



Council name	COTSWOLD DISTRICT COUNCIL
Name and date of Committee	CABINET- 6 FEBRUARY 2025
Subject	REVIEW OF PARKING CHARGES AND SEASON TICKETS
Wards affected	All
Accountable member	Councillor Mike Evely - Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Finance and Transformation. Email: mike.evely@cotswold.gov.uk
Accountable officer	Jon Dearing – Interim Executive Director Email: Democratic@Cotswold.gov.uk
Report author	Maria Wheatley – Parking Manager Email: Democratic@Cotswold.gov.uk
Summary/Purpose	The report proposes changes to the day tariffs and season ticket fees in the district car parks to take effect from 1 st April 2025
Annexes	Annex A – Current car park tariff charges Annex B – Proposed car park tariff charges Annex C – current season ticket charges Annex D – Proposed season ticket charges
Recommendation(s)	That Cabinet considers and approves: <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Approve the freezing of car park charges for short stays of ½ hour or 1 hour at all the Council’s Car Parks;2. Approve the car park charges for stays of 2 hours or more being increased by 2.7% (rounded to 10p), to reflect CPI inflation between October 2023 and October 2024 as per Annex B;3. Note the proposed charges for Rissington Road Car Park include the tourism levy increases from 50p to 60p agreed November 2024;4. Approve increasing the fee for season tickets as per Annex D, reflecting a higher than inflationary increase to reflect the



COTSWOLD

District Council

	<p>high level of subsidy offered for season tickets;</p> <p>5. Approve the updating of the Parking Order to reflect agreed changes.</p>
Corporate priorities	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Delivering Good Services
Key Decision	NO
Exempt	NO
Consultees/ Consultation	<p>The Leader of the Council, The Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Finance and Transformation, The Chief Executive and Deputy Chief Executive Officers, The Monitoring Officer, The Interim Head of Legal Services, The Finance Business Partner, The Group Manager for Resident Services.</p>



1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- 1.1** Cotswold District Council own 13 car parks, manages 3 for other organisations and leases 2.
- 1.2** In January 2022 cabinet agreed to make changes to the parking charges and review parking charges every two years. The next review is due and will take effect for the 2025/26 financial year. This report sets out proposals for charges across all council owned car parks in the district.
- 1.3** This review is necessary to reflect the increasing costs to provide parking services.

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1** A thorough review of charging times, tariffs, free periods and allocation of season tickets was carried and discussed 10th January 2022.
- 2.2** A review of season ticket allocation and pricing methodology was carried out and discussed at cabinet 6th February 2023.
- 2.3** The Bourton on the Water tourism levy will be increased from 50p to 60p as per the decision 7th November 2024.

3. MAIN POINTS

- 3.1** All costs relating to the provision of parking spaces increase year on year. These costs include staffing, utilities and maintenance. The income from parking services also supports related services such as community safety, abandoned vehicles, street cleaning, environmental strategy and the provision of public toilets.
- 3.2** The proposed changes for this year are for the stay times of ½ hour and 1 hour to be frozen for this financial year. This will support shoppers and those visiting local services.
- 3.3** All tariffs from 2 hours and above will be increased by 2.7% rounded to 10p. To achieve an additional yield of 2.3%, which reflects CPI October 2023 to October 2024, the tariffs are increased by 2.7%. The proposed tariffs can be found in Annex B.



3.4 The proposal for all season tickets is for an increase of 2.7% rounded up to the nearest £5.

3.5 The season ticket refund administration fee will remain at £18.

4. ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS

4.1 Cabinet can consider an alternative inflationary fee increase and or charge for evenings and overnight parking. Without an inflationary increase cabinet may need to consider reduced budgets for the related services set out in 3.1 above.

4.2 The option recommended in the report is preferred as it aims to maintain the value of parking revenue in real terms. The season ticket prices recommended in the report are linked to pay and stay tariffs based on the methodology approved by Cabinet on 6 February 2023.

5. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

5.1 The increase in charges is estimated to result in an additional revenue of £70k. With costs of £5k to enable the changes to be made and signs updated.

6. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

6.1 The provision of off-street parking is made under sections 32(1) and 122 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984.

6.2 Authorities such as *R (on the application of Attfield) v Barnet LBC [2013] EWHC 2089 (Admin)* have established that the 1984 Act is not a fiscal measure and does not authorise the Council to use its powers to charge for parking in order to raise surplus revenue for purposes beyond the delivery of "*expeditious, convenient and safe movement of vehicular and other traffic (including pedestrians) and the provision of suitable and adequate parking facilities on and off the highway.*" There is no legal requirement for a parking scheme to be cost neutral (*Chaumeton v LB Camden [2015] EWHC 1010 (Admin)*) and it is acceptable to budget for a surplus, as long as this is not done with the intention subsidising other services.

6.3 Any changes to the existing terms and conditions and or charges in the car parks will require a variation to the Off-Street Parking Order.



7. RISK ASSESSMENT

7.1 Demand for car parking is unpredictable. Fluctuations in usage across the year can be attributed to weather conditions, local events, school and public holidays. The estimates used in this report are based on usage from financial years 2023-24 and Apr to Oct 2024.

8. EQUALITIES IMPACT

8.1 No impact on any specific groups has been identified. Vehicles displaying a valid blue badge are able to park free in all the Council's car parks.

9. CLIMATE AND ECOLOGICAL EMERGENCIES IMPLICATIONS

9.1 There are none associated with this report.

10. BACKGROUND PAPERS

10.1 Cotswold District Council Cabinet meeting 10th January 2022, Review of Parking Charges and Season Tickets.

10.2 Cotswold District Council Cabinet meeting 6th February 2023, Car Parking Review of Season Ticket Pricing.

10.3 Cotswold District Council Cabinet Member Decision making meeting 7th November 2024.

10.4 These documents will be available for inspection online at www.cotswold.gov.uk or by contacting democratic services democratic@cotswold.gov.uk for a period of up to 4 years from the date of the meeting.

(END)