I don't see why motorists should be penalised further by SCC (with nighttime parking costs in the city centre having increased and horrendous roadwork planning meaning that I avoid going out where I can, which has definitely increased my isolation and impacted my wellbeing).

I find this totally unfair & unreasonable. Your reasons for doing this is totally invalid with my many reasons that i will write below. All of your reasons are NOT correct.

1) Parents drop & pick up their children to the primary school. there is no where else to park for them & it will cost them 50p for 15 mins max by the time that they have got out the car walked them to the school possibly waited for the bell to go in & walk back this would happen twice a day 5 days a week WITH MONEY THEY DO NOT HAVE.

2) There are 2 churches which a) have Sunday services which people will need to pay £1 to go to church. there is not a good bus service on a Sunday to get people to church. b) these churches have many clubs for children & the community including warm places with free coffee & soup in the winter. The volunteers will have to pay between £2 &£3 to serve there community & parents (who may also have children at the school will need to pay another £1 to drop off & pick up their children from the clubs. for those people it will result in costs of £10 a week which is money they don't have. Adults & children will lose out on making friends & getting community spirit. THEY WILL STOP GOING

3) People go out to the Wetherspoons for a meal with family & friends in an evening & daytime & will be charged for the privilege this could be up to 4 hours. THEY WILL STOP GOING .

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4) People pop in to Bitterne & other areas like Woolston for a quick 15 mins just to get Milk from Sainsburys, takeaway lunch from Greggs, a birthday card from Card Factory, pick up a birthday present from Peacocks or Poundland, pop the the bank or just go to any one shop/cafe & are only a very short time. THEY WILL STOP DOING THIS

5) People pay a membership to go to the Gym for anything up to 1 or 2 hours a few times a week, THEY WON'T GO if they have to pay.

6) There is a safe place for people with problems can go to, people who may want to commit suicide. their volunteers/workers will need to pay to park in the evenings & so will the people who NEED THE HELP. WE WILL LOSE THIS FACILITY. It is much needed in this society

You are upgrading the precinct in Bitterne so children can play, people can meet friends & sit outside in the seating areas & exercise, while there will most likely spend money in various shops & cafes helping the community & economy for what reason NO ONE WILL BE THERE.

YOU ARE & WILL KILL BITTERNE shops/cafes through lack of people will close, it will become derelict. The community will die. People do not have the money to keep paying .

I am objecting to the proposal that affects Bitterne. There a very few reasons to visit Bitterne as it stands at the moment, empty shops and the last remaining banks to close in June 2025. Adding parking charges, albeit quite modest, will deter people from visiting they will simply go to out of town shopping centres, where they are encouraged to visit with up to 3 hours free parking.

I work in Cannon house where we are a mental health community team, we have nowhere else to park and this is going to cause me and my colleagues moentary issues in this already difficult climate just to be able to park for work.

We have asked numerous times before for a permit so that we are able to park in the area for our job to support the local community.

I work in the NHS building in between the two car parks. Parking around here is hard enough, especially when you're office based all day having to pay for parking every day is a massive chunk out of our pay!

the price increase is too much, due to using the two car parks as i work in the NHS building this would be a significant chunk out of my wages every day to pay for parking to be able to do my job.

I think this will put people off coming to Shirley to do their shopping and they'll just park in residents spots instead.

I am a support worker and I work for the community mental health team based next to Howards Grove carpark. It is a struggle every day trying to find parking so that I can work from the office (management want us to WFH as little as possible). Having to find an additional £100+ per month just so that I can park will have a significant impact on my ability to budget, given the cost of living crisis. Is there not a way the council can give free or discounted parking to NHS staff?

I currently work within the EIP team at Canon House, Canon Street and parking is a problem anyway. With the increase in parking charges this is going to have an impact financially on all staff.

The removal of the 2 hours of free parking in the Bitterne car parks will have a severe, detrimental effect on local businesses that are already struggling. Free parking is available at Hedge End (Sainsbury's, M&S, Lidl, Next, TK Maxx) and customers will forsake Bitterne in order to enjoy free parking. The justification that the imposition of charges is inflation-related is nonsense, inflation on something that is free is a zero figure. Raising charges for 3 hours plus is legitimate.

The other stated reasons behind the proposals are also difficult to support and do not provide adequate gravity and substance to justify the outlined changes. There is no mention of raising revenue which, I believe, is a significant factor behind these proposals.

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The aim of the council should be to support and enable a prosperous and popular Bitterne Village centre, making the area a well-frequented, community asset. These proposal swill have the opposite effect.

Why charge parking on a thriving community and shopping space? This will take away the shoppers that go there regularly who will just go in too city centre if having to pay anyway

This is just another money making exercise.Why should customers shopping in Sainsbury have to pay to park.Cost of living is high enough.Yet another rip off for the car driver(please see empty cycle lanes and inadequate bus services).Charging system should remain as at present.

In Portswood there is free parking at either end of the Broadway at Sainsburys and Waitrose, which is likely to drive trade to those retailers at the expense of the already struggling independents and small shops in the middle. I therefore oppose the change at this location.

I work at Cannon house and already its a logistically nightmare having to move cars every two hours, Having to pay for parking while we are working is going to be very costly for us NHS staff who rely on this parking being available.. Please Bare in mind the NHS staff who provide a valuable service to the residents of THE LOCAL area.. Also many of our patients are on benefits and can not afford to pay parking fees while the attend the sight

It will affect already struggling small businesses, and yet again, another hit to motorists. As much as this council hate motorists, the city will collapse without an equal balance and respect.

The proposal will definitely have significant negative impact on customers' intention to stop and shop for a little while even if they pass by the relevant locations. It will reduce the turnover of the shops nearby and make them very hard to survive, causing unemployment problem also.

Customers would rather drive longer to chain stores which provide free parkings would also increase traffic congestions in those area, wasting all people's time and increase air pollution.

The purposes of proposal were claimed to be manage parking demand, but I think if the users are willing to pay in those area, they don't have nowhere-to-park problem. For those who park there because of free hours of parking, they will not want this way to manage the parking demand also. They would rather drive elsewhere when there is no free parking space left sometimes rather than having to pay every time they visit.

One of the purposes of the proposal was claimed to be "encourage driversconsider alternative means of transport". However, customers will not take bus to go out unless it's a must. It's because it's expensive for 1 person, and very expensive for a family to travel by bus, especially you need to pay for more than 1 time due to transfer in one way as they bus route usually ends in city centre only. There are many places not covered by the bus routes also. Residents may need to walk very long to reach a bus stop from home, or walk very long after getting off to reach the destinations. Customers will rather do online shopping rather than spending an hour to travel and back with heavy shopping bags by buses.

Free short term parking is ideal for making a short visit to local shops without incurring additional expense. Forcing people to pay will result in drivers circling nearby streets to find an available free space, creating further congestion in the areas around existing car parks.

This proposal and the means to object has not been widely advertised and, even learning about it from others, I found it to be extremely well hidden in the Council's website and has not been mentioned in the numerous Leader's newsletters, not that they would be seen by many residents, particularly the elderly without the use of electronic media.

Suburban Off-Streets Parking Places

I would like to protest against the proposed introduction of punitive parking charges by Southampton City Council within many suburban car parks across the city. My reasons to object to these charges are as follows:

1. These charges will hit local businesses badly at a time when we need to encourage retail within

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our community to drive growth. It will therefore act counter to the Labour governments primary objective to increase growth in the country. When we visit our local stores, we want to be able to park conveniently and without restriction. These charges will therefore discourage shoppers from coming out and will only encourage more online retail, thereby leading to the closing down of more shops from our high streets. Our community will lose as a consequence.

2. These charges will hit certain communities more than others. Some large supermarkets have their own car parks but other smaller ones do not, such as the Bitterne Sainsbury where the Angel Crescent car park is used instead. Consequently, this local supermarket will be at risk of reduced trade and encourage more use of larger supermarkets. Bitterne will lose out badly.

3. These charges will cause extra parking on our residential streets, increasing local pollution and restricting our roads for local residents. Life in our community will inevitably become more difficult as a consequence.

4. These further charges to the local community are unfair. In the past over many years, the Council has managed to maintain minimum services based upon the contributions made through our Council Tax as the main source of income. Why is this current Council failing to maintain this basic standard despite also increasing Council Tax?

I am objecting to this parking scheme as it will encourage people to park in the local residential areas rather than the car parks

I use Peartree gardens car park when I visit the shops in Bitterne. I also use the Colonnade car park in Woolston to do the school run... drop off and collect. If I now have to pay to park to go shopping in Bitterne I won't bother going there any more. As parents we are being encouraged to park away from the school and walk our kids in. Which I currently do. But if I have to pay to leave my car in the Colonnade car park whilst I do the school run I won't park there any more and instead I will park right next to school and add to the congestion. Would giving 30 minutes free be considered?

This will force people to do more online shopping and retail in shirley will cease. People will find alternatives and side roads will become even more congested.

Will stop people visiting Woolston to shop which consequently make traders loose money and perhaps eventually cease trading. We try to shop local to support local businesses but will no longer shop local if we have to pay to park and use out of town shopping where parking is free. There are also disabled people living in our community who need a car to go shopping. I completely oppose this proposal

As a business owner I fear you will kill of woolston, the trade in woolston has declined over the years and this proposal will just push more customers away from coming in

I often pop into bitterne precinct for a few bits and bobs. If I had to pay to park I would definitely avoid and go elsewhere where I get free parking. People go to the gym nearby. By charging this might impact on people making healthy life choices as few people will want to pay for gym membership and then have to pay for parking 3-4 times a week. Bitterne precinct is having developments for a park. If you have to pay to park no one is going to drive to bitterne to use the park (where they are likely to also pop into shops for a few things). Charging for parking will seriously reduce the number of people coming and spending money in the bitterne area which will impact the local economy, community feel, people's fitness and wellbeing

For those that want or need to visit, they will use the local residential roads which will cause congestion in the local roads. For those that can they will avoid the area and shop elsewhere, thus removing trade from the local shops. The benefit of local shops is not having to pay to park - might as well go to town if you're paying!

The Council are thieving b.stards, you should be looking after the inhabitants of the area instead of raping and pillaging them.

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Woolston high street will suffer lots of little independent retailers could go out of business  
Cost of living is already too high. Salaries are not increasing at the same rate.

If these charges are added or increased then I simply will not continue to go to these places.

I'll just do even more online shopping. What a shame to these businesses, especially smaller ones.

People will definitely stop using shops if have to pay to park, will turn to online shopping for everything. Shops will then have to close as won't have the business to stay open. 2 hours free works well.

The increase in parking restrictions seem to unfairly focus on the Woolston highstreet area which already struggles with available parking. The parking charges will mean less footfall in the independent shops and restaurants in Woolston, which already struggle and frequently close. Furthermore, I have emailed previously about un-permitted vehicles parking in permit zone 2 or parking dangerously on pavements or double yellow lines to use the shops, removing the availability of free car parks will increase this behaviour. As a resident on Woodley Road, parking is already at a premium with the surrounding roads using the on street parking. Residents use the car park for evening parking, as well as for visiting friends and family outside of chargeable hours, when the road parking is at maximum. With the change in payment and applicable times this will mean the nearest alternative will be 2 streets away in Johns Road. If the change in parking times and charges must be changed then the council should confirm that these do not apply to residents with parking permits 2.

Parking charges will cripple and already struggling shopping area.

I am an employee of Cannon House, Shirley, and I park at the Howard Grove car park. Increasing the parking charges is unreasonable, as it significantly impacts employees like me who rely on this facility. NHS employees already face no options for free parking in this area, and the two-hour free parking has been a valuable relief. Removing this provision and imposing higher fees will result in substantial additional costs, which is unfair and burdensome for staff.

Parking charges will exacerbate problems with illegal parking on Woodley Road. Despite the free car park Woodley Road experiences a lot of illegal (including parking without a permit and parking on double yellow lines) and dangerous parking on what is a busy road. These incidents are short but regular throughout the day and particularly the afternoon (work vehicles, people popping into the corner shop), and as such forces residents to park in the nearby carpark whilst we wait for a space to open up. Because of the short but frequent nature of these incidents they are not enforced at all, and are likely to worsen if the car park is no longer free. Residents are at high risk of regularly having to pay to park in the car park because of people stopping for short shopping trips. The impact it will have on the council is: increase in number of complaints from residents, reduced use of the highstreet (which is only just recovering), increased number of car accidents and obstructive parking in a high traffic area. If I had to predict what might happen if this was enforced I would say, the car park would not be used with visitors using the road (illegally) or lidl, lidl will receive an increased % of the highstreet revenue with people not bothering to walk down to the bakery or other stores, and parking enforcement officers will be regularly confronted by residents waiting for a space to appear on the road.

The car park on commercial road is used by parishioners at Christ the King & St Colman on Sunday mornings, almost exclusively, and has been for many years. This church serves Bitterne, Sholing, Thornhill, Midanbury and Hightown and so travel by car is essential for many of our parishioners, particularly elderly and families. This restriction would increase street parking in the local area, and have a negative impact on the local community both within and outside of the church. We would ask that you reconsider this restriction, especially for Sundays.

As the Parish Priest of the local church and local resident to the commercial street car park I am concerned about the tariff's being implemented. My primary concern is for the parishioners of my church who have found a home in our church, that they may be put off attending and

withdrawing from our community. As a community, I strive to make our church a welcoming and inviting space for prayer and meeting up to share a cup of tea, especially for those who may feel more isolated during the week where their one outing is to mass each week. I also feel for those who use the car park to access the local amenities, especially the funeral directors and NHS surgery. I feel we should be supporting those coming to use and visit these services, rather than adding to their distress.

It would greatly benefit my parish if you could consider making parking free for Sundays.

I regularly shop at Bitterne and Portswood rather than the city centre. For example, Card Factory closed in Portswood and now only in Bitterne and city centre, Pound Shop, Iceland (now closed in Portswood), Sainsburys and Savers. Bitterne Sainsbury's is also one of my regular shops when I am passing to go to Woolston. To add parking charge every time I visit these shops is not acceptable. To buy cards, people could be inclined to get them online, resulting in the closure of another Card Factory. People will be deterred from visiting these places in Bitterne and the precinct will become deserted.

We like to visit Wetherspoons in Bitterne, but adding on car parking charges would deter us.

My dentist is in Woolston and I have to use the car parks. with two hours free. I would add that to visit Woolston (Lidl, my dentist, Superdrug - my regular shops) would entail catching 2 buses and take me close to an hour, even though I only live in Bitterne Park, which is 5 minutes drive.

I think it will discourage people using local businesses shops, cafes ect. People would more likely then go to larger shopping centres with free parking and possibly further away from their home using their car more. This would create more pollution and cars on the roads. It will also push people in to private free carparks such a Lidl in Woolston so people who actually are trying to shop would struggle to park.

I would more likely go to hedge end and use the car parks there which are free than pay to use the ones in Woolston or Bitterne. I would also more likely use free delivery than pop to the shops to pick something up.

Older people won't get out as much, some who aren't able to use buses and rely on family to take them places possible won't go out if they have to pay for parking. I feel there should still be a free grace period of 1hour for people to quickly pick bits up or pop to a cafe rather than having to pay straight away.

Drivers who shop at the supermarket in Bitterne will drive to Portswood or Hedge End where they don't have to pay. Long term this could lead to losing the supermarket. Together with the loss of the remaining banks in Bitterne next year, could ultimately be the end of the shopping centre in Bitterne. We have two sheltered housing complexes in Bitterne not to mention the rest of the retired population in Bitterne, this will be a difficult situation for all of these and only exacerbated with age and lack of ability to drive. Not all have computers or even have the ability to shop on line or want to. I feel there is a drive to force the elderly on to the internet.

I work for the community team at Cannon House and would like to object to the proposed parking changes because this would significantly affect me financially having to pay the amount every day, 5 days per week.

Free parking is the only good thing that Shirley has to offer, removing this will be the death knell for many of the small independent businesses as people choose to shop elsewhere or online. It is a short sighted attempt to generate extra income and realistically 50p an hour is not going to solve council funding shortfalls. No parking charges are charged in Totton town centre or at the Fryern Arcade in Chandlers Ford etc. It will force people to park in the surrounding streets for free making local residents lives a misery. Please re-think, Shirley is a working class but busy, local area and introducing parking charges will have a detrimental affect from which it might not recover.

Death of local shopping and visiting. Yet more restrictions and pressure on local bis nesses.

I always do my weekly shop for a family of 4 in Bitterne Sainsbury's. If I hav to pay for parking I will shop elsewhere where it is free

Shirley is already on its knees and the traffic is dreadful. Free parking is the only good thing Shirley has to offer. Shirley is not an affluent area, the people who visit are not rich but are genuine, hard working people seeking to support the local independent shops, library, bank and post offices. Anything that discourages shoppers like having to pay to park will surely have a negative effect on what is already an overlooked and deprived area. Parking charges are not made in other local areas like Totton so it seems harsh to impose them in Shirley. It will make people park in the surrounding streets causing a nuisance to local residents. Please do not implement parking charges, Shirley has little to recommend it as it is.

These proposed changes will stop people from going to Bitterne center:

1) The current parking arrangements allow people to pop-in to Bitterne to go shopping and be out again in less than 1/2 an hour for free, with your proposed changes this will cost £0.50; so people will go to other shops where there is still free parking.

2) People who currently go to either of the two churches, Holy Saviour Parish Church or Bitterne URC, for Sunday Services, currently have free parking, with your proposed changes this will cost £1 or more; so people could stop going to the Bitterne Churches.

3) There are after school clubs at the Churches, where parents/guardians drop-off children to attend these clubs, and later return to pick-up children, currently with free parking, with your proposed changes this will cost £0.50 for each drop-of and pick-up; this could mean that the children would stop going to these after school clubs.

4) There are also evening clubs at the Churches, when people attend these clubs they currently have free evening parking, with your proposed changes this will cost £0.50 for each hour; this could mean that people would stop going to these evening clubs.

If you need to make changes to the current car parking charges could you arrange to have the first ½ hour free, to allow for the pop-in, droppings off and picking-up, up to 8pm, and Sunday mornings free, to allow people to go to church, with charges to apply from Midday on Sundays. Thank you.

These car parks used to be free. To prevent working people from parking for free all day, the 2-hours free parking was introduced. This has worked perfectly. My local car park in Bitterne is always busy, but never so busy that shoppers can't find a space if they want to shop for an hour or so. I fail to see why the council sees a need to change the current system (except of course to try & make more money from residents). Any attempt to implement charges may see a backlash, with local people choosing to go elsewhere.

This is absolutely disgusting as a full time worker in Bitterne I am now facing a massive financial loss of £160 a month £1920 a year! just to be paying for parking which is fine as it is! I have so many other HIGH bills to pay for example HEAT to warm my flat up. PUT OUR HARD EARNED MONEY SOMEWHERE ELSE THAT WILL BENEFIT EVERYONEEEE

Where are we to park to go to the pharmacy or shops when we struggle to walk very far it's becoming a joke

This will have a detrimental effect on the shops in Bitterne and also not fair to be charged when dropping kids off at school.

Because it will kill Bitterne as a shopping precinct and clog up all the residential streets around the centre

This will drive people to park on side roads. Most people use these shops to pop in for goods not spend hours, this will kill themselves little highstreets

Will kill the small business trading evenings

We are in a cost of living crisis, we already over pay on just owning a car, parking should be free, you will deter people from visiting these areas that will in turn effect the local businesses, people already can not afford to live do not make it even harder for them.

Only places in Southampton that should charge is West quay cos it's a destination. You already charged to go over the bridge to get to Woolston and you are killing the small business trade in Southampton with the greed

Charging for parking will deter people from going to Bitterne and using the local shops. Instead people are more likely to go to town where there is more variety. People are likely to move away from the gym that is present given there is one round the corner that offers free parking or one up Bursledon Road

The hairdressers will suffer as there are plenty of hairdressers local who have free parking either at the premises or on a nearby road.

The roads around the school will manic during drop off and pick up as parents will use these rather than paying to park.

The market on a Wednesday will suffer as people are likely to go to other places where parking is not charged for- the meat company attend many events where this is the case.

More and more the small suburbs are suffering and by adding the additional parking charge you are effectively killing what is left off. Ultimately shops and businesses will close and the village will be like a ghost town with many units up for rent.

This is the only free parking and it influences my shopping choices. If I had to pay I would stop using Bitterne which means I would not visit at least 5 stores in the precinct that I go to at least weekly.

Charging to use the car parks around the Bitterne area will have a detrimental effect on the businesses in the area. I would understand it if people were abusing the parking and using it for long periods of time but they don't. Pensioners use Bitterne for convenience as town is too difficult for many of them to drive to. Yet again, you are targeting the vulnerable and many small businesses. You are spending a fortune upgrading the precinct, only to make it a ghost town due charging to park. Absolutely ridiculous idea.

Charging to park in places such as Bitterne and Woolston is ridiculous and will determine people using these and popping in quickly. It will also force people to park in unsuitable places

This will be detrimental to businesses as parking charges will deter people from visiting opting to go elsewhere without extra charges. It will push people to parking on other areas not designed for the volume of parking.

Yet again using drivers as a cash cow! What about people that are old or in pain but not enough to be considered disabled! Off work with injuries or general wear and tear who just need to "pop" to grab something? Single parents? You are not only destroying our roads you are alienating people forcing them to use over priced local shops and helping to continue the cycle of the poverty trap!

Because nobody should have to pay to park for the privilege of buying food, getting your eyes tested or even having a haircut. Going to the market on a Wednesday won't be able to do that either, pay for parking can't buy food

This is going to hit local businesses drastically especially in the east of Southampton i.e. Bitterne and Woolston. Monthly gym membership costs will now be increased by £30 or more a month as cycling isn't an option as cycles get stolen.

It will drive people into parking in nearby residential roads

At worst it will cause shoppers to abandon the high street altogether for big supermarkets and buying online.

Cause it's stupid.. like life doesn't cost so much already.... people won't go to the shops anymore they will buy online

I strongly object to this proposal. The harm this will cause to local businesses, already struggling in the current financial climate, will be immense. As a resident of Bitterne, this will be particularly disastrous. The carpark to the rear of Sainsbury's is heavily used by parents of children at Bitterne C of E School for drop off and pick up of pupils. A £1.00 daily charge for this will be a massive burden for most families. I know SCC push an agenda to get people out of their cars and on foot,



but, realistically, for many this is not a viable option. I urge SCC to re-think these proposals for the prosperity of their citizens and the good of the city itself.

I live in bitterne and regularly shop in Sainsbury's and my child attends the school next door. For me as a busy mum and a local, this is a pointless task. I will be put off shopping in my local shops due to more parking fees. This car park that your only 2 hours will affect the traffic into bitterne, not only this but all the parents that use this to collect their children from school also use it to do a last minute shop in bitterne. If you charge fees this will likely impact the whole area and reduce foot fall.

When I'm running late for school pick up I use this car park to run around the corner. I don't have time to put a ticket on my car, it will just make me use an on street instead.

I have spoken to a lot of parents about this as I'm on the schools PTA and it's not a popular subject and alot of parents will take there business elsewhere.

Bitterne is local supermarket - not necessarily within walking distance or easily accessible by a bus service. Lances Hill carpark is only free for a limited time then have to pay anyway. Are you trying to close down Bitterne precinct and put the shops out of business?

I don't agree with paying to park in bitterne car parks. People use for school drop offs twice a day and will force them to park on residential streets instead. This will make these more dangerous for school children leaving and frustrating for residents nearby.

You have put the price up for parking in Southampton city i think it a joke that you also want to do it at are local car parks

Bitterne has been allowed to deteriorate by the local council for years. Adding parking charges will simply mean I and many others will no longer even try to support local shops. If you have to pay, may as well go somewhere with decent facilities! Your proposal will be the final greedy nail in the local businesses. We all know the 'small' charge is simply the council's way of being able to ramp up charges whenever you want and 50p will suddenly become £1, £2 etc as you bleat about 'cost of running the car parks'. There is very very little council service for people as it is, and this extra way of fleecing the locals, will finish off the few shops we have as footfall disappears.

People use these car parks specifically because they are free!! This would prevent a lot of people from making the journey to Bitterne for shopping etc and look elsewhere.

Secondly, the on street parking around Bitterne is already disastrous, making the car parks paid would only make this worse.

They aren't maintained, so can't cost anything to run surely.

I feel this will deter people from using local shopping areas such as Bitterne and Portswood. Our local shops are suffering already and this will drive more people to shop elsewhere to park free or shop online. Public transport is not always an option for everyone!

These local shopping areas are already struggling with low visitor numbers and charging for parking would have detrimental effect and could cause businesses to close. Woolston has already been affected by the one way system and charging would simply cause more harm.

These fees will eventually go up and I fear it will have a negative impact on the high street. Less businesses will see people come if there's no free car parking.

Parking fees will reduce the visitors to Bitterne village

Would rather go to the big supermarkets so you can shop and park for free. It will rein small businesses.

If these parking charges are put into place Bitterne is going to lose a lot of customers. Retailers will start closing and it will be a ghost town. This is a big mistake

The free parking at Bitterne precinct support local businesses to bring people there in person. Whether it's for a few bits at Sainsburies or the local cafes, hair dressers or a longer time at the

two gyms. Charging will not only cost people a lot, but people will just be encouraged to go elsewhere such as city centre gyms with 2 hours free parking in private sites (moving more traffic into the city centre). The council is meant to support businesses, not put up red tape and barriers.

The shops are crippled by online shopping as it is, adding a payment to park ( as little as it maybe) will absolutely ruin our small shopping areas. We have the freedom to shop for a couple of hours but as soon as there is a fee people will pay the minimum pop in for only what they need and straight out again.

The council squeeze what they want out of the public with nothing in return.

Southampton city council is killing high street shopping. I no longer go to the city centre to shop because it's so hard to drive to and expensive to park. Doing this will destroy the remaining small high streets-if people have to pay to park they'll shop in the big centres or online.

I am objecting because this is just another way for the council to make money and will withdraw people from going to Bitterne to shop. Free parking is essential to allow people to shop without these hidden fees.

There is a mental health crisis right now and the gyms are so vital which is why free parking is so important to allow people to drive to the gyms to work out without getting penalised.

If this is introduced you will see a massive decline in shoppers because I for one will not shop in Bitterne and I will cancel my gym membership as would others.

Provide 1 hour free parking!! Bitterne precinct is already suffering from a lack decent traders, and with the money currently being spent on redeveloping the bottom end outside The Red Lion, it seems like you don't want anyone to use it. Implementing parking charges with no free allocation will only make the area even quieter.

Also, the proposed charges will only make people park in neighbouring residential roads. Causing more congestion on already busy school routes with children walking to school. I'm sure these roads will then be made permit only by yourselves.

Public transport is shit, and not viable for those who do school drop offs and then going straight to work. Stop making the motorist your target whenever you need to generate more income. You already have the highest generating speed cameras in the country, where is that money going?

Small shopping centres and businesses are struggling as it is! Banks closing down, cost of living hike... At a time when you should be doing all you can to encourage small towns to thrive, the introduction of additional car parking charges will encourage their decline instead! People will be put off shopping there.

Business owners will struggle to pay those huge permit fees for staff parking.

Parents use the car parks for school drop-off and undoubtedly shop at the same time (I did, almost every single week day for the whole 7 years my child was at Bitterne CofE Primary School) and should not need to pay for a brief visit. Please think about providing at least 1 hour free! Bitterne is a fabulous, community-spirited shopping centre. Please encourage it to thrive. Don't kill our small towns.

TO BOOST YOUR INCOME please consider looking inwards at staff that are not required. Look at developing some family day out experiences that people book/pay for, look at redevelopment of the waterside, build a new pier, bring families into your plans, make Southampton city fun for families. As a city I find Southampton really boring. Bring it to life! Build a new pier and 'Southampton Eye'. Let's get Southampton moving!! Create something like the Portsmouth Dockyard.... come on, there's more that this city has to offer if you just think about it, and these things could really bring in a lot of income!

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The cost of living crisis is crippling people and the Council and shops are putting additional financial pressure by introducing parking charges. Parking is becoming so complicated that it is difficult to avoid fines (I got caught in Tesco when I didn't even know they had changed the parking rules, I now refuse to shop there). The reason I shop in Bitterne is because of the easy and free parking. This could force me and others to shop for groceries online, to the detriment of small local businesses.

The small car parks that promote access to the public which support local businesses are vital for that relationship to continue.

If the council begin charging, people will stop using them, the businesses will close down and the area will suffer in a range of ways! The elderly, young families and the disabled will not have a pharmacy, supermarket or opticians to access, as well as the extras such as clothes shops and a bakery.

The families in the community will not have facilities to visit to mix with socially as there are none in the local area, especially now the leisure the centre is in such bad shape. The little pavilion is such a huge part of the community, if parking charges begin all of that will go. We have become a cashless society and shopping on line that the shops we do have need to be protected and promoted, not cut off with additional restrictions.

We are simply already paying enough for everything! Parking charges are already extortionate in town and we want to visit our local shopping areas without worrying about getting a ticket. It's unnecessary and show utter disregard for the times we are living in and the people who are already stretched thin. Running a car is already beyond expensive. Let people shop locally for free.

Businesses will suffer as a result of people not wanting to pay for charges when just popping in for a few bits, leading to more closures and people losing their jobs, totally ruining local communities, this has an impact on families and putting more into poverty

Feel that the community who would like to use the open space to help with mental health issues will not be able to due to parking restrictions. The clubs that litter pick in parks and on beach will not be able to do this. You are stopping the young people of our society enjoying our lovely open spaces and visiting friends and shops. They are our future.

The reason people still use these places to shop is because the parking is free. If you bring in charges you will massively affect how many people visit which will impact already struggling businesses. It will have a significant financial impact on those that have gym memberships in these areas. Trying to improve their health will mean extra payouts if they wish to visit daily which might mean they have to stop going in these struggling times. Introducing paying for parking in these areas is a very bad idea for many reasons and nothing good will come from it. I strongly object.

It's simple really - I just won't bother to go to Bitterne anymore!

It will stop people popping to the shops if you have to pay for parking

I won't be able to visit Bitterne for optician and regular visits to the local shops. I can pay sometimes but not regularly. Unable to walk far or stand long because of spinal stenosis pain so depend on my car. Am a pensioner so like Bitterne as have used to going there for years. This will mean I can't go to Bitterne as I always have and will be forced now into more online. I'm sad that any feeling of being interactive with my local community is slowly being eroded. I know the council needs to save money but life quality is becoming so much less.

I object for one main reason. This hurts local business and will encourage the trend towards online shopping instead. I will not shop in my local areas (Bitterne and Woolston) if charged to park.

Out of city centre high streets are dying, adding parking charges to Bitterne will kill off the shops in Bitterne.

I frequently park in the Angel Crescent car park to shop in Sainsbury's and use the other smaller shops. Simply put, if I have to pay to do this, I'll go to Hedge End instead, and won't use any of the smaller shops. We won't use the Pokémon shop, we won't use the card shop, we won't go in the charity shops to buy or donate, we won't go to the market, we won't go to Greggs. We will change

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our shopping habits to the detriment of Bitterne. Driving an EV it'll be cheaper to drive to Hedge End than pay up park, plus we'll have a better range in Sainsbury's.

We also use that car park for drop off and pick up of our son to the youth club at the church. It's extremely dark around that area. We also need to drive due to the times our other son needs to be at football. If we have to pay, we're not taking our son to youth club. You'll be depriving children of social enrichment.


Very occasionally I have to drive to drop my son off at Bitterne CofE in order to ensure I can get to work on time. This is of course even harder now you've messed up the traffic light sequence in the city centre around Havelock Road. If I have to pay for the right to drop my son off and get to work on time, I'll have no choice but to dump my son at the roadside and hope he gets in to school safely.

At the end of the day, expecting people to start paying to shop in Bitterne or to drop our children off at school/youth club, whilst in a cost of living crisis will cause financial harm on your residents and will lead to a further decline of the high street. You will lose income because as shoppers decline, shops will close and you'll lose business rates etc.

There is no logical justification for your proposal, unless it is to punish your residents and to kill off yet another high street.

Will reduce footfall in Bitterne as people won't want to pay to park if they are only popping to the shops for something quickly. Will go to put of town places with free parking

Shops and community suffering enough. Will just kill bitterne. Combined with the fact there will be no banks left.

This will be disastrous for the shops, it will push more people into online shopping and the shops will suffer. If you are going to continue at least look at the parking clock scheme that new forest have in place, the prices are much more reasonable for ther short stay clock. And the long stay clock 

It's difficult to park in Bitterne because the car park is often full with gym goers. I support a charge but believe the first 30 minutes should remain free

I often pop into Bitterne during the week but It is very rare if I am there for more than 20-30 minutes. How is this to be enforced? Will there be a machine that gives change for £1 for the 50p charge, or will it be a 50p card payment? I believe this will close many businesses in Bitterne and cause congestion in and around all the surrounding residential roads, especially at school times. All my children went to school in Bitterne and I have been supporting all the local businesses for the last 40yrs, however, if this ridiculous charge comes into force it will be the end of an era for me. Yes. sometimes I walk to Bitterne but as a pensioner, who wants to walk when its bitterly cold, windy and pouring with rain! I also have bad arthritic hands so I am unable to carry heavy bags very far. If this comes into force I will be travelling to supermarkets with free parking! I feel no thought has gone into this regarding local people.

This is purely profiteering in a period were people already struggle with cost of living.

Never have i not found a parking space everytime i have parked around the area.

And if the reason is to manage peak times, why slap a charge from 8am to midnight?

Why not only enforce a charge at peak times which realistically is only on school drop and pick up?

This encouraging of people walking is an excused used for a decade now for councils to slap charges and hike prices everywhere.

Where are the studies proving this actually works? Parents that need to drop and pick up kids from different schools will have no option but to swallow this charge.

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Lets not even talk about the damage to local shops.

I would understand these charges if parking was an issue, but its not, never have i ever had an issue.

I am local and only use car to the area if weather is bad, have shopping to do or i am just dropping by on way to somewhere else.

Otherwise we walk.

Absolutely not. Bitterne is struggling as it is let alone deterring people from shopping there with bogus parking fees. People with just for to Portswood or hedge end.

Sainsburys aside, the small business there would also suffer, the pet shop, Pokemon shop to name a few of the small businesses.

These charges won't even affect me as a driver as I'm a blue badge holder, but loosing the small businesses in bitterne as a result of the closed minded plans would affect me.

This just feels like yet another money grab. How about the council focus on getting g all these roadworks finished, st Denys, lodge road those 2 alone bring the roads in and out of Southampton to a halt every day.

Just another nail in the coffin for the local community shops and cafes another reason for the council to steal people's hard earned cash. I do not object the paying for parking if I am staying more than 2 hours . I think the 2 hour free parking was a good compromise.

Many of us are having days where literally ever penny counts.

We will find many days we can't afford to park as this happens to me and many others often.

Once payment is added it will only rise over time which is even more concerning.

It will be detrimental to the small businesses within the area

Small businesses will suffer. Stop being greedy!

It'll deter people from using local amenities, especially in Bitterne. Picking up from school will become more dangerous for children as parents park on surrounding streets. Church will lose collection money as congregants would have to pay to park. The gym would lose customers who will go elsewhere for free to park. Bitterne as a community will lose money as drivers will go elsewhere.

These areas are used rather than Southampton Town centre because people can park for free. Local businesses will suffer economically if people cannot park there for free.

Free car parks are essential to the current businesses that operate in the local areas .

By adding a charge a lot of people will be deterred for coming to these shops.

Car parks adjacent to Bitterne shops shouldn't be charged. They're a parade of shops that you tend to pop to for an unknown length of time. And I often choose to go there because there's no parking charge. This will reduce the amount I go, and others I've spoken to. So will reduce footfall and business to the shops.

Increase loss of business to bitterne precinct if not 2 hours free, this is a good incentive then driving all the way to town to shop which reduces traffic to the centre and helps the planet, there is a school nearby which will mean parents parking in residential streets to avoid paying which means homeowners will have problems getting into their properties, increased traffic on the roads during school hours which is already high with the surrounding schools and colleges and thus more accidents with children likely to happen - there is a church as well in bitterne which utilises the car park for its patrons which will decrease the community feel if they feel they are having to pay to park - whereas if it was 2 hours free then they would be able to go and leave within that time frame, the majority are elderly so they are already being penalised from the

government with certain cuts, Therefore if they have to budget in parking into their activities then I think they will be more reluctant and stay at home and decline - really think you should re think the bitterne car parks due to the school, church , community and the impact on businesses , homeowners, school children and the elderly

This will only affect the shops in the precinct further. An hours free parking makes a big difference and will deter people away from using Bitterne. Try something to encourage use of local facilities !!!

How about don't be greedy and just let parking be free, it's not the city centre it's bitterne so leave it as it is, it's only people in nearby areas that use it anyway

I will not go into Bitterne if I have to pay for parking. I use the bus for most places now but would have trouble getting bus to Bitterne. I live in Woolston/Weston.

You are killing off trade. People and shopkeepers are suffering enough with budget costs without adding to it !!

It will kill bitterne and shop will be forced to close and people will loose their income

Currently it is an easy accessible location for me to travel to with 2 children under 19 months where I can park and get them straight out without hassle. If parking charges would be enforced it would be harder to get a ticket whilst having the children.

We use this car park to support our religious beliefs as this is where I park to attend church on Sundays and church activities through the week. This could deter people from attending due to this. I shouldn't have to worry about finding the money to pay for parking when I am attending for religious reasons.

Bitterne is used by elderly and families alike to enable us to shop locally with minimum fuss. Its also used for school runs and supporting small local businesses. If you start charging for this it will not only kill off the small businesses that are based in Bitterne but also cost families more in a cost of living crisis that you should be helping not hindering

Introducing parking charges will mean I will avoid going to Woolston/bitterne so the traders will miss out. Woolston & Bitterne shops are struggling as it is which is unfair on them

People like to sit and enjoy the scenery. Paying to park will stop this! Less people will use!

You have already lost half of the shops we need the free parking for the church , school, etc. Hedge end is a thriving community with free parking. You need to help not hinder.

I often pop into the local shops either Bitterne or Woolston on my way home from from work to grab a couple of bits of shopping or to use the Post Office. With the lack of off street parking at these locations I will not bother if I've got to pay for a very short visit.

Would stop people coming to Bitterne shops. Me for one.

As a working family and resident of Bitterne, implementing charges to car parks is going to have a huge impact personally and wholly as a community. Your charge (which will not remain at 50p) will be £5 per week or £20 per month to just park for 15 minutes and head off to work. Some families can not justify that costly amount on top of increasing energy bills, mortgages or rent, food increases and everything else. It will also kill the already declining highstreet which has just had an investment to try to make it more appealing. Your giving with one hand but taking with another. Small and large business will feel this impact as shoppers will travel to other stores with free parking. The market attraction will also decline. Free parking has a huge appeal and is probably one of the only reasons the highstreet is clinging on right now.

Lots of parents/carers use these car parks for drop off and pick up from schools. Bringing in a charge would mean they end up parking on residential roads.

Once again, this government looks for ways to penalise motorists for simply owning a vehicle. People aren't going to park less because you take away the minimally free aspect of the parking rules as they stand. You're aware of this. You're once again, along with ridiculous council tax hikes, just looking to extort the people of Southampton for more money you can throw away. Stop abusing your constituents. We're not your cash cows.

Our taxes are more than enough as it is. This will kill the local shops which we are advised to support!!!

Restricting people's movement in a way that we need to pay now. People are already struggling with day to day life and now you're doing these

Bringing in parking charges for very short visits will harm local businesses as people will prefer to go to out of town shopping areas with free parking. Most people are visiting these areas to just pop into a couple of shops and run a few errands. With cost of living increases every penny spent counts for many households, and so these charges will not help. It will also put pressure on parking on nearby streets so people living nearby will find it harder to park (will they now need to have permits?). Also, will Lidl in Woolston then need to charge for parking as well so people don't just use their carpark instead?

Shops are closing all over the country. Imposing a parking charge in Bitterne will stop people shopping in Bitterne. These car parks have always been free and people will resent having to pay just to nip into Sainsbury's. The high street is dying, this will speed up the process.

You are pushing more and more people out to the out of town supermarkets and away from small businesses and chains. All of these employ local people and we still have a village/small town atmosphere there. This is not about encouraging people to walk. I cannot walk to these places. I am in a wheelchair so that is not possible as I live in Butlocks Heath and come to Woolston and Bitterne 2 per week each. I pop in and out for an hour or so. Even for those that are closer, I would like to see you carry a couple of days shopping supplies and dogfood home. Or carry a victoria sponge from the bakery and get it home in one piece in a large box. You are now doing your best to squeeze every bit of money you can from people whilst sucking the joy from their lives. The bus company has now stopped the local bus through Butlocks... you would have seen it on the tv. With a hill at either end of the village, many people can not use the bus where it does pass, so will rely on their car even more. The bus was free for pensioners. These villages have been here for far longer than you have and people have been enjoying their use for many years - without paying to park. You will ignore these comments. I am sure. Shame on you.

There are little enough spaces for disabled people. It's like you don't want us to go outside our front doors, because that's how it feels. You just want to pedestrianise everywhere & make money out of people who can ill afford to live in this society. I thought it was despicable enough to charge extortionate amounts for the hospital parking but you've gone even lower by letting people park in the cemetery for their hospital appointments. You've made it impossible to go into the City Centre & now you want to cut off Bitterne & the local shops pharmacies. All the shops are going & turning into Barbers, Nail & Beauty Bars or Coffee Cafes. What about shopping for food & getting your medication? How are we supposed to manage? We don't want all these places, we want independent shops to bring the people back & shop to keep them going. The only people thriving is Lidl Aldi & Costa & all their money goes straight out of the country.

Cost of living is too costly as it is, never mind paying for another thing.

To make people pay to park and visit an already struggling high street will hurt the economy of the business'

Life is already expensive, this will only result in those shops around this parking losing money and customers as many people including myself will not be coming in for shopping there

At a time when local shops are struggling and we are told to support these shops, increasing the cost of parking can only deter people to use them. I appreciate you are trying to encourage people to use other means of transport to reduce cars on the road but this is an ever changing world and I think increasing parking charges will have a detrimental impact on businesses within the proposed areas. Although this will benefit the council and bring in more revenue for them!

Parking is essential given the diverse retail locations in the east of the city and this coupled with expensive and unreliable public transport to these areas means car usage is inevitable. Charging for parking at gyms and other retail outlets is going to harm retail thus risking at least footfall for

small businesses and force more consumers in line. The council will then see reduction in rates as businesses fail.

Will go to Hedge End instead where it's free to park. Unfair charge for shoppers, the elderly, disabled and mothers dropping off and picking up from school. More shops will close due to less footfall.

I Object to these proposals on the grounds that it is counter productive to local business. Why not take on the same approach as whitely with payment required over 4 hours? This will eliminate people leaving cars without deterring people visiting for short time periods and spending money (and VAT) in local shops.

The 7 day enforcement until midnight is also a bit greedy in my opinion and a clear cash grab by the council from local residents.

Enforcing these new rules in side streets and forcing residents to buy parking permits is also not fair on people who have lived and parked in the streets (which are already paid for through tax) for a long time

It's wonderful to be able to pop to Bitterne and other places within the area without having to worry about getting a parking ticket. It's one of the reasons I whizz to Bitterne often in my lunch break. I certainly wouldn't have time to faff about getting a ticket, either physically or using my phone. If charges are introduced I will think twice about going. It really will affect the local economy, at a time when they need all the help they can get.

Removal of the free two hour parking will not only lead to problems for shoppers, but it will adversely affect local businesses. Parking charges have risen dramatically in the last 2 years and this is another charge for the motorists to bear.

Parking which does not effect flow of traffic should be free. Less and less parkings in the aera is not acceptable.

You as a council are literally driving people out of district shopping centers and on to multi stores out side of the City so not only do you lose the income local business do as well leave district car parks alone so buisness can survive bringing the council income from rates , when I was growing up the word don't bite the hand that feeds , that's exactly what these proposals will do .

Things are tight enough without further costs that are not necessary. This will negatively impact people just trying to get by and businesses in those areas. It is ridiculous and not needed.

These places cost money to maintain. It is better that this cost falls onto motorists who use them rather than on to council tax payers who may not use them. (I do use them. )

Woolston has made an effort to improve the shopping street. This would have a negative reaction. What will happen to Lidyl's parking? If it costs to park elsewhere , people will park there instead. If I can't park easily then I will drive to Sainsburys in Hedge End. I will go on line to get haberdashery rather than going to Williams. I hate the process of using parking meters. They are all different. I would rather drive further to have free parking than go to the effort of working out how to use them.

I go to Pilates in Woolston but its just as easy for me to change to a Hamble session.

I rarely go into Southampton now as living in Netley Abbey it has become really expensive. The bus became a pain when the route was changed whilst roadworks and Christmas Fair was on. I've got out of the habit of using the bus now.

I know Southampton need the cash but what a shame to help kill off a shopping street just when they seem to be recovering

you will kill bitterne , the shops and the social life in these areas

It makes it very hard for people just to quickly pop to the shops if you have to pay for a quick visit. Hope all the businesses can survive this!

I think the council take enough of our mo why now they want to take even more !!!!



The proposal for Woolston will kill the local traders which is currently starting to thrive with the help of volunteers. Local small businesses will suffer from lack of footfall.

I use the car parks in Woolston on a regular basis and being a pensioner may not continue to do so if I have to pay

I can go to Whiteley or Bitterne in the same driving time. If Bitterne takes away 2 hours of free parking, I will just go elsewhere.

Should still be free for the first hour.

Bitterne needs free parking to get people to shop there

Parking in Southampton is expensive. I often use Woolston car park and walk into town which is good for me and the environment. If the charges are increased I will most probably drive into the city centre as there would be little advantage in using the local car park.

There are only a few shops left in Bitterne, I'm sure this is being done to close remaining shops so you can sell off the land to build houses or flats, just as you have done with the older peoples and disabled homes.

Please make the first 20 mins free so shoppers can make use of their local shops in transit from home to other destinations. To be able to drop stuff off to charity shops.

You will kill all the local shopkeepers. 2 hours free is plenty of time to shop at the local shops and keep communities together.

It's difficult enough to park in these places without paying. A lot of people don't stay very long also the shops will lose business.

The people of Woolston, shoppers and shop owners have put a lot of effort to make the area a place you want to visit. By bringing in charging for parking it will put people off and shops will start shutting through lack of customers. We don't want Woolston becoming a ghost town and losing the independent shops.

Parking charges will deter local shoppers and businesses will suffer as a consequence. We need to support local business

I believe that introducing parking fees will be the end of local shops. No more nipping into Bitterne to pick up a few bits and pieces. Better value to visit Hedge End or Whiteley.

An alternative idea would be free parking for 2 hours and a charge for time above that.

I think this is ridiculous, there is a school within this area.. why should parents having to drive have to pay to drop and pick up their child from school!! Also a lot of work is being done to make the precinct look more presentable and to attract more people... having to pay to park will do the opposite.

The local shops will suffer and even more will close down, leading to a very run down area. The new park is a great addition but pointless if no one comes to the shops to make the area a vibrant place

I object having to pay to pop into Sainsbury's for a couple of things for 5 minutes and having to pay 50p. If there was a free 30 minutes then I would not have a problem. This will make me not go to Bitterne as it will be cheaper to go to Hedge End and go to Sainsbury's or Aldi there.

My Doctors is in Woolston & we have trouble parking! Also people park in the roads & go to work therefore I often use the car parks if I am unable to park in the Drs

Life is already difficult and expensive. Adding more pressure on residents is not going to improve overall moral nor reduce crime. Adding these additional fees/covert taxes will deter people from going to Bitterne precinct, which will negate the efforts and expenses of the current "upgrades" being done in the precinct. I would suggest people would have opted to have left the precinct as it was if they'd known they would be charged for visiting.

These actions not only jeopardize the shopping precincts they serve when the Labour government is meant to be promoting business and thus generating future revenue but is also adversely affecting the working class population by now charging them for services that were previously

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available. There is little to no maintenance of these areas at present and this is just a money making racket dreamed up by someone sitting in an office with no regard for the local community.

Woolston is already struggling for trade and if you impose parking charges it will harm it more. I think at least one hour should be free for local people.

Also my daughter lives in Woolston - if I had to pay to park to visit her it would be outrageous! She already has to pay for a permit. This is a nasty joke hopefully.

Whilst the Highfield Residents Association understands the Council's need for revenue. increasing the charges will not assist with the regeneration of Portswood Broadway which is another of the Council's priorities and into which the Council is committing considerable sums of public money.

Fewer people will use the local shops and they will end up closing down, destroying the area. Drivers will also clog up the surrounding streets as they try to avoid the car parks, causing safety issues and a nuisance for neighbours. Thirty minute trips should be free.

This will deter visitors from coming to Bitterne we have already lost most banks and this parking charge will impact the shops that are still there, resulting in further decline of Bitterne precinct.

The cost of living too high. Also elderly people use those shops a lot , already lost heating allowance, now to have to pay to park to visit supermarket and local shops is really not fair, its disgusting ☹️

I really feel these parking charges will have a detrimental effect on the local businesses struggling to survive in woolston , surely we should be encouraging people to support local businesses not give them another reason shop else ware ... what are you thinking SCC !

It is hard to find parking as it is without paying for it. Also, when you don't live near to these shopping places and you don't have public transport to take you, you need to drive.

I am making an objection in charging for car parking during the first 2 hours in Peartree gardens car park (back of Sainsburys) and Whites Road car park as this will seriously impact local residential streets . I live in Brownlow Avenue and we already have shop workers parking due to the fact they can only park for 2 hours free, if you start charging for all hours I can see shoppers using the surrounding streets or Stop shopping in Bitterne, already Bitterne has problems with empty shops and 2 banks are due to close . This could be the final nail in the coffin for Bitterne I think you have not thought this through properly. If you want to keep Bitterne alive please give this serious concern.

It will harm local businesses and restrict staffing in such businesses. In an era where there is active effort to increase footfall in local shopping precincts (and a lot of money has already been spent in doing this), this completely contradicts this and is likely to harm the drive of encouraging people to come in and support local businesses. It should be noted that the free parking and locality of smaller shopping precincts are what attracts people here rather than going to city centres with busy expensive parking. It will ultimately affect the high street, especially in a poor and ageing demographic area.

It may also cause additional upset in local residential areas as it may cause people to park down their roads to avoid the parking charges.

It is also worth noting that not all staff members live local or within Southampton at all and do not have the option to use public transport in.

One of the only free local (within 3 miles of home) parking to a number of shops I would usually have to travel much further out and pay to park way out miles away. I think I would probably find other quiet roads to park on locally and not bother using the car parks. The 2 hour free works wonders as not many need more than that in Bitterne as it's a sort of place you 'pop in' for something. Stop trying to recoup the money for the new high street development and line painting... the only thing i will agree on is the school parking so maybe a curfew of certain hours say 8-9:30am and 2-4:30pm could be chargeable

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These local shopping areas need all the help they can get. If parking charges were brought in, it would certainly deter shoppers who drive. I don't think Southampton CC want cars in their city!

Simply no one can afford it. You're doing all this work on Bitterne, make everyone have to pay for parking and they may as well go elsewhere. Many people come for the free parking. It's a great place to take pensioners for a day out of the house without spending money just because we've left the house. Perhaps you think it will deter people from driving into Bitterne and get them to walk or cycle instead. Clearly do not know the type of people in the surrounding areas. Everyone is skint and lazy. And with that combination it is a never gonna go well

This is just another, stick it to the car drivers unlucky enough to live in Southampton.

Charges in small local car parks will kill off trade

These are small local shops not a town centre, and charging for parking will be prohibitive (not just by cost but the hassle) to people utilising the smaller shops so impact businesses and the market where people will just go to free supermarkets or town instead increasing likelihood of more vacant shops. This will also obviously 'push' cars to park in neighbouring residential areas and increase traffic near a primary school and nursery potentially putting children's safety at risk.

It will stop me shopping in Woolston, there are not enough shops I would want to shop in and if you stay charging parking I won't bother

This will adversely affect the traders in Bitterne, in and around the precinct. Causing inconvenience and further costs to those supporting local businesses.

It will deter people using the shops and new park. Also more people will park in the surrounding area making more issues for locals.

Often use these shopping areas as parking free. Will go out of Southampton in future, probably Whiteley or Hedge end.

As a local business owner I feel this move would reduce trade and footfall in the pedestrian precinct. Many people meet in Bitterne due to the two hours free parking currently and if these charges were imposed then it would drive the public out of town retail parks where they can get coffee, meet and shop without having to pay for parking. I feel it will not reduce (and may increase) the number of local car users for retail purposes. The only people this proposal could impact is the parents of children at the school and given they are a small part of the issues, it is a rather large hammer to crack a nut, so the money to put this in place could be used in a more targeted way. This move will definitely have a negative impact on my business (which is based in the precinct).

Parking charges in our local neighbourhood will be to the detriment of small businesses and will encourage people to shop in larger shopping centres and avoid local shops if they incur charges. Local people also don't want extra costs to shop locally.

This will damage the shops, folk will not pop into Bitterne for a quick purchase.

The impact it will have on residential side roads, particularly at school drop off and pick up. I would encourage residents parking in the neighbouring side roads along side paid for parking in the car parks

Peartree gardens- This car park is not only just used for shopping at Sainsbury's, which is our local supermarket, but also used for car parking for school runs which often involved short 15 minute stays twice daily for many. Having to not only pay to do a shop but also for parents of the local Bitterne C of E school having to pay twice daily to drop off and collect their children is a crippling blow. I also object to other local parking having charges as not to cause over or winding in aforementioned Peartree gardens. If you introduce charges at all other local Bitterne car parks but. It Peartree gardens it will create an influx of visitors to Peartree gardens and will make finding a parking space there extremely difficult. Please do not introduce parking charges to any locations in Bitterne. Lastly, The high street is already strained enough. If you put off visits from locals due to these charges it will have a knock on effect to local trade and businesses. A lot of business is brought in from passers by that choose Bitterne due to the free parking.

This is a absolute disgrace, which ever counsellors are proposing this should hold their head in shame.

I always thought counsellors were there to support peoples views, most of these areas are struggling, trying to get people to support local shops and local businesses in these areas. This is just another tax on communities, rather than looking at ways of trying to save money. I am a resident of Woolston for the last 40 years, paying Itchen Bridge tolls over this period of time.

Maybe you should look at putting tolls on Northern Bridge, Cobden Bridge, and also a tow on the Millbrook bypass maybe then people living in those areas would see what we have to put up with all the time.

A unfair tax for living this side of the river.

I feel that the labour council is attacking the communities and small businesses by adding these parking charges.

This will result in people going further out of town to get their shopping at free parking areas, These charges are the thin end of the wedge which will result in periodically these charges increasing, and eventually most local businesses will end up closing down .

Resulting in most local communities being destroyed.

I feel that the council should look at ways of trying to save money, maybe they should put a consultation out for people to suggest ways of saving money.

As a retired person I have seen lots of ways you could be saving money on a daily basis.

I think there could be lots of ideas that you most probably would not like to hear, but i can see several things where money is being wasted.

This, we are sure, would put a lot of people off of using Bitterne and Woolston for their shopping..these locations are hardly thriving as it is! As an example, at no other larger Sainsbury's carpark will you find parking charges. Why could not a 30 minute or 1 hour grace period be given for those doing shopping or school drop offs, when we currently have 2 hours at the moment..it seems like a big jump and too large a price hike to be implemented.

Allow up to an hour parking FOC once a day. To charge for all parking in all Car parks is threat to the local shops. Eating places will suffer as meeting with friends for coffee and a chat will be affected. Conidderation should be given also to other nearby areas West End for example will attract more shoppers and Bitterne will lose out.

Look, mate, we've all been short of cash. It happens to the best of us. Sometimes it's a surprise baby, other times it's a few too many on a Friday night at the company Christmas bash when you end up bidding a six figure sum on a signed rugby ball. What I'm trying to say, is that I understand. You're broke. Flat broke. It happens.

So, the real question is how are you going to get yourself out of this financial quagmire? Your plans seem to involve charging old women a few quid to park thier clapped out motor outside the Bitterne Sainsbury's. Well, fair one. I guess.

I'd be a tad more sympathetic if you hadn't spunked a cool million on a medieval IT system that didn't work and the least said about that cycle lane on the Bitterne road the better. Oh, and mind how you're sinking a small fortune into developing that play area in the centre of Bitterne? Good plan that. It would be even better if people could visit it without having to mortgage thier houses to park.

Still, I get it, you're skint. Still we do pay you a fair bit in council tax. For the bins, you say. Would it hurt you to actually empty them from time to time? If you're not too busy, you know, inventing parking charges?

Still, as you say, it's a supermarket so paying to park is reasonable. Glad there's not a school or a church nearby...oh,wait.

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Well, I suppose you're okay. I mean it's a target audience. You have a monopoly on shops on that high street. It's not like there's a huge shopping centre moments away....

This is a terrible plan. You're not going to be popular if you do it. It's also colossal in its stupidity. So after all, that probably means you'll do it.

I will forget to pay and end up with a fine. I'd rather avoid Bitterne. This is just a local car park, it's not the middle of town so why need a charge?

What a silly idea.

The car park is so busy with cars entering and leaving every minute of the day, that there is no way you can feasibly have enough parking machines to allow and cater for the sheer number of people going in and out daily. People will spend more time queuing to pay before they shop/pick up school children, go to the gym/visit church, slowing down the volume of people around the area.

People will spend more time queuing for the pay machine and cause more delays to the roads. This will encourage people to park outside the school again which we are trying hard to prevent with the introduction of a "school street".

Parents use the car park for Bitterne Primary- you cannot penalise them and charge £1 per day, for school drop off and pick up's.

Most families in 2024 work and do not have the luxury to be able to have a stay at home "mother" who can walk their child to school every day!!!!

Ridiculous plan! Save money on your silly renovations instead

We are already losing our banks in Bitterne which is not good but with parking charges to be introduced Bitterne will become a ghost as people will go elsewhere. Why build a new park when people will be discouraged to come

I am already struggling with the cost of living and avoid going into Southampton City centre due to high parking charges. I regularly use Woolston and Bitterne instead to keep costs down. The free parking is the reason for this.

If you charge to park in these small towns, it will have a huge impact on local businesses with loss of trade.

Please use some common sense and leave the parking as it is.

Keep parking free, it's the only reason we shop in Bitterne. I'd be more inclined to go elsewhere if we have to start paying to park. But this reason is similar for others too! Stop rapping our pockets for what little change we have left

Will have a massive impact on shops. Don't you think people pay enough in taxes and other bills without having to pay to pop to the shops now too. Pure greed that's all it is.

I believe those free car parks are a lifeline to people who can't afford parking on top of a bit of needed shopping. We're in a cost of living crisis and you want to charge on things that have always been a privilege to the users. Don't fix what's not broke for the pure greed of the council due to their insufficient funds your now pulling it from anywhere you can. Our people shouldn't suffer more.

The cost of living crisis is crippling people and the Council and shops are putting additional financial pressure by introducing parking charges. Parking is becoming so complicated that it is difficult to avoid fines. This could force me and others to shop for groceries online, to the detriment of small local businesses.

It is so refreshing being able to pop in and not being charged for parking. If you charge for parking the council will make money, but the retailers will suffer as less people will shop there.

Maybe a compromise can be reached with the same pricing as the car park in Portswood. There the first two hours are free and then the charges start at 50p for 3 hours. That would be fair and reasonable.

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I am objection to this as this will be depremental to bitterne as a village as it will deter people from coming to bitterne. Shops will close as they will not get the custom. This will also make the parking in the surrounding area a problem as brownlow avenue and other roads around this area will become so busy with parent dropping there children off to school. There is no parking for parents and not all parent can walk to take there children due to work commitments. I feel that charging in the carparks is exceptable after a curtain amount of time. So atleast 1 hour free parking then charged at the proposed rate. To expect people to pay a yearly fee is not exceptable when we are already struggling to pay bills with the cost of living crisis.

This will make children late for school as the Sainsburys car park is used by parents of children at Bitterne C of E Primary, queues of parents at the ticket machine. We dont all live within walking distance of the school and some are picked up by elderly grandparents from as far away as Park Gate. Would it be possible to change to first 30 minutes free instead of the current 2 hours and the proposed charges?

You will kill the trade in the precinct, what's left of it.

You will push people further afield or online and that is not helping the public.

The one and only thing that Bitterne has, is free parking.

It's not rocket science. People have cars and need to park and here is the one thing that draws them.

It's disgraceful. Death to the suburbs

It will put people off going to Bitterne shops etc, be bad for local businesses.

Bitterne would die no one would shop there any more why would you even want to do that most really not thought out plan

Crazy

It will reduce shoppers for local shops and reduce charity donations because it's hard carrying heavy bags from home or the only remaining free car park of Sainsbury's in Shirley.

The car park on commercial road is used by parishioners at Christ the King & St Colman on Sunday mornings, almost exclusively, and has been for many years. This church serves Bitterne, Sholing, Thornhill, Midanbury and Hightown and so travel by car is essential for many of our parishioners, particularly elderly and families. This restriction would increase street parking in the local area, and have a negative impact on the local community both within and outside of the church. We would ask that you reconsider this restriction, especially for Sundays. We have masses in our church from late morning until late evening.

As it is right next to the school and there is a no parking or driving near the school, pick ups and drop off would become too expensive

Because the facilities mentioned do not equate to long term parking

If I have to pay to park I will no longer shop in Bitterne.

The charges will damage visitation to bitterne an already dying high street I know it will make me and many others go to hedge end

Every local shopping centre, like the city centre itself, is dying. Unkempt, uncared for, and unwelcoming. Living locally, I remember when Woolston was a thriving commercial centre. It now offers few reasons to visit apart from a few excellent local outlets which will be exterminated by the introduction of parking charges by a greedy, financially inept Council.

We express our strong opposition to the proposed increase in parking charges. As regular patrons of the nearby establishments, we actively support local businesses. We have made a conscious choice to patronise these shops due to the current parking rates. Furthermore, we utilise these car parks to safely drop off our children at school. our parking duration is typically less than 10 minutes, which we believe is unjustly subject to an hourly parking charge.

Small Businesses are already struggling to survive parking charges will only drive people to use The larger stores. Even Eastleigh has free parking to bring back customers. Parking charges kills enterprise.

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The shops need people, and people needing to park , so paying to park will put people off visiting the shops ,not clever Southampton city council

Bitterne is going to lose out if they start charging for parking

Charging could prevent people going to these areas to use the local shops. This could affect many businesses. I often use Bitterne Sainsbury's to collect my Argos delivery so could be 5 mins to collect or I may go to other shops. If I have to pay to park I won't use these businesses. I am already travelling to Bitterne so is easy for me to go elsewhere.

This will kill Bitterne off...

Parking charges will prevent people from visiting and shopping in areas, there is more than enough financial stress to humanity at present let alone parking charges, parking fines, fines for driving through particular areas!

This is a community car park used for so many purposes including early school drop offs. Businesses benefit from the car park and it's good for young and old , We spend money in local shops parking here. It is unfair to charge local people - it's such a brilliant resource. You make enough out of locals from itchen bridge and soton car parks ? Thank you

This would have a massive affect on trade/businesses on the hight street if people have to start to pay!!! Also will force more to park in the back streets/side roads which is unfair on residents...

People will only then park in residential streets around bitterne clogging all other roads up

I visit Bitterne frequently for shopping and attending church socials.

Parking fees will deter me, and many others. And lovely Bitterne precinct, shops and community will fall into decline.

PLEASE reconsider.

The car park on Commercial Road is used by parishioners at Christ the King & St Colman on Sunday mornings, almost exclusively, and has been for many years. This church serves Bitterne, Sholing, Thornhill, Midanbury and Hightown and so travel by car is essential for many of our parishioners, particularly elderly and families. This restriction would increase street parking in the local area, and have a negative impact on the local community both within and outside of the church. We would ask that you reconsider this restriction, especially for Sundays. We have masses in our church from late morning until late evening. Thank you

I am in favour of the proposals in principle, although I believe that making the first half-hour free would be fairer for those who just want to 'pop' to a shop etc., particularly the elderly or less able who might take longer to reach their destination and would suffer the higher tariff.

I am also concerned that parents who insist on driving their children to school will park inconsiderately in surrounding roads, or drop the children off somewhere that may be less safe for them. Of course, there is a chance that having to pay for parking will encourage more people to walk their children to school ...

The current two hour free parking system works well. One reason given for this proposal is to manage parking demand during the periods not charged for, but this is unnecessary as demand and availability are actually self limiting. I frequently use all the Bitterne car parks and have NEVER encountered a problem with parking during the two hour period. So if it currently works well, there is no need to to make these unnecessary changes. The reason given is not a true reason, as currently there is no parking problem. It is an imagined reason to justify the proposed changes.

Another reason given is to encourage drivers to consider an alternative means of transport, but I have no doubt that these changes will encourage very few drivers to change to public transport or walk/cycle and I do not understand why the Council cannot see this. We live in the age of the car and society can be divided into those who want, or need, the convenience of door to door using a car, those who are cycling enthusiasts who will accept the need for special clothes and exposure to bad weather, and those who are happy to use public transport, or need to do so because they have no car. You will not move car users into the other groups by using a stick not a carrot.

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Those who currently use a car to go to a shopping centre (such as Bitterne, but equally others) have an easy option of going elsewhere such as to Hedge End or similar. This will lead to a further loss of local trade, further deterioration and the closure of more retail shops. These outlets already have to bear the extra staffing costs due to the last budget, the last bank in Bitterne will shut this June and this additional loss of trade will drive our shopping centres into a charity shop desert, with the associated loss of business rates and the onset of urban decay. The Council are already spending £thousands upgrading Bitterne precinct, whether necessary or not, so let's encourage people to go there and make Bitterne a thriving commercial area, not drive people away by short sighted policies that will have adverse consequences which the council have not considered. There will probably be reduced patronage of Bitterne's Wednesday market too.

I and many others will not pay to park when I need to buy say, just a birthday card or a book of stamps, I will go elsewhere. I shall also do so for the weekly shop. Consider also the car users who are elderly but not actually disabled (a significant number, just go and look). They want and need to drive to the supermarket, do the weekly shop, put the bags in the car and drive home. They cannot walk to the bus stop from home, shop, walk back to the bus with heavy shopping, take the bus home and then walk hundreds of yards from the bus stop to their house carrying heaving bags.

Lastly, the proposed charging hours of 8.00am to midnight 7 days a week will do tremendous harm to pubs/cafes/restaurants. It is also a terrible obstacle to our church attendees, most of whom are in their later years and this runs contrary to the support they need. 8.00 until midnight every day defies logical explanation. Imposing these charges 7 days a week from 8.00am until midnight really shows that this is not being done for the main stated reason (to manage parking demand) but because it fits in with the Council's current ethos regarding cars, cyclists and public transport. It is an ill-conceived, undemocratic idea which will without doubt have adverse, unanticipated and unwelcome consequences leading to the destruction of suburban shopping areas and the closure of many independant traders.

The suburbs of Southampton need more support to aid local businesses increasing charges and times will make people go out of town where there is free parking and more diverse shops. Going to Bitterne or Woolston after dark for meetings or social events etc will put people off attending events and have a knock on effect for those organisations.

As far as I am concerned Bitterne village has really gone downhill with regards to shops. We once had such a variety but certainly not now!! Our remaining two Banks will also be gone next June 2025. Also wasting money rebuilding part of the precinct. There was nothing wrong with it as it was. Charging all day, every day parking will certainly keep shoppers well away, I for one!!!

It would deter people away from local businesses and more and more shops will be left empty . Bitterne especially is used by many to pop into a shop quickly, as part of their commute, spending around 10- 15 minutes maximum. To have to spend extra time and money sorting out parking, would be not worth the stop so less money being spent in the community. I'd prefer a 4 hour maximum or pay £2 for stays over 4 hours. Not small charges for a few minutes.

The Car Park on Portsmouth Road was set a two free hours to allow parents of local schools such as St Patrick's Primary School, to park locally to the school without clogging up the local roads nearby to the school so that working parents can walk their children to the school safely and then return to the car park before driving onto work. Free car parking for two hours also allows people to shop locally in Woolston instead of parking on the streets nearby or shopping somewhere else. Two hours free time at this car park is crucial for parents with children and for local businesses.

Also free parking for two hours allows for people to attend funerals, weddings and baptisms at St

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Patrick's Church when our car park becomes full, with only 8 spaces. Otherwise people will park on the pavements and already congested roads.

I think it will affect Bitterne high street as it's currently an attractive place to come to as there are no parking charges and good shops. With the wonderful local park that's being built too it seems a shame to now make families pay to park especially considering many families use the surrounding car parks for school drop off and toddler groups etc.

I really enjoy being able to come over to Bitterne high street and use the car parks without needing to worry about paying for the time I've parked.

Making people pay for short time parking will severely affect the small businesses in Woolston and Bittern. Also to pay for parking by Bittern Health Centre will affect unwell people.

There is a risk that people will stop visiting the suburbs as they are not worth paying to park in order to visit. I am also concerned that visitors will park in residential roads to avoid paying to park. This already happens but is likely to increase causing congestion in residential areas.

The new parking fees will have a detrimental impact on Woolston. I tend to pop in when passing through as not local. It has a few very good shops which have tried hard through difficult times. Two hours free parking is an incentive to stop off.

I also regularly visit Shirley. If parking charges are increased then it's more unlikely. I already have places I don't visit as they are 'pay on your phone' parking.

As a 79 year old, this is all very discouraging.

I often go to Shirley and park but I object to having to pay for parking. It will drive people away and they will just park in the back streets or stay away from Shirley and the shops will have to close.

I believe these proposals will seriously deter people from using the shops and other facilities in Bitterne. It will have an impact on the viability of the shops. Many will just go to the shops that have free parking instead.

As a member of Holy Saviour Church I am also aware that it will discourage people coming in to Bitterne. We have developed the facilities at Holy Saviour, and they are attracting a growing number of people, but you often hear 'I have got to go. My 2 hours are nearly up.' Many of those who come are not well off and parking charges will stop them coming and increase the social isolation that we are aware is a growing problem for older people. I am also unhappy about charging on Sundays. I believe that when the car parks were set up when Bitterne was revamped forty years ago there was an understanding that parking would be free for people to attend church on Sundays. When the work around Holy Saviour is completed there will be some limited parking but, with people having to pay for all car parks, we will find that other people will be using the church car park to avoid paying for parking, which was a problem in the church car park previously, even when there was free parking for a limited time in the city car parks. These issues will also have an impact on the United Reformed Church which has no parking of its own.

Charging for parking near the Library will deter people from using it if you have to pay just to return a book.

There is no need to control parking in the evenings. There is always plenty of space. Charging will just discourage people from attending events in the village. Most places like Bitterne have free parking in the evenings.

The argument used for such schemes is often that it will encourage people to use public transport. That argument doesn't work for many people. As an older person, particularly in winter, I am not likely to walk to a bus stop and wait for up to 20 minutes for a bus.

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We need to encourage the use of our local shops. Convenience and the ability to park for a short time for free is a key part of this. The proposal will damage demand for local services and shops and put further pressure on already struggling household finances at what is already a difficult time.

I'm not objecting completely to the plan of parking fees. I think charges are acceptable if you are parking for more than an hour, but I think there should be a grace period that is still free especially to support the small businesses who rely on local people shopping in these areas. By introducing parking fees it will drive people away and they will shop where they can get free parking such as Hedge End and the only businesses that will benefit are the large national ones!

Removing the free 2 hour parking in Shirley District Car Parks will negatively impact on the struggling Shirley High Street shops and businesses. It will encourage people to park on surrounding residential streets, pavements or yellow lines which the council constantly fail to enforce. The council claims to support local businesses but then makes short sighted and illogical and contradictory decisions which do exactly the opposite. The minimum proposed charge is 50p how much of this charge will be taken by processing fee for card transactions? Will those without smart phones or cards be able to pay by cash? How will the council prevent scam QR codes being attached to the ticket machines? At least 2 of the Shirley district car parks do not have ticket machines. How much will new ticket machines cost to install and maintain?

This will be detrimental to the local businesses. Many people take advantage of the free parking and many of the car parks have adequate availability at all times, by introducing charges this will reduce footfall to Shirley High Street, which is already declining with occupied units this not contributing business rates. I do not feel one of the motives is strong enough to justify these charges - To encourage drivers to consider alternative means of transport. The way to encourage alternative means of transport, investment should be made to infrastructure to support this not by imposing charges on the alternative option of driving. If the council wish to raise funds they should consider enforcing parking regulations already in action. There are many vehicles parked in violation of double yellow lines, close to junctions or causing obstruction at any given time of day and day of the week in the Shirley area.

These fees will hurt local shops by driving people to shop online instead. Also, charging £1 per day for school runs is unfair to parents.

Please reconsider this decision to keep our community thriving

My son is a pupil of Bitterne C of E primary School. The above proposal means that I have to pay for parking every time I drop him off and pick him up from school. All the roads around the school have double yellow lines. This proposal will make all the parents stop on yellow lines, which is illegal and very dangerous for the pupils.

Also it will affect Bitterne's local market as we have to pay to go to the supermarket, optician, pharmacy, the library and even the GP.

For me, it is unacceptable to leave Bitterne without a free parking space for at least two hours. That will cause a massive problem to our community.

Please keep Bitterne as free parking. It will become deserted if people have to pay. It's just a way to claw back money from the ridiculous amount you have spent on the needless playground, which will be a lovely place for the trouble makers to hang out.

Why change something that has worked for years. Just greed on the part of the council.

Also will effect local businesses and encourage people to go elsewhere.

Not

quite such a good idea

Pop to Bitterne 2-3 times a week often to pick up meds. So worried for the small business in Bitterne. Another nail in The coffin

Some people on low incomes require a car and this will only bhit those worst boff in society

You seem determined to kill local shops and shopping by any means possible.

It will be detrimental to trade and shops in portswood. With the proposed bus gate and closure of parking at portswood centre with reference to the proposed student housing, it will become less and less easy to just pop to the shops and the prospect of having to pay for parking will deter people from using portswood shops. This will have a negative effect on shops and trade and it will mean portswood becomes less and less used as a place for shopping. The road is already being given over to takeaways and cafes and this will have even more impact on an already negative set of proposals. It is as if the council simply does not want to have shops in suburbs which is a real shame. The city centre is far too congested and this will exacerbate the issue.

Purely a reason to raise money for the city council. Not to get people on public transport.

Bittern car parks have always been free. If you start charging people won't go there to shop. Then shops will shut down and people will lose their jobs. Bittern is already struggling as it is with shops why make it worse. Maybe don't waste money on a park for the homeless to ruin. You would of saved a lot of money from that

This will seriously affect number of visits to local centres which in turn will affect the ability of these centres to continue trading. I live in Bitterne and shop in Woolston regularly as they have more shops available and as the bus runs so infrequent have to drive this charge will put me off shopping there. This charge appears to be a desperate policy driven solely by the need to raise money which ultimately will be self defeating due to the predicted adverse consequences!

I Often 'pop' to Woolston and Bitterne Just to have a look round the shops as it's easy to Park and free. I would not bother going to either of these places if I had to pay to park! It's going to push people like myself to drive to hedge end to shop and push the small businesses out

Woolston and Bitterne already have acute parking issues for residents due to the misuse of offroad parking. People leave their cars and cross to the city centre to work. If you start to levy charges for these car parks you will create an even greater problem for residents of the surrounding areas. This council has already wasted £2,000,000 pounds creating a park and bus turn round point adjacent to the city walls whilst losing £300,000 per annum in revenue from the two car parks that were sacrificed.

Parking for residents is an issue in Woolston, presumably the same in Bitterne. If you force drivers onto the local roads where do the people that live there go? The remaining shops in both Bitterne & Woolston have enough to deal with, trying to keep their head above water as you put up business rates. If they fail, who is left to pay you for the services you are supposed to provide? As an example, where are the street lights nowadays? Oh, yes, the slack will be left to residents who potentially have to now pay for parking to satisfy there basic needs. Also, parking fees will put off people staying around with their children in the, no doubt, costly brand new play area in Bitterne. Was that really necessary to replace the old one?

My objection is to the proposal to introduce charges at Commercial St. This car park is used, particularly by Parishioners of Chris the King and St Colman church who have used it for many years. The Church serves Bitterne, Sholing, Thornhill, Midanbury and Hightown and for many people travel by car is their only option. Imposition of charges will only exacerbate difficulties caused by the current cost of living crisis. It will also increase on street parking in the local area, having a negative impact on the local community. I would ask that the proposal regarding Commercial Street be reconsidered especially for Sundays.

There are always places to park in the portsmouth road car park and therefore this charge is not required to control volumes as stated. Small businesses in woolston need the councils support to bring in new customers, and not to deter them with parking charges for under 2 hours

I am an occasional user of the Shirley area car parks for my dentist in Anglesea Road, shopping in Sainsbury supermarket, shops and restaurants in Shirley High Street and the Post Office in Shirley Avenue. My comments are based on these experiences. The proposed charges are modest but I fear that they will increase by more than inflation in the future. The free 2 hour period seems perfectly adequate to achieve the stated objectives.

I object to the proposal and two grounds: convenience and probably consequences.

1. It is a nuisance to have to find a ticket machine, purchase a ticket and return to the car before carrying out the errand that is the reason for your visit. Card payment and the use of parking apps does little to alleviate this.

2. More importantly I will be deterred from staying any longer than strictly necessary and so will be less likely to walk further down Shirley High Street to visit other shops. I am more likely to go to the larger supermarkets on Trebora Way or Lordshill, where parking is free, thus contributing to both road congestion and emissions

Bitterne is a small precinct which relies on people visiting the shops. Many could walk there but many more drive so these charges would encourage people to go elsewhere such as Hedge End retail park as parking is free. I do not want to see empty shops due to under-use especially as we have a lovely new play area and seating places being constructed at the moment. Working in one of the shops myself, many of our older generation visit regularly to chat and meet up with friends as well as pick up a few bargains and essentials. Parking charges could deter them from this and add to difficulties when every penny counts at the moment.

The car park on commercial road is used by parishioners at Christ the king & St Colmans on Sunday mornings and has been for many years.

The car park on commercial road is used by parishioners at Christ the King & St Colmans on Sunday morning. This church serves Bitterne, Sholing, Thornhill, Midanbury and hightown so travel by car is essential for many of our parishioners, particularly elderly and families.

The car park on commercial road is used by parishioners at Christ the King & St Colman on Sunday mornings, almost exclusively, and has been for many years. This church serves Bitterne, Sholing, Thornhill, Midanbury and Hightown and so travel by car is essential for many of our parishioners, particularly elderly and families.

This restriction would increase street parking in the local area, and have a negative impact on the local community both within and outside of the church. We would ask that you reconsider this restriction, especially for Sundays. We have masses in our church from late morning until late evening.

The fees will have huge knock on for unsafe parking, on street parking etc just as the 20 mile an hour speed limits have. Most of the people I see parking at places like Weston Shore are there for the benefit of their mental and physical health and are in the mature age bracket. This would be very detrimental to them.

Local shops will suffer

Howard Grove and Cannon street car parks are frequently used by the members of the church on Cannon Street, Limitless Mercy Church. This church serves a multicultural population with a range of socioeconomic needs. Reduced parking costs have supported a number of their community ventures including a weekly cafe giving our free hot drinks and snacks a x providing arts and crafts.

I object to the changes in the parking provisions and increasing charges in Woolston and Bitterne car parks, on the basis that the increased parking charges and structure will further undermine community shopping, will further result in the drive to both out of town and driving people to use central town shopping reducing the local footfall and community shopping. The proposal to increase the cost and provision of parking further undermines the local community shops and entrepreneurs who have opened and are running shops on already limited margins.

On an environmental perspective It seems madness to push people to both out of town and central city whilst local provision is available.

The city should support the local communities and shipowners. There is no provision for shipowners to park in the immediate area.

Whilst the principle of a Citywide review of Council-owned car park charges which allow for greater consistency is supported it would be helpful to understand the justification for the

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proposal to end limited periods of free parking in district centres - specifically here those four serving Shirley Town Centre (Marlborough Road (n), Marlborough Road (s), Howards Grove and Cannon Street). What revenue is currently generated by these car parks and what additional revenue is anticipated through introduction of the proposed changes?

How will any additional revenue secured be utilised to fund highways or public transport improvements in the Shirley, Freemantle and Millbrook wards?

Has any risk assessment taken place with regards these proposed changes in terms of (a) a failure to realise revenue targets with fewer motorists using the car parks (b) the impact on local businesses with any reduced customer footfall and (c) displacement of parking onto neighbouring residential streets?

If so what mitigation measures are proposed? For instance can residents feel reassured that more civil enforcement measures will be taken with regards illegal parking?

Whites road car park proposal will effect business and staff

The proposals will damage trade to local shops and lead to more vehicles being parked on already overcrowded residential streets

Woolston and Bitterne shops are already struggling to survive and requiring people to park in these localities will discourage more people for using these facilities

The car park on commercial road is used by parishioners at Christ the King & St Colman on Sunday mornings, almost exclusively, and has been for many years. This church serves Bitterne, Sholing, Thornhill, Midanbury and Hightown and so travel by car is essential for many of our parishioners, particularly elderly and families. This restriction would increase street parking in the local area, and have a negative impact on the local community both within and outside of the church. We would ask that you reconsider this restriction, especially for Sundays. We have masses in our church from late morning until late evening."

CKSC Weekday Masses in Sacristy

Weekday Masses will be held in the Sacristy until late evening. Our Hall is also used by many other groups during the week.

We are in our late seventies and have attended the parish church in Bitterne for many years. Each time we attend a service or social function we would have to find parking money, as well as for shopping etc. You don't give the method of payment and there are many people older than us who would struggle with a payment system. We are too old to ride bicycles and using the buses would mean a walk up a hill.

Parents with children at Bitterne School would have to pay twice a day.

People who live near the shopping centre will find their roads congested with cars trying to find free parking places.

Some Bitterne shops are already struggling and may close. What is the point of refurbishing the precinct if there are few shops left?

I strongly would like to ask you to reconsider the parking charges for Angel Crescent. This car park is close to my gym, I struggle with my health and mental health and the gym is helping me and thousands of other, if I have to pay to be able to park to use those facilities this will mean I will have to reassess if I can afford to keep going. If you have to charge maybe start after 2 hours or only charge between 9 and 5? Thanks for listening to my reasoning.

If you start to charge for parking in Bitterne and Woolston you will adversely affect trade in the local businesses. Labour has already put strain on businesses by increasing National Insurance Contributions. Please do not do this.

I am a member of Limitless Mercy Church in Southampton. They provide an important service to myself, my family and friends and my community. I have used the car parks on Cannon Street to

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access these church community services. A car parking charge will directly affect me at a time of increased costs of living and high inflation. I would like to register my objection.

I think Angell cres should be free up to 9.30 am and after 2.30 pm due to the fact the amount of people dropping off to school at that time.

By putting charges on that traffic people will use neighbouring roads for dropping off their children.

I understand trying to change peoples habits but it won't deter the school drop off just add to peoples costs at the wrong time.

Charges rest of time won't effect businesses in general as people shop in Bitterne precinct for distinct reasons.

Encouraging alternative forms of transport is better for all of us. These parking fees could be used to fund public transport, cycle maintenance and measures to make streets safer for all users.

The car park on commercial road is used by parishioners at Christ the King & St Colman on Sunday mornings, almost exclusively, and has been for many years. This church serves Bitterne, Sholing, Thornhill, Midanbury and Hightown and so travel by car is essential for many of our parishioners, particularly elderly and families. This restriction would increase street parking in the local area, and have a negative impact on the local community both within and outside of the church. We would ask that you reconsider this restriction, especially for Sundays. We have masses in our church from late morning until late evening.

I am a member of Limitless Mercy Church and use the car parks in Canon Street, Howard's Grove and Marlborough Road on a regular basis what attending services at the church as well as when using the local shops and services in Shirley. Introducing car park charges during a time when cost of living is already at an all time high makes no sense.

I believe that many people who access the services at LMC will be be put under extra financial pressure. Please focus your efforts on illegal parking and don't penalise people who go to the effort of using the free car parks available. My children also attend foundry land primary school and we use Marlborough Road car park everyday to park and stroll to school, if I'm now forced to pay for parking this will come at a significant cost to me and will force me to use on street parking closer to the school which will be to the detriment of local residents.

I wholeheartedly object these parking change proposals.

Dear Councilor,

I am a member of Limitless Mercy Church in Southampton. They provide an important service to my family, friends, and community.

I have used the car parks on Cannon Street and Howards Grove to access these church services. The increased car parking charges will directly affect me during increased living costs and high inflation.

I want to register my objection.

Thank you

The cost of living is too high and parking charges will affect me

Hi.

I am a member of Limitless Mercy Church in Southampton. They provide an important service to myself, my family and friends, and my community. I have used the car parks on Cannon Street and Howards Grove to access this church services. The increased car parking charges will directly affect me at a time of increased costs of living and high inflation. I would like to register my objection.

Thank you

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Howards Grove to access these church services. The increased car parking charges will directly affect me at a time of increased costs of living and high inflation. I would like to register my objection.

Dear Councillor.

I am a member of Limitless Mercy Church and I use the off site parking services especially to attend church and increasing the charges will impact on me considering the rise in cost of living, increased energy charges and council tax. For these reasons I object to the above proposal.

Thanks

As a member of Limitless Mercy" I regularly visit the area for church or voluntary services. I have access the car park at cannon street and Howard's road with my family multiple times in the week for church services and charitable events. The increase in parking charges will directly affect me at this very time of inflation and cost of living crisis. I would like to register my objection

I use the parking on cannon street and Howard's Grove multiple times in a week. As A member of Limitless Mercy church I am involved and uses this parking when attending church for prayer, bible study, choir rehearsal and charitable events for the community. the increase in parking charges will impact me immensely during this cost of living crisis. I would like to register my objection

The Pastoral and leadership team of Limitless Mercy Church at Cannon Street, Southampton have been made aware of the proposed changes to the Cannon Street car parks which borders our church premises.

Cannon Street car park currently has no parking charges all week round which is particularly helpful for all our community programme volunteers and attendees who utilise this parking during our programme and community/charity events. The proposed charges will see the removal of any free parking at this site from 8AM till midnight all week round. A maximum of £8 for all day use of the car park, starting at 50p for visits for under an hour, a disastrous strain on both our volunteers and community event attendees at this time of immense pressure on family and individual finances.

Limitless Mercy Church has a multicultural, diverse community with members coming from a range of social economic backgrounds, visiting the church premises for programme and community outreach events from immediate areas around Shirley and across the city of Southampton and its boundaries. There are services throughout the week and at weekends as below:-

Mondays – Intercessors Prayer

Tuesdays – Café Mornings

Wednesdays – Bible Study

Friday – Vigil Prayers

Saturday – Choir Practice

Sunday – Sunday Service

Services can last from a few hours to more than 4 hours and the car park has been extremely useful for easy access and parking for attendees. The church also run various volunteer-led community programmes including a weekly cafe offering free hot meals and snacks alongside the opportunity for pensioners, young ones and the vulnerable to socialise and engage in arts and crafts activities with a plan for further expansion (2025) in its mission to further support the vulnerable in our immediate community in Shirley.

In addition the church premise and this car park have supported various health clinics Covid vaccination visits and walk in health programmes such as First Aid courses with St John's Ambulance and The British Heart Foundation.

The proposed changes to car parking charges would directly and disproportionately affect the members of Limitless Mercy Church and the wider community the church serves. Church services

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and these programmes/events are mainly led by unpaid volunteers from the community who will sincerely feel this as a financial burden which may have a direct effect on these volunteers that are already extremely stretched.

As such the leadership of Limitless Mercy Church would like to raise an objection to the proposed changes to car parking charges at Cannon Street car parks. We will be grateful if our concerns would be taken into consideration as you review these proposals. We invite the local council to work with the leadership of the church to find a suitable solution and avoid the drastic impact on the membership of the church and the services it provides in this community.

We look forward to hearing from the council on this matter which is of utmost importance to the church family.

Yours truly,

The Leadership Team, Limitless Mercy Church

I am a member of Limitless Mercy Church in Shirley, Southampton.

They provide an important service to myself, my family and friends and my community. I have used the car parks on Cannon Street and Howards Grove to access these church services. The increased car parking charges will directly affect me at a time of increased costs of living and high inflation. I would like to register my objection.

Thank you

With every grace,

The Building and Administration

I am a member of Limitless Mercy Church in Southampton. They are a life line to myself, my family and friends and the Shirley community especially the council estates around it. I have used the car parks on Cannon Street and Howards Grove to access these church services and Shirley High Street. The increased car parking charges will directly affect me at a time of increased costs of living and high inflation. I would like to register my objection.

Thank you

I am a member of Limitless Mercy Church in Southampton. They provide an important service to myself, my family and friends and my community. I have used the car parks on Cannon Street and Howards Grove to access these church services. The increased car parking charges will directly affect me at a time of increased costs of living and high inflation. I would like to register my objection.

I am a member of Limitless mercy church. This car park has to a great extent helped in the service to the community. People attending our charity program would no longer interested because of the charges and this may affect our charity work.

Thank you.

I am a member of Limitless Mercy Church in Southampton. They provide an important service to myself, my family and friends and my community. I have used the car parks on Cannon Street and Howards Grove to access these church services. The increased car parking charges will directly affect me at a time of increased costs of living and high inflation. I would like to register my objection.

Thank you

I don't know about the other areas but Woolston is only just starting to recover from all the shops closing! We still have a couple of vacant shops and introducing parking charges will mean that these new shops are very likely to fail within the first couple of years. My suggestion would be to take off the 2 hour limit, and then charge after the first hour. That way people can stay longer if they want, but can still pop in to support local businesses. If I'm staying for more than an hour I walk down, but I won't pop in to buy a loaf of bread or get something from the hardware shop if I'm passing in the car if I have to pay to park for what will be a 10 minute stop!

Implementing parking charges for Bitterne, portswood, Shirley and woolston will kill these local communities!



One of reasons given was that these car parks are over capacity, but surely if you reduce capacity then you reduce the number of visitors to the area and therefore reduce the income for the already struggling businesses. Speaking about bitterne which is my local area, it is only busy at the weekends but no one is spending more time than they need to in bitterne, so implementing charges will not make people stay less, it will only serve to either push parking into the already busy residential roads, or push people out to hedge end etc. Southampton council should be looking to support these local areas, as they are vital for communities, many of these areas have a high proportion of older residents, who do not drive. Many of us pop up regularly to get fresh produce. If people decide they might as well go to hedge end, they will be driving further and for longer. If for example Sainsbury's at bitterne is lost which is a real possibility once these charges are brought in, these older or non-driving people will struggle to get their shopping. Plus once Sainsbury's is lost, the other shops will not survive and bitterne precinct will be lost forever. I suspect this suits the council so the land can be sold off to housing. What was the point spending so much creating new play areas etc at bitterne when the council are adding the death knell to this area with parking charges. We also know the price of these charges will rise and rise and this current price is only to slip this change past the public, along with permit charges which will follow. Please see sense and stop these charges before the damage is done.

Kills small business, forces parking to outside residents, in hard times people cannot afford it

I am a member of Limitless Mercy Church in Southampton. They provide an important service to myself, my family and friends and my community. I have used the car parks on Cannon Street and Howards Grove to access these church services. The increased car parking charges will directly affect me at a time of increased costs of living and high inflation. I would like to register my objection.

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Thank you

With the increased headwinds of costs facing businesses (NI, minimum wage and rates) in the areas where these charges are to be imposed, the council should be doing absolutely everything to support these businesses by ensuring growth to footfall in the areas. Adding these charges will cause these businesses a loss in revenue and are adding stress and worry in what is already an impossible economic climate to operate within.

There is never an issue finding a space to park within these car parks so the charges are not

needed. Instead of seeing car drivers and parking charges as "easy" money, I'd rather you invested in enforcement cameras for yellow box junctions, bus lanes etc that keep the traffic flowing. Or failing that employ more wardens so that permit areas are checked regularly and ticket those who overstay the time limit of 1 hour, supporting the people who live on these roads with parking in the vicinity of their homes. These charges will just push people and cars to park within these residential areas as the risk of being caught is so low.

This proposal is incredibly short sighted and not focused on delivering for the people living within the city or tourism from outside.

That will impact a lot of small business and the area has not a lot of customer. So definitely if the parking will charge the people will not come here to support us and a lot of business will close... I am the owner of one small business and I know for sure for my customer will be so good the charge of the parking. I hope you will think about us to your decision 🙏... thank you

I am a member of Limitless Mercy Church in Southampton. They provide an important service to myself, my family and friends and my community. I have used the car parks on Cannon Street and Howards Grove to access these church services. The increased car parking charges will directly affect me at a time of increased costs of living and high inflation. I would like to register my objection.

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Unfair on shoppers and businesses.

Dear Southampton City Council,

I am writing on behalf of the governing body for Bitterne Church of England Primary School to express our serious concerns regarding the proposed introduction of parking charges in Bitterne village, particularly the Peartree Gardens site closest to our school. We would like the council to consider scrapping the changes or to include a 15 minute free parking period.

As you may be aware, many of our children are dropped off and picked up every day from this car park. It is a convenient and safe option, and is essential for many of our families e.g. those parents who have to commute to work after dropping off their children.

We are proud that the school has worked very hard to encourage families to consider alternative transport options with the introduction of the School Street scheme on Brownlow Avenue in 2022, participation in the Big Walk and Wheel project and regular "walk to school weeks". However, we also recognize that the use of a car is unavoidable in several cases and we want to make sure the school and the council are working together to take care of those families as well.

The introduction of parking charges is coming during a period of great financial strain which is sadly being felt by some of our children. A 50p charge twice a day is significant. Parents will have to choose between taking on that burden or making use of already congested local roads, increasing the likelihood of delays getting children into school or even absences.

As a governing body we work very hard for the children in our school's care, and for their families. It is in this spirit that we are respectfully asking you to re-consider this decision.

With kind regards

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On behalf of the governing body, Bitterne CofE primary

Please don't up the car parking charges in woolston I like to support our little town I don't go into Southampton. I meet a friend for coffee or lunch Then hit the charity shops But I'm afraid if carparking goes up I won't go

There are a number of small businesses and charities in Woolston that rely on visitors. Charging for short term parking will deter shoppers. It will also cost the council money to administer all of those 50p

This would finish Bitterne as a shopping area and also send parking down local roads making it difficult for residents to park outside their own home this is already a problem with itchen college

I attend church on cannon Street my my wife and 2 teenage sons, cost of living had gone up and the church is where we meet people to praise God and my boys love church, we attend 3 times a week, Sunday, Wednesday and Saturday for choir practice for my boys. Is not really great when the councils tart charging on cannon Street parking in shirley, I hope they don't start this and they leave the car park as it is.

I am a member of Limitless Mercy Church in Southampton. They provide an important service to myself, my family and friends and my community. I have used the car parks on cannon Street and Howard's Grove to access these Church services. The increased car parking charges will directly affect me at a time of increased costs of living and high inflation. I would like to register my objection.

Thank you

If the Council wants to encourage people to shop "locally" in Shirley, introducing charges where previously 2 hours free parking had been in operation, would be counterproductive because it would mean either people will not shop there or will further clog up the surrounding streets.

Parking is expensive enough it will just get people going elsewhere - the losers will be the retailers

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Bitterren & any other car park, should maybe do like one of the carparks. 2 hours free parking. To many people hog spaces most of the day.

Bitterren & Woolston will not survive if parking charges are from the time you park

You are killing off local shipping with your money grabbing. The council need to reduce expenses and waste

I use the car park on Commercial Street as a user of the Bitterne library, Bitterne health centre and on Sundays as a parishioner at Christ the King & St Colman Church. This church serves Bitterne, Sholing, Thornhill, Midanbury and Hightown and so travel by car is essential for many of our parishioners, particularly elderly and families. This restriction would increase street parking in the local area, and have a negative impact on the local community both within and outside of the church. We would ask that you reconsider this restriction, especially for Sundays. We have masses in our church from late morning until late

I want to express my concerns about the proposed changes to parking tariffs in Bitterne, Portswood, Shirley, and Woolston. While I understand the need to manage parking and cover costs, I believe removing the initial 2 hours free parking would significantly negatively impact local businesses.

In Bitterne, particularly at the local Sainsbury's, the availability of free parking is crucial for encouraging shoppers. If charges are introduced from the outset, many customers will be discouraged, potentially leading them to shop at larger supermarkets with free parking. This could reduce foot traffic, harm local businesses, and even result in the closure of stores, leaving more

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empty properties in the area.

A minimum of two hours of free parking is essential to support local trade. I urge the council to reconsider this proposal and explore alternative options, where a 2 hours free parking is maintained, to strike a balance between parking management and supporting local commerce.

As a resident of the area for my whole life, I have seen significant store closures and the amount of empty commerce properties increasing over the past few years, and I fear that these parking charges would be the final straw to many more businesses.

Thank you for considering my concerns.

Subject: Concerns Regarding Proposed Parking Tariffs

Dear [Councilor/Local Authority],

I am writing to express my concerns about the proposed changes to parking tariffs in Bitterne, Portswood, Shirley, and Woolston. While I understand the need to manage parking and cover costs, I believe removing free parking and introducing charges for evenings and Sundays could negatively impact local businesses.

In Bitterne, particularly at Sainsbury's, the availability of free parking is crucial for encouraging shoppers. If charges are introduced from the outset, many customers will be discouraged, potentially leading them to shop at larger supermarkets with free parking. This could reduce foot traffic, harm local businesses, and even result in the closure of stores, leaving more empty properties in the area.

A minimum of two hours of free parking is essential to support local trade. I urge the council to reconsider this proposal and explore alternative options, such as a tiered pricing system or free parking during key hours, to strike a balance between parking management and supporting local commerce.

In addition to potentially reducing foot traffic and harming local businesses, the proposed parking charges could have several other negative effects, including:

**Displacement of Parking to Residential Areas:** With higher charges in car parks, drivers may seek free or cheaper alternatives in nearby residential streets, leading to increased parking pressure on local residents and creating congestion in areas that were not designed for heavy traffic.

**Reduced Accessibility for Vulnerable Groups:** The introduction of parking charges, especially if enforced during evenings and weekends, could make it harder for elderly, disabled, or low-income individuals to access local services. These groups may rely on short, convenient parking for tasks like shopping or attending appointments.

Thank you for considering my concerns.

This will lead to people feeling less inclined to shop in Bitterne precinct, Portswood High Street and Woolston High Street and will also put people off attending all of the gyms in these areas which currently attract large numbers. It will create a cost for people attending healthcare appointments at Woolston Health Centre and will also significantly increase the number of people who park in the roads surrounding these car parks which is unfair on all of the residents.

I think that all the smaller businesses will suffer if parking charges are introduced at Woodley Road car parks

Shops in Bitterne have been in decline for some time even Sainsbury's seem to have reduced the variety in their shop. Parking fees will only drive people away from the area and even Sainsbury's may be tempted to throw the towel in. The idea appears to be a desperate idea and may I say rather crackpot. People with cars have options and those without may suffer as a result.

Whilst I support the need for more environmentally friendly transport, I disagree with this approach. This proposal will cause many people to park in nearby residential streets causing them inconvenience, or choose alternative places to shop, having a negative impact on local businesses.

1 We feel very strongly that the introduction of parking charges from the start will have a deleterious effect on Bitterne Precinct as it will put off many people from shopping here. In particular it could cause many more of Sainsbury's customers to use Portswood or Hedge End where there is free parking on site. If as a result Sainsbury pulled out of Bitterne we feel it would be catastrophic.

2 Also, at the moment parking in Peartree Gardens, behind Sainsbury, is limited to 2 hours which helps the throughput of cars. Under the new proposals if people are prepared to pay they can stay much longer, hence stopping many short stay customers gaining access and making the length of queues even greater!

We speak as long time residents of Bitterne who have observed and made use of all the car parks on many occasions.

We believe that the parking times in all the car parks should remain as they are.

3 We also fear that evening and Sunday charges will reduce the number of people attending events, especially church services which would not help community spirit.

Norman and Kathleen Davies

Cause further congestion on street parking especially around School times. Detrimental impact on local shopping amenities

Residence visited the high street are not only for grocery at Supermarket which they do have their own parking space. We might need to visit clinic or small shop that they do not provide car park. Sometimes, we just need to stay for a short period of time. Why do we need to pay for car park while we live at least 15mins or up driving distance to have those services? However, I'm still agree if parking more than a certain period of time such as 2 hours or up.

I am apart of limitless mercy church and I agree the parking should be free

I am a member of Limitless Mercy Church in Southampton. They provide a caring platform for myself, my family and friends and my community. I have used the car parks on Cannon Street and Howards Grove to access these church services. The increased car parking charges will directly affect me and my family at a time of increased costs of living and high inflation. I would like to register my objection.

Thank you

Parking charges is making life difficulties for people. Also, people isolate or withdraw from the society due to struggles of parking. Social anxiety of where to park without ticket making shopping difficult

I use Bitterne car parks regularly for shopping and visiting a gym.

I think you will kill local shopping centres by implementing this change. Many people are still struggling with the cost of living. The last two banks in Bitterne are due to close next summer. Introducing parking fees will be another reason not to visit these community hubs.

I am a member of Limitless Mercy Church in Southampton. They provide an important service to myself, my family and friends and my community. I have used the car parks on Cannon Street and Howards Grove to access these church services. The increased car parking charges will directly affect me at a time of increased costs of living and high inflation. I would like to register my objection.

Thank you

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I visit Brewer's shop a few times a week and am in the car park for less than 15 minutes each time. I feel this is overkill for a very brief visit - I am a tradesperson who uses a van for work, so I will not be encouraged to get the bus instead. If anything I will shop out of town.

I am a member of Limitless Mercy Church in Southampton. They provide an important service to myself, my family and friends and my community. I have used the car parks on Cannon Street and Howards Grove to access these church services. The increased car parking charges will directly affect me at a time of increased costs of living and high inflation. I would like to register my objection.

Thank you

I am a member of Limitless Mercy Church in Southampton. The Congregation provide an important service to myself, my family and friends and the community. A lot of our members used the car parks on Cannon Street and Howards Grove to access these church services and I am planning to buy one soon. The increased car parking charges will directly affect me at a time of increased costs of living and high inflation. I therefore emphasize my objection. This shouldn't be enforced when cost of living and rent are up

Regards

I believe it is vitally important to retain 2 hours free parking for the sake of both the public and the viability of businesses in the district centres. Also, there is a special issue regarding the car park at the rear of Sainsbury's in Bitterne. Sainsbury's and other supermarkets in Portswood and Shirley have their own dedicated car parks allowing free parking for up to 2 hours. This is not the case in Bitterne, and charging people to shop at the 2 supermarkets here would be disproportionately unfair.

It will put off people coming to Bitterne to use the shops and services for a short time, including me. Rather than spend a lot of money on doing up the precinct, let's still have free parking. The shops (especially the small ones) will suffer and like the banks, and will probably close, which will be no good for anyone if there is no footfall.

Objections to Westridge Road proposals.

- 1) Would harm trade even further when Portswood traders already face reduction in through traffic & likely removal of Portswood Centre parking.
- 2) Shopping traffic, with its need to carry purchases, requires parking very near to the shops. Why disincentivise this?
- 3) Evening parking (currently free), if it doesn't go elsewhere, would displace to adjacent residential roads causing noise, litter nuisance & possible crime adversely impacting residents.
- 4) The proposal is utterly misaligned with the plan to revitalise Portswood District Centre. Coupled with the other threats mentioned in 1) above it could scarcely be more misconceived.

I am a member of Limitless Mercy Church in Southampton. They provide an important service to myself, my family and friends and my community. I have used the car parks on Cannon Street and Howards Grove to access these church services. The increased car parking charges will directly affect me at a time of increased costs of living and high inflation. I would like to register my objection.

Thank you.

The church has been a worship center I enjoyed immensely since I came to the UK, there is no doubt that increasing the parking fee will definitely impact negatively our gathering.

Going forward, I would like to opine that the council considers the challenge the upward change will cause. Thanks for considering my opinion. God bless the UK.

The claim for this proposal is to "manage parking". As a senior citizen resident in Bitterne who alternatively walks to the shops, or drives to collect weekly shopping or market - I fear that these proposals will drive custom away from these local shops to the larger supermarkets with free parking.

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When browsing in market or shops, it would be impractical to imagine that one can always know how long it will take, and hence guessing how long to purchase time for parking will inevitably lead to a lesser time shopping - resulting I would judge in a lessening of footfall and turnover. With the Banks having shutdown in Bitterne, we will find other outlets diminishing to, leading to a rundown in trade.

It would appear more likely to me that this proposal is aimed at raising funds for the treasury, more that 'controlling' parking - which I have not found an insurmountable problem.

I am a member of Limitless mercy church in Shirley, Cannon Street and frequently use the car park the Cannon Street and Howard's Grove car park as we only have a small parking in front of our church premises and it is first come first served basis.

I live in Eastleigh and have been attending Limitless Mercy church since 2008. I am objecting to this parking proposal as it will affect the local community.

Please can you reconsider this and think of the wider community at large, many thanks.

Dear Sirs

Re: Suburban Off-Streets Parking Places

I write with objections to the proposed introduction of car parking fees to the car parks in Bitterne. Although I live in Netley I am a member of Bitterne URC which I attend several times a week. There is no direct bus from Netley so I have little alternative other than to drive.

Bitterne now has 4 churches in the community. Our churches depend on volunteers (of which I am one) to assist with the running and organisation of churches and outreach into the community to help those who are in need and to encourage them to come to us for help.

In particular I am one of the leaders running the Girls' and Boys' Brigade an important outreach in the community. I am concerned about the impact on the parents dropping off and collecting their children. Many of our members come from further afield and are families struggling financially. Hence we are currently managing to keep our annual subscription to £60 for the year. The additional cost for car parking could be as much as £35. More than 50% increase! (and that is at the current proposal and no doubt it will increase in time).

Other uses of the churches which will be affected are:-

- Penalise all those trying to help in the community.
- Affect those wishing to attend Church on a Sunday.
- Affect our volunteers who are often at the church, every day, many times during the day, morning, noon and night fulfilling various commitments. They will may struggle to meet the costs of the charges proposed on a long-term basis.
- Affect those having to pay parking charges on a Sunday, especially when they are at Church for 4 hours or more having an enormous impact on their finances.
- Affect all those attending activities at the church who will have to dig deep in addition to commit themselves to these activities.
- Affect the vulnerable support groups who meet at our Church, sometimes more than once a week.
- Affect all the senior citizens who attend their meetings at the church on a weekly basis.
- Affect any large functions that we try to hold, concerts, festivals, fund raising events, community lunches for anyone needing a hot meal

There will also be a huge impact on all the businesses in the precinct as people will choose to use out of town facilities where parking is free. Many of the shops that are probably already struggling will end up closing and Bitterne village will slowly die. This will also have an impact on those that

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don't drive, for example the elderly who can't access out of town shops.

And what a waste when all that money that is just being spent improving the area including the new play equipment. Parents that have driven to the Bitterne to shop (most if you have much shopping to carry) won't want to stay longer to allow their children to play if that incurs extra charges.

I feel it makes little sense to introduce parking charges in the evening in Bitterne. You say it "will help to manage the demand of vehicles within the parking bays and increase the number of visitors who can use these facilities". The car parks are little used in the evening. So much so that if "The council also needs to cover the cost of operating the car parks," it would almost certainly not be financially viable.

I implore you to think of the longer time impact these parking charges are going to have on the local community.

We need a short period of free parking at each car park, and also for charges to stop at 6pm. The car parks in Bitterne are used by the Holy Saviour and United Reformed Churches, who both have youth groups in the evenings. It would be cost prohibitive for parents to pay to drop off children and to pick them up, so I recommend at least 30 minutes free parking if you are not willing to stop charges at 6pm. Few use the car parks after the shops close, so charges to midnight are pointless. Stopping at 6pm would allow youth group parents to avoid parking charges. Also, if we are paying for parking, we should expect all attached public toilets to be reopened. The lack of public toilets in Southampton is stressful.

If these charges are introduced this will have an impact on shop takings. Please consider a two hour time limit in district centre car park.

Parking is already too difficult in Bitterne shopping centre

The free parking was introduced in the Angel Crescent car park to help the businesses in Bitterne, as charging previously for the parking was causing a big reduction in footfall. SCC is running the risk of the same thing happening again years later when the small town economies are struggling.

People will not use the shops if you have to pay and if pay on phone older people unable to use

Will stop me shopping in Bitterne in future

Parking should be free

I am on bones of my arse now yet you keep piling it on shameful and useless when are you going to stop robbing people for your incompetence

The city is see to many paying to park

I Object to the parking Fee in Bitten car parks also

Your see a drop in profits all over

With the cost of living

The Community will no longer Exist

You have Many people who will not be able to see friends and make Connections and Mental health will Increase Tenfold Due to loneliness.

Suicidal Thoughts will happen and people will Die Due to the fact that People cannot afford to pay for car parking to see a friend for five minutes to open their day out to other things.

The shops will lose business.

Shops already have extra expenses because of the Nat Ins increases.

My food shopping will cost more - It will increase because of the Nat Ins increases anyway.

I don't want another food shop to disappear from Bitterne because of the cost of commerce. It means I'll need to travel further, using more petrol, so more cost to me and increasing CO2.

When will you see the consequences of your actions before you act. You need to think through thoroughly and then tell Keir Starmer and his so called financial advisors.

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We live close to Shirley but with no bus service direct to Shirley. If you need shopping we need to use the car as too heavy to carry. What you are proposing will drive people away from using their local shops as why pay parking fees to go to Shirley/Bitterne etc when you just as well go into the City Centre where there is more choice for shops. I just do not understand the logic of your proposal that it offers people an alternative option for travel. Buses are far less an option due to their availability/reliability. Money is a worry to all and to add parking payments is an added stress and people will just not shop locally; this affects the shops and staff who will lose their jobs. Their livelihoods will be affected. The bigger picture needs to be considered.

Greedy council get enough out of Southampton residents. Step too far again!!!!

2 hour free zones keep customers visiting local businesses rather than shopping online. When children have clubs in areas that require an hours parking, this helps parents to be able to put more into their children's enrichment.

Keeping 2 hours free supports families for appointments and clubs, supporting children's enrichment and also helps to promote travel to local businesses.

Quick drop in shopping will dwindle drastically

I am a disabled pensioner so for me the new parking charges will only be another reason not to go to these places. I am sure there are many people like me who would normally shop in these shopping areas but with the introduction of parking charges it just adds an extra cost on top of the already increasing price of shopping.

If the idea is to kill the shopping areas then this is a great way to go. Not only do the small shops have to contend with the increase in the extra cost of employing staff as well as the poor owner/worker the council is going to finish the job by introducing parking charges.

Most people will either go out of town or do their shopping online and have it delivered (as I will be doing).

Please reconsider this decision as it may well be the death knell for these shopping areas.

I am old (86) and infirm but have a blue badge.

Detrimental to area shops. More difficult for people who have difficulty getting around. Will end up trapped at home, already disadvantaged.

This will decrease footfall to struggling areas and negatively impact local businesses

If parking is no longer free, people will selfishly park in roads which will prevent residents from being able to park in their own road.

This will deter customers from visiting Bitterne, adding to the sum total of human misery. I already walk or use public transport, but use the car if I need to carry something.

It will force people to do less shopping so shops will suffer and in turn the economy.

I believe people will not shop in Bitterne if Peartree Gardens is a pay for car park.

There are too many empty shops as it is.

You are going to make these places ghost areas because it will stop people driving to them and I feel it will harm all the small businesses who are already struggling.

The local community needs to have a few places left which are free of ANY charge. This relentless drive to extract money from all of us on the slightest pretext is most infuriating and make us feel like shorn lambs. 50 p here, 50 p there and then it turns into £1, 2, 3 etc. Can't the Southampton City Council manage with Council taxes, a far cry from cheap, the business rates, the toll bridge, payed for a long time ago? And spend less on all these ludicrous traffic calmers? Apart from the money side, drivers so far can do whatever they have to without feeling pressurised to rush back, so as to avoid payment for the next hour when they are actually short of 5 minutes? It will mean the end of a relax way of shopping (and incidentally affect the turnover of the few shops still in business). Yet more unwarranted stress ... Plus of course the fact that one will hve to download some app or call a number which regularly doesn't work because it is not manned. STOP.

Workforce is finishing a lovely play area which could revitalise the rather dreary Bitterne precinct, pompously named Bitterne Village. Is it really the moment to introduce a counterproductive

measure, which will defeat the object?

We all feel chased up for every penny left to us. And yet it never seems to be enough ... When is this going to stop (if ever ... )?

My main reason is that this will make it even harder for our local businesses to survive the already hard times they are having.

This will also cost the motorists more by using the ITCHEN TOLL BRIDGE to Southampton, also causing more air pollution and more fuel consumption.

No one will shop in Bitterne, where mote shops will close and will be derelict

Is the plan to shut down all cars in Southampton? And all shopping to local businesses too?

It is preposterous that the council is even thinking about this. It will kill Bitterne which is struggling to keep going. A new playground is being built in Bitterne which hopefully will bring people into Bitterne but who will want to pay for parking just for the children to play when they can go somewhere else for free. Also putting parking charges in Bitterne on every day from 8.00 to midnight every day will also make people go to out of town shopping and kill shops like sainsburys where the elderly who have no transport walk to .

Please can the council reconsider this money making proposal before Bitterne dies .

These constant introduction of charges means people won't shop locally but will go to out of town shops, where ther free parking. This could put even more small shops out of business

We are paying enough

Bitterne is already dying and this proposal will be the final nail in the coffin. Already many people with a car visit Sainsburys at portswood as they can park free and in the dry! I thought part of the idea of the precinct redevelopment was to attract more people , the parking charges will do the opposite .

The congregations in our churches will have to pay to come to worship on Sundays and the many activities lots involving younger people during the week will be adversely affected.

Please reconsider these proposals

Kind regards Ian Abrahams

We pay so much for parking in town as it is. Don't come.crying to us when we vote you out.

Car owners are penalised too much as is. Shops will be hit by people buying more on line. Such stupidity does Labour want to close all shops.

Why on earth should we pay to park in Woolston or Bitterne all this will do is shut down local shops do the right thing for once and leave it alone

The car park on Commercial Street has been used almost exclusively for many years by parishioners of Christ the King and St Colman's attending Sunday services. This church serves Bitterne, Sholing, Thornhill, Midanbury and Hightown where public transport can be scarce and unreliable on a Sunday so travel by car (and somewhere to park), is essential for many of our parishioners, particularly the elderly and families. Apart from the increased distance to walk and therefore difficulty in accessing the church for the elderly, disabled (such as my grandson) and parents with small children, this restriction/ introduction of parking charges would negatively impact the most vulnerable and force extra vehicles onto the streets in the local area. This would cause a disturbance to local residents in terms of noise and congestion and have a negative impact on the local community in and around the church. The stress of finding a safe parking place within reach of the church building would place an added burden on parishioners (especially the vulnerable ones) who simply wish to exercise their right and desire to worship on a Sunday and other holy days and feasts such as Christmas and Easter. We would strongly and respectfully urge the Council members to reconsider their proposal in this location, especially on a Sunday and Bank Holidays connected with major feasts in the Christian church. We have masses in our church from 10am until late evening on Sundays. Many thanks for reading and considering this issue/ difficulty/ plee seriously. Happy Christmas!

## Objection to changes around Bitterne

Unfortunately, as when the charging was first introduced, this proposal will push so many more people to park on the side roads causing greater congestion for residents in the surrounding area. Additionally, who will want to pay parking to shop in Sainsbury's when you can go to Portswood, have a larger choice and it's free?

These additional charges will affect businesses as well as community groups.

Parents dropping their children off to evening activities such as Girls Brigade and Boys Brigade will now have to pay for a 15 minute drop off. Surely you should be encouraging activities, not making it more difficult?

Finally, the government is tackling obesity and you're going to charge people attending the 2 gyms to park in the evenings? Where's the logic please?

Businesses will be affected by the fact that there is no free parking. This will have an adverse affect on local jobs and the city's economy at large, as people will either shop online instead of going to shops, or they'll go to out-of-town shopping centers where parking isn't charged.

There should be free parking for up for 1 hour to alleviate this.

There should also be free parking after 6PM as this will be beneficial to youth & community groups.

Conversely, there should be much higher charges for longer stays, to deter people from driving to work, as this creates the bulk of congestion. Perhaps, if railways and buses were more reliable and covered more routes, there wouldn't be so many people driving around in the first place.

Any money raised from car-parks should go into their refurbishment. Many car-parks don't have working toilets, and urgently need to be litter-picked, weeded, and have broken paving repaired. This would in-turn create local jobs, and help to bolster our economy when we need it most. It would also give the city a good image.

I believe that increasing parking charges and charging 24/7 will have a detrimental effect on shops, businesses, community groups. It will also mean that more staff will have to be employed and the council don't have any money to pay them.

It is important that there is a free car park in Bitterne because of the necessity of being able to park near the school to drop off and pick up young children safely.

The car park on commercial road is used by parishioners at Christ the King & St Colman on Sunday mornings, almost exclusively, and has been for many years. This church serves Bitterne, Sholing, Thornhill, Midanbury and Hightown and so travel by car is essential for many of our parishioners, particularly elderly and families. This restriction would increase street parking in the local area, and have a negative impact on the local community both within and outside of the church. We would ask that you reconsider this restriction, especially for Sundays. We have masses in our church from late morning until late evng.

"The car park on commercial road is used by parishioners at Christ the King & St Colman on Sunday mornings, almost exclusively, and has been for many years. This church serves Bitterne, Sholing, Thornhill, Midanbury and Hightown and so travel by car is essential for many of our parishioners, particularly elderly and families.

This restriction would increase street parking in the local area, and have a negative impact on the local community both within and outside of the church. We would ask that you reconsider this restriction, especially for Sundays. We have masses in our church from late morning until late evening. "

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This restriction would increase street parking in the local area, and have a negative impact on the local community both within and outside of the church. We would ask that you reconsider this restriction, especially for Sundays. We have masses in our church from late morning until late evening. "

This a car park we all church goers use during the Sunday service. We use this for Sunday service.

"The car park on commercial road is used by parishioners at Christ the King & St Colman on Sunday mornings, almost exclusively, and has been for many years. This church serves Bitterne, Sholing, Thornhill, Midanbury and Hightown and so travel by car is essential for many of our parishioners, particularly elderly and families.  
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This car park was using for church mass and church used

We have to attend holy mass on every Sunday.we don't have enough parking spaces inside the church compound.

We are the prisoners using this car park for our Sunday Holy mass

This car park is used by church goers on Sunday mornings. It is also used by the people visiting health clinics nearby. Please let us use this car park as it is.

We are parishioners OF Christ the King and St Colmans church in Bitterne. We regularly attend Sunday mass and religious ceremonies other days of week . We use this car park regularly when attending the church as it is conveniently located with short walking distance to church . In fact this is one of the reasons why we attend this church inspite of living a bit far .With the current cost of living crisis we appeal that the Council does not implement payment to use the car park. Attending church is one of the few practices that keeps us sane and gives us peace . It gives us a sense of community and brings us joy . Implementation of payment will reduce the number of people attending church including us. We are also struggling to get young people to attend church . This will be another obstacle to overcome which will have a significant impact in medium to long term.

It's being used for church people and health clinics.People going to church regularly used this space for parking.

"The car park on commercial road is used by parishioners at Christ the King & St Colman on Sunday mornings, almost exclusively, and has been for many years. This church serves Bitterne, Sholing, Thornhill, Midanbury and Hightown and so travel by car is essential for many of our parishioners, particularly elderly and families.  
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This restriction would increase street parking in the local area, and have a negative impact on the local community both within and outside of the church. We would ask that you reconsider this restriction, especially for Sundays. We have masses in our church from late morning until late evening."

Dear Southampton City Council

Im writing to voice my concerns to the proposal to introduce parking charges to the car parks of Bitterne ( Angel Crescent) for multiple reasons.

Firstly, in Bitterne where I live, our shops are already struggling to survive. We have already lost all of our banks, other independent shops closing all the time leaving Bitterne unappealing and unused . The council are in the process of a huge rejuvenation of the precinct with costly playground equipment, who do you possibly think is going to use this? Introducing parking charges will only exacerbate this issue of an unused precinct and we will end up with a ghost town of boarded up shops. Sainsburys is the only major shop to attract people to Bitterne and is used by many people on a daily basis, introducing parking charges will discourage these visitors who I feel will use other superstores such as Hedge End, Portswood, and Shirley where Sainsbury's offers free parking. This surely goes against another key Council objective of reducing traffic on the roads as more people will travel further.

Secondly, Introducing charges will just mean people not using the car parks and parking in the residential streets. In my area of Bitterne, these car parks are used as safe drop-off zones for school children to Bitterne primary since the new road closures in front of the school on Brownlow Avenue. Most Parents are not in a position, and should be expected to pay £1 a day to drop off and pick up their children from school and will resort to parking back on residential streets near to the school, further increasing the chaos at school drop-off and pick-up time that the recent "School Streets Experimental Order" has created. People park on single yellow lines, half on the pavement half on the road, and in front of private drives. The introduction of charges will just increase this issue, creating more traffic in the area of schools and thus making it less safe for children as they go to and leave school.

When making your final decision please think carefully about affect these charges will have on an already suffering shopping precinct and the parents and children of Bitterne primary who's drop off and pick up times will be made difficult and likely less safe.

I would be grateful if you take my opinions in to consideration when making your final decision and that you decide not to implement the proposal.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Kind regards

Attending the holy mass

I am chairman of Bitterne Shed Club which strives to combat loneliness and isolation amongst men, particularly upon retirement. Our premises is in the centre of Bitterne. Many of our members travel to us by car and park in the Whites Road or Angel Crescent car parks. Currently they have two hours free so some attend for that period, others pay a small amount and stay a few hours. Getting rid of the free two hours is going to deter some men from coming and the increase is going to reduce the time men stay. Of course another possibility is to park on-street

although the roads in the surrounding area tend to be very congested anyway.

I also attend Bitterne Church on a Sunday morning and benefit from the free parking in Angel Crescent car park on Sunday and am not willing to pay the council for this.

"The car park on commercial road is used by parishioners at Christ the King & St Colman on Sunday mornings, almost exclusively, and has been for many years. This church serves Bitterne, Sholing, Thornhill, Midanbury and Hightown and so travel by car is essential for many of our parishioners, particularly elderly and families.

This restriction would increase street parking in the local area, and have a negative impact on the local community both within and outside of the church. We would ask that you reconsider this restriction, especially for Sundays. We have masses in our church from late morning until late evening.

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The parking space is very useful for me and my family in many ways. One thing its the safety, means i can take the kids out from the car in relaxed, we can go to the church without worrying about the parking bill, we can gather in the near by hall for a chat have tea but this happens only if its stays the same. If its a paid park there will be a hurry in every step and every action. Thanks for reading this response.

It will make drivers use side roads to park

Some people are only able to reach these places by car because of disability

Free parking encourages people to visit and use the local shopping facilities. It might be reasonable to allow 1 hour rather than two. To restrict parking in the car parks will encourage people to park in the side roads thereby causing congestion and increasing danger the danger of pedestrians being involved in traffic accidents.

People won't shop in Woolston or Bitterne if charges are introduced

Making people pay to park in these areas is wrong! Woolston High Street feels like it has been coming back to life, i worry that this will kill it off! Think it is fine to ask people to pay for parking over 2 hours but anything less should be fine.

Cause of more car traffic in residential road. Reduced use of bitterne high street with more shops closing.

I am not against charging for parking in general but think there should be no charge for a limited period, suggest 1st hour free to allow people to pop into the shop

Parking should be free

Dear Sir/Madam

I am totally against parking charges for Bitterne Car Parks. It will destroy our local shops which residents rely on daily. People will go elsewhere, where no charges apply.

I live in a side road & we have enough parking problems, people use our road already for the gymn, shops & people who work in those shops. Please consider also the Mums & Dads who need to drop their children off to school. They won't want to pay twice a day, which means 'side streets' again adding blockages, parking on our verges etc.

Please re-consider this for in Brownlow Roads we pay so much Council Tax for where we live. I strongly object to your proposal.

Dear Sirs

Re: Suburban Off-Street Parking Places

I write with objections to the proposed introduction of car parking fees to the following car parks in Bitterne:

Angel Crescent, Commercial Street, Lances Hill, Peartree Gardens, West End Road and Whites Road

I understand charges are proposed from 8.00am until midnight. I find this concerning because:

Our high streets, Bitterne is losing both remaining banks in 2025 and there are several shops that have already been empty for years.

Introducing charges in Bitterne will cause people to shop elsewhere where they can park for free will impact all retailers in the area.

The current car parks help to reduce the number of people parking in residential streets. The new charges will only make things worse for residents

Those needing to drop-off school children will be encouraged to use residential streets causing traffic congestion on narrow streets making journeys to schools less safe.

Bitterne now has 4 churches in the community. Our churches depend on volunteers to assist with the running and organisation of churches and outreach into the community to help those who are in need and to encourage them to come to us for help. Contrary to popular belief Bitterne United Reform Church, like others, is open every day of the year bar one and does not have a car park, or parking space.

These proposed car parking charges will:

Penalise all those trying to help in the community.

Affect those wishing to attend Church on a Sunday.

Affect our volunteers who are often at the church, every day, many times during the day, morning, noon and night fulfilling various commitments. They will be unable to meet the costs of the charges proposed on a long-term basis.

Affect those having to pay parking charges on a Sunday, especially when they are at Church for 4 hours or more having an enormous impact on their finances.

Affect all those attending activities at the church who will have to dig deep in addition to commit themselves to these activities.

Affect all the parents of young children attending our Brigades evenings, some of whom are unable to afford the subscription let along additional car parking charges.

Affect the vulnerable support groups who meet at our Church, sometimes more than once a week.

Affect all the senior citizens who attend their meetings at the church on a weekly basis.

Affect any large functions that we try to hold, concerts, festivals, fund raising events, community lunches for anyone needing a hot meal

We are all aware of the history of charges at the Itchen Bridge! Whilst you might consider the proposed charges are nominal, we are those charges could be increased at any time.

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I implore you to think of the longer time impact this is going to have on the local community. Please do not turn Bitterne into a desolate ghetto.

It doesn't make sense that, with one hand, an enormous amount of Government money is being spent to make Bitterne more 'attractive' and with the other hand you are taking away the opportunity for people to benefit from this.

Yours faithfully

To [transport.southampton.gov.uk/TRO](mailto:transport@southampton.gov.uk) or

Highways Legal Team, Southampton City Council, Civic Centre, Southampton SO14 7LY

I write to object to your proposal to change the charging structure to a number of car parks as listed in your notice.

The car parks listed already have restrictions and or pay to park rules in place. This actually works really well. It deters people from using the car parks and bussing to the city centre to work for the day. It also affords people sufficient time to shop and conduct other business without the need to pay. If you know you will be longer than two hours there is the option to pay for extra time. Parking is an essential requirement for any retail are to survive. If the new charging arrangements were to be introduced I fear the public would be less inclined to use these car parks. This would have a negative effect on the footfall of the surrounding retail and business premises.

Business have already been hot with huge extra tax burdens announced in the recent budget. Many businesses are fragile at the moment. Even if the new arrangements only reduced the sales by 5% this could be enough for job cuts to be necessary or in extreme cases could even make businesses no longer viable and force closures.

Also consider the problems we already have with illegal parking. Southampton City Council is utterly useless at enforcing parking rules. I fear that there would be an increase in illegal parking, potentially putting members of the public at risk. Also residents nearby would find an increase in parking on the roads by people seeking to avoid charges.

For many years now parents have been encouraged to use these car parks as part of Park and Stride. Should parents be forced to pay for parking to do the right thing and reduce traffic around our schools. Even using the shortest period twice a day this would amount to £5 per week.

Other car park users that would be affected are those attending appointments with GPs, dentists or other health care professionals.

In summary, if these new charges were to be introduced, you would be penalising people going to about their day to day business just because they need to use a car.

Please reconsider and do not interfere with what is working really well already.

I've just looked at Friday's email from SCC and you want people to support local small businesses but you are talking about charging for parking in both Bitterne and Woolston!! How will that help small businesses I would love to know. That would be a very short sighted thing to do as it is a good incentive to get people to shop locally with free parking, I haven't heard from anyone who is for the idea.

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Directorate:  
Decision Maker  
Subject  
Register of Delegated Powers Reference Number or Cabinet Decision Number:

Residential Services
Pete Boustred
Traffic Regulation Order to propose a change of parking tariff in the District Centre Car Parks
Officer Scheme of Delegation 12.16

Decision Reason

Propose an amendment to the Suburban Off Street Parking Order to change the parking tariffs as outlined in the tables below;

**Existing**

Charging Period	Monday to Saturday 8am to 6pm						
Car Park	1 hr	2 hrs	3 hrs	4 hrs	5 hrs	Over 5 hrs	
Angel Crescent	Free		£0.50	£1.00	£2.00	£5.60	
Bright Glade	Free		£0.50	£1.00	£2.00	£5.60	
Cannon Street	No Tariff - 2 hours Limited Waiting						
Colonnades	No Tariff - 2 hours Limited Waiting						
Commercial Street	No Tariff - 2 hours Limited Waiting						
Howards Grove	Free		£0.50	£1.00	£2.00	£5.60	
Lances Hill	Free		£0.50	£1.00	£2.00	£5.60	
Marlborough Road North	Free		£0.50	£1.00	£2.00	£5.60	
Marlborough Road South	No Tariff - 2 hours Limited Waiting						
Oakbank Road	Free		£0.50	£1.00	£2.00	£5.60	
Pearfree Gardens	No Tariff - 2 hours Limited Waiting						
Portsmouth Road	Free		£0.50	£1.00	£2.00	£5.60	
West End Road	No Tariff - 2 hours Limited Waiting						
Westridge Road	Free		£0.50	£1.00	£2.00	£5.60	
Whites Road	Free		£0.50	£1.00	£2.00	£5.60	
Woodley Road	No Tariff - 2 hours Limited Waiting						

**Proposed**

Charging Period	Monday to Sunday 8am to Midnight							
Car Park	1 hr	2 hrs	3 hrs	4 hrs	5 hrs	10 hrs	All Day	
Angel Crescent	£0.50	£1.00	£1.50	£2.50	£4.00	£6.00	£8.00	
Bright Glade	£0.50	£1.00	Maximum 2 Hours Stay					
Cannon Street	£0.50	£1.00	£1.50	£2.50	£4.00	£6.00	£8.00	
Colonnades	£0.50	£1.00	£1.50	£2.50	£4.00	£6.00	£8.00	
Commercial Street	£0.50	£1.00	Maximum 2 Hours Stay					
Howards Grove	£0.50	£1.00	£1.50	£2.50	£4.00	£6.00	£8.00	
Lances Hill	£0.50	£1.00	£1.50	£2.50	£4.00	£6.00	£8.00	
Marlborough Road North	£0.50	£1.00	£1.50	£2.50	£4.00	£6.00	£8.00	
Marlborough Road South	£0.50	£1.00	£1.50	£2.50	£4.00	£6.00	£8.00	
Oakbank Road	£0.50	£1.00	£1.50	£2.50	£4.00	£6.00	£8.00	
Pearfree Gardens	£0.50	£1.00	£1.50	£2.50	£4.00	£6.00	£8.00	
Portsmouth Road	£0.50	£1.00	£1.50	£2.50	£4.00	£6.00	£8.00	
West End Road	£0.50	£1.00	Maximum 2 Hours Stay					
Westridge Road	£0.50	£1.00	£1.50	£2.50	£4.00	£6.00	£8.00	
Whites Road	£0.50	£1.00				£4.00	£6.00	
Woodley Road	£0.50	£1.00	Maximum 2 Hours Stay					

Implement a season ticket for suburban car parks available for all users priced at £650 per annum and £340 for 6 months. This will replace the existing Business Suburban Season Ticket priced at £250 per annum.

Reason

To ensure turnover of vehicles parking within these facilities

Declared Officer / Member Interests

None

Details of consultation undertaken (other reasons / organisations consulted)

	Yes	No	Date
Executive Member	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	By copy of this DDN
Ward Councillors	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	By copy of this DDN
Chief Officer affected	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	By copy of this DDN
Others (specify)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	

Contact Person

Pete Boustred

Contact No

023 8083 4044

Authorised Signatory



Date

26/11/2024


Commencement for call-in	
Last date for call-in	
Implementation Date	

## Equality and Safety Impact Assessment

The **public sector Equality Duty** (Section 149 of the Equality Act) requires public bodies to have due regard to the need to eliminate discrimination, advance equality of opportunity, and foster good relations between different people carrying out their activities.

The Equality Duty supports good decision making – it encourages public bodies to be more efficient and effective by understanding how different people will be affected by their activities, so that their policies and services are appropriate and accessible to all and meet different people’s needs. The Council’s Equality and Safety Impact Assessment (ESIA) includes an assessment of the community safety impact assessment to comply with section 17 of the Crime and Disorder Act and will enable the council to better understand the potential impact of the budget proposals and consider mitigating action.

<b>Name or Brief Description of Proposal</b>	Traffic Regulation Order to propose a change of parking tariff in District Centre Car Parks, removing the free 2 parking periods and replacing them with a new tariff structure that applies Monday to Sunday 8am to Midnight
<b>Brief Service Profile (including number of customers)</b>	The car parks have spaces for a total of 490 vehicles across the Shirley, Portswood, Bitterne and Woolston District Centres
<b>Summary of Impact and Issues</b>	Members of the public will no longer be able to use the car parks free of charge for 2 hours and charges would apply in the evenings and on Sundays
<b>Potential Positive Impacts</b>	Greater turnover of vehicles within the car parks promoting more trips to the District Centres for the benefit of local businesses. Encourages people visiting the District Centres to use alternative forms of travel, such as Public Transport, Walking, Cycling and Car Sharing
<b>Responsible Service Manager</b>	Richard Alderson
<b>Date</b>	26/11/2024

<b>Approved by Senior Manager</b>	Pete Boustred
<b>Signature</b>	
<b>Date</b>	26/11/2024

## Potential Impact

Impact Assessment	Details of Impact	Possible Solutions & Mitigating Actions
<b>Age</b>	None	N/A
<b>Disability</b>	Blue Badge Holders can still park free of charge for any period	N/A
<b>Gender Reassignment</b>	None	N/A
<b>Marriage and Civil Partnership</b>	None	N/A
<b>Pregnancy and Maternity</b>	None	N/A
<b>Race</b>	None	N/A
<b>Religion or Belief</b>	There are currently no parking charges in Suburban Car Parks on Sundays during which periods some community groups attend Places of Worship. Parking charges may be payable by groups who have previously parked during these times without charge.	The aim of the proposals is to have a consistent charging structure for the purpose of managing car trips at all times when there is parking demand. Many similar urban centres have charges that apply during these times on Sundays.
<b>Sex</b>	None	N/A
<b>Sexual Orientation</b>	None	N/A
<b>Community Safety</b>	None	N/A
<b>Poverty</b>	Increase in tariffs for parking over 2 hours and tariff for parking up to 2 hours	Charges are less than those in place in similar retail areas in other Urban Authorities and local town centres
<b>Other Significant Impacts</b>	None	N/A