



Reply To: address as below
Date: February 2018
Direct Tel: 01707 357000
Email: contact-WHC@welhat.gov.uk

Dear Resident,

Parking proposals Hatfield Town Centre and surrounding roads

We are writing to seek your views on the parking options in roads around the town centre, as we continue to progress Hatfield regeneration plans.

A framework developed by a number of local partners has identified the need for a multi-storey car park to release key space. Without a multi-storey, over a third of the town centre will continue to be taken up with surface-level car parks, considerably limiting the options available to provide new homes, retail and leisure facilities.

£6m of Hertfordshire Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP) funding has been secured by the council in support of town centre transformation and we hope to begin work on the multi-storey early next year, and to see it operational by the end of 2019.

The multi-storey is set to be built on The Common car park and although it will provide around 500 new spaces, there will be a temporary loss of approximately 150 parking spaces during its construction. **This will impact businesses, shoppers and local workers, and it's essential we collect your views on how we can best protect residents living nearby from a possible increase in congestion and safety issues, including vehicle parking on corners and junctions.**

One way we hope to alleviate the displacement of vehicles from The Common to surrounding residential roads is by providing a temporary deck on Lemsford Road car park, creating around 100 extra spaces during the multi-storey build.

However, even with these measures taken into consideration, the long term regeneration of Hatfield town centre may have an impact on parking in nearby residential roads. The council has not made any decisions about introducing charging for the multi-storey car park and it will be considered as part of our budget setting process in future years. However, the multi-storey car park will have limited waiting restrictions in place, similar to what is currently available in the town centre.

Potential parking improvement options

There are two potential options to help improve parking in your area:

1. A **single yellow line** prevents any vehicle from parking for the days and times it operates, including residents and visitors. The introduction of a single yellow line restriction in some locations may fail to solve the problem, and could make matters worse for residents.

Appendix A

2. Many roads have little or no off-road parking provision and in these areas we are recommending a **resident permit parking scheme**. This is the only way the environment can be managed and still allow parking for both residents and their visitors within the zone. They have proved to be a popular choice and many such schemes are now in operation throughout the borough. All money received from resident permit parking schemes is used solely to fund their design, maintenance and enforcement. More information on resident permit parking schemes, including a list of current charges for permits, is included with this letter.

Please use the table in the survey sheet to indicate your support for these options, which days of the week, and the times of operation you would prefer; e.g. Monday to Friday, 9am-5pm.

We have also enclosed detailed plans, outlining the existing road restrictions and new double yellow lines proposed on junctions to prevent dangerous or obstructive parking. Where *junction protection* is highlighted to improve road safety, a minimum of 10 metres of double yellow lines would be installed on each arm of the junction. This may be increased depending on the layout of the junction. Double yellow lines are enforceable 24 hrs a day, 7 days a week.

Please mark the plans if you feel the restrictions should be extended or if you think additional protection is required. A box is included on the returns sheet for additional comments or suggestions.

The council has also received many complaints from across the borough about damage to grass verges and footways caused by vehicles – and parking on footways blocking pedestrian and disabled access. As part of this project, the council is also seeking to introduce a verge and footway protection order. The areas marked in green on the attached plans are subject to confirmation with Herts County Council. If you think a public verge/footpath has been missed or a private verge/footpath mistakenly included in the plans, please mark the plan and send it back with your survey form.

In combination with the above, officers will also carry out a thorough investigation to see if there are any suitable areas which could be converted into more parking space. This may be achieved by removing part of the verge or green area to construct parking bays, although trees and existing street furniture, such as lamp columns, may have a bearing on the result of the investigation.

There will be someone available from Parking Services at the Hub, in White Lion House on the 23rd March 2018 between 12noon and 7pm, if anyone would like to pop in and discuss the proposals further.

Please return your completed survey sheets in the envelope provided to Parking Services by the 5 March 2018. If you have any questions regarding the content of this letter, please call us on 01707 357000 and a member of the parking team will return your call.

Full details of the Hatfield Town Centre consultation can also be found on the council's website: <http://www.welhat.gov.uk/alldykesarea>

Sent on behalf of
Parking Services

Appendix A

Resident Permit Parking Schemes

Please read and consider the following information on Resident Permit Parking Schemes (RPPS).

The only type of parking restriction which can allow parking for both residents and their visitors, but prevent non-residents from parking, is called a Resident Permit Parking Scheme.

Permits

- Vehicles parked on residents' driveways or inside garages on private property do not need to display permits or vouchers.
- Residents who are Blue Badge Holders and own or drive a vehicle will not be charged for the first permit. Any additional permits to that address will be charged at the second permit rate and so forth.
- Professional carers should be instructed to apply for their own Doctor/Health Visitor Permits if attending addresses within a resident permit parking zone.

Vouchers

- Residents providing proof of receiving a state pension may buy vouchers at a 50% discounted rate.
- Residents should provide visitor vouchers for tradesmen, builders etc.

Current charges for Permits and Vouchers

First permit - £25 per year

Second permit - £40 per year

Third or subsequent permits - £60 per year

Motorcycle permit - £10 per year

Business permit - £225 per year

Doctors/Health Visitor permits - £20 per year

Visitor Vouchers - £10 for 20 day vouchers

Other important information:

- Residents and visitors must remember to display permits and visitor vouchers during the hours of the restriction.
- Permits and visitor vouchers are not interchangeable and must be used in conjunction with the area for which they were issued.
- Any vehicle not displaying a valid permit or visitor voucher may receive a Penalty Charge Notice (PCN).
- Vehicles must not park on grass verges or pavements. Any vehicle parked in these areas may receive a PCN.

Appendix A

