

POLICY:

1 INTRODUCTION

This policy is primarily concerned with:

- The terms under which a suspension of parking tariffs will be considered by NWDC for community and Civic events.
- How requests for the suspension of parking tariffs are dealt with including, how the Council will endeavour to treat people fairly, equally and with respect taking full account of the their personal circumstances.
- The conduct of the Council's staff and the manner in which it carries out its duties, including suspension of the parking fees and enforcement.
- Service standards that will be adopted by the District Council when carrying out parking enforcement which are in addition to the normal accepted process.

1.1 It is impossible to qualify every case and there will be occasions when the Parking Services Manager or those as delegated by the Parking Services Manager will consider the case on its individual merits.

1.2 This Policy will be subject to regular Review by the North Wiltshire District Council Car Parking Working Group and the Wiltshire Parking Board and will reflect current best practice.

Policy Statement of NWDC in regard to permitted free parking within NWDC owned car parks.

Dated:

North Wiltshire District Council is committed to making sure that it provides Equality of Opportunity in how its services are delivered. This commitment has been translated into its Core Values by ensuring that different groups and individual needs are reflected in the delivery of service.

The staff of North Wiltshire District Council will ensure that they will offer all necessary assistance to any person to ensure that they are aware and can avail themselves of all services and rights due to them.

The overall aims of Decriminalised Parking Enforcement within the County of Wiltshire are:

- Maintain and, where possible, improve the flow of traffic thereby making the County a more pleasant and environmentally safe place to live and visit.
- Take into account the needs of local residents, shops and businesses, thereby sustaining the County and District Council's economic growth.
- Actively support the needs of disabled people bearing in mind that, in some cases, they are unable to use public transport and are entirely dependent upon the use of a car. This will ensure that people with disabilities are able to have equal access to all facilities within the districts.
- Actively discourage indiscriminate parking that causes obstruction to other motorists, public transport, pedestrians, cyclists and people with disabilities. This will ensure that the Districts remain accessible to all equally and safely.

The policy shall be regularly reviewed and will take into account:

- a) Existing and predicted levels of demand for parking.
- b) The availability and pricing of both on and off -street parking.
- c) The nature and extent of on-street parking restrictions.
- d) The accuracy and quality of existing signs and plates.
- e) The levels of compliance that NWDC considers to be acceptable and the level of enforcement necessary to achieve them.
- f) The views of the public who shall be actively consulted on all matters relating to the change of parking restrictions.
- g) The views of the Wiltshire Police.
- h) The provision of suitable parking facilities for disabled people.
- i) The provision of suitable parking facilities for cyclists and motorcyclists.
- j) Consideration of the Council's overall aims with regard to the environment, fear of crime within the County and the sustained economic growth of the County and District Councils.

Specific Policies

Suspension of parking charges for civil or community events

- a) All applications must be made in writing to the Parking Service Manager at least 4 weeks prior to the date of the event. Ideally the request will be made as soon as the event is formalised to allow all parties time to discuss the request.
- b) If the car park/s requested for use are in an urban area agreement must also be sought from the Town/Parish council, the Police and if necessary The Chamber of Commerce before a scheme can be agreed. If agreement is not reached the suspension, at the discretion of NWDC, may still be agreed.
- c) To ensure all applications are considered fairly and equally the following people must be consulted before agreement can be given:
 - Leader of the Council
 - Portfolio Holder responsible for parking
 - Car Parking Working Group
 - Ward Councillors
 - Chief Executive (or nominated Senior Officers)
 - Parking Services Manager
 - Head of Legal Services
 - Section 151 officer
 - Press and Media Officer (to ensure no conflicting messages are given to the public)
 - Wiltshire Police (if deemed necessary due to the size of the event)
- d) Any agreement will be given to the organising body in writing clearly outlining the times and dates of the suspension of charges and the car parks agreed if time frames allow. Any short notice events will be confirmed verbally and in writing after the event.
- e) Any rejection will be given in writing clearly outlining the reasons for the rejection of the application.
- f) Rejection of an application for free parking does not signify a lack of support for an event.