

On-Street Parking Charges Phase 2
Comments Received during Consultation with Businesses

25 September 2008

Page 1 of 2

Comment	Response
All taxi bays need to be retained on Prince Regent Street / Dovecot Street.	All existing taxi bays will be retained in their current form.
The taxi rank on Church Road, within the area of the limited waiting restrictions, is no longer required. Its presence causes confusion during the day as drivers think that it is in operation.	The taxi rank only operates on an evening and the times of operation are stated on the sign plates. It is accepted that this taxi rank is underused as an adjacent night club is not operating at the moment. However, this club may reopen in the future returning the need for a rank. Taxi rank should therefore be retained but discussions will be held with the Hackney Carriage Association regarding it's use.
The times of operation of the bays have been extended to 8am to 6pm from 9am to 5pm. Why have these been changed as there is no existing pressure on the existing restrictions.	The standard timeframe for parking restrictions in Stockton is 8am to 6pm so this change is required so to bring it in line with parking restrictions in other areas. There is also a need for visitors to the town centre to have 'churn' parking available to them an hour either side of the 9am to 5pm period.
Businesses on Prince Regent Street who operate a delivery service fall foul of the 'no return within 2 hours' which works for customers but businesses need a permit. They just need to pick up/drop off but may do it several times an hour.	Consideration will be given to the issue of permits to exclude businesses from the 'no return' restriction.
Dovecot Street area is a leisure/hospitality business area and therefore 1 hour is not the optimum duration. 2 hours maximum stay is required on Dovecot Street to support the development of this area's cultural and leisure activity.	This has been considered during the development of the scheme and the maximum stay on Dovecot Street has been set at 2 hours. Charges are not proposed on Dovecot Street but they are to be considered again during Phase 3 of the On-Street Charging programme.
The provision of additional short stay parking on Skinner Street would be an improvement for businesses.	Additional limited waiting parking bays are proposed on Skinner Street and Lodge Street as shown on drawing C.900.G.001.
How will free of charge period be monitored to ensure a regular turnover of spaces?	Parking attendants will enforce the 10 minutes free of charge period by observation. Tickets will not be issued until at least 11 minutes have elapsed from first observation.
Church Road is currently 30 minutes free of charge with no return within 2 hours. This works for businesses and should not be changed.	The existing parking restrictions are very onerous and difficult to enforce properly. The ticketing system will make it easier to enforce and will avoid disputes. In light of the representations made by businesses on Church Road, it is proposed for the first 10 minutes to be free and the maximum stay to be retained at 30 minutes. The tariff for a stay between 10 minutes and 30 minutes is also to be kept low at 20p to ensure high turnover.
Residents who live above the shops on Church Road are currently having to ensure vehicles are moved by 9am which will move to 8am under the current proposal. Would it be possible to provide permits for residents so that they can park in an agreed area nearby?	Giving these residents permits to park in the limited waiting areas on Church Road would not be acceptable as it would remove important ultra short stay spaces. However, options will be looked at for adapting / expanding the nearby residents parking zone into the Cedar Street area.

On-Street Parking Charges Phase 2
Comments Received during Consultation with Businesses

25 September 2008

Page 2 of 2

<p>The Cultural Quarter of the town centre, including Calverts Lane has been excluded from the scheme. This area also needs to be reviewed with a view to introducing additional short short stay parking.</p>	<p>This area was not included in the On-street Parking Charges Phase 2. This issue should be fully considered as part of the current Town Centre Study which is ongoing.</p>
<p>Will the current exceptions for funeral/wedding vehicles visiting the Stockton Baptist Tabernacle or the Parish Church?</p>	<p>No changes are proposed to these arrangements.</p>
<p>Stockton Borough Council should not adopt a one size fits all approach to restrictions and tariffs. The needs of businesses may be different in each location and therefore the Council should be sensitive to their practical needs. This approach should take precedence over introducing consistency/reducing confusion.</p>	<p>The schemes have been designed to this approach. A consultation exercise has been undertaken and the business's needs have been fully considered during the development of the scheme.</p>