

Implementation of parking permit charges – overview

Rationale

Whilst the University has not previously charged for car parking at any of its campuses this provision does come at a significant cost. With major investment going into a new car park at the University's largest campus at Moulsecoomb it is an appropriate moment to reassess our approach.

To that end, UEB have decided that car park permit charges will be introduced across all of our campuses from the start of the 2019-20 academic year. These charges will not be levied at full cost but will mean that staff who use our car parking facilities will be making a reasonable contribution towards their costs based on their salary levels.

Department for Transport figures indicate that the average annual cost for a single parking space, including maintenance, lighting and security is around £450 per year - and we estimate our costs to be broadly similar.

The proposed level of charging has been benchmarked and will bring the University into line with the majority of higher education institutions in the country which already charge. It also aligns with the University's sustainability aims to help reduce carbon emissions and improve air quality, incentivising colleagues and students to find an alternative, sustainable method of travel to work and reducing emissions and congestion.

Whilst the University is not contractually obliged to provide parking, we understand that for a small number of staff and students driving to our campuses is the only viable option. All revenue raised from the charging scheme will be used to offset spending on car parking across all of our campuses.

Recognising the wide variety of staff and student circumstances, we have carried out an equality impact review to inform what we consider to be the fairest and most equitable charging solution.

Key details

Overview

- Parking charges will apply at the following University of Brighton campuses and halls from September 23rd 2019:
 - Falmer
 - Moulsecoomb
 - Eastbourne
 - Grand Parade
 - Exion offices
 - Phoenix Halls (Residences)
 - Moulsecoomb Place Halls (Residences)
 - Varley Park (Residences)
- Charges will apply for staff, students and visitors (with some exceptions – see below)
- Charging will apply on a 24/7 basis with members of the public able to pay to use parking facilities outside of standard hours. Standard hours are 06.00am until 18.00pm Monday to Friday.

Exemptions and charge reductions

- Government disabled badge holders, cyclists, University applicant / open day attendees, interviewees and their supporters will be exempt from charges. Those holding a University blue badge but not a government blue badge are not exempt from charges.
- Motorcyclists and fully electric vehicle drivers will be entitled to a 50% reduction in standard charges. Use of EV charge points will be charged at cost.

Permits

- A valid University parking permit will continue to be required in addition to payment of the new parking permit charge. The total number of permits available will continue to be limited in line with available parking capacity.
- The criteria used to assess eligibility for a parking permit will not change as part of the parking charges project, though they may be revisited in future.
- All staff and students wishing to continue parking in University car parks from September 23rd 2019 will need to confirm their desire to continue as a permit holder from late July 2019, allowing the capture of data required for charging to take place.

Charges and payment

- Eligible staff and students will be able to pay for a parking permit on either an annual or daily basis. Students will also be eligible to pay on a four-hourly basis.
- Student charges:
 - Annual charge - £125 flat rate (payable via a 'one off' card payment)
 - Full day charge - £1.30 (payable by app. or telephone)
 - Four hour charge – £1.00 (payable by app. or telephone)
- Staff charges
 - Annual charges - levied at 1% of total salary above £8,000 threshold and capped at £450 maximum charge (and payable via monthly salary deduction)
 - Full day charge - £2.50 (payable by app. or telephone)
- Student charges are not subject to VAT and staff charges are inclusive of VAT
- Visitors, contractors and members of the public parking 'out of hours' will be charged £2.50 per day (inclusive of VAT and payable by app. or telephone)
- The average annual charge for university staff is expected to be £356 (inc. VAT)
- The student hardship fund will be available as a source of potential relief for students experiencing financial hardship in relation to parking charges

The process

- Staff and students will be required to confirm their wish to continue parking at university car parks via the parking and Transport Team from late July 2019, whilst in parallel specifying their preferred method of charge payment.

- Once details have been received, the Parking and Transport team will contact each applicant confirming receipt / eligibility to park pending necessary payment and reiterating key dates / details.

Consultation

Feedback on all aspects of the proposal is now sought from staff and students, [click here](#) to provide your responses. The deadline for submissions is Thursday 06 June. A full equalities impact assessment will be completed once all feedback has been considered.