
**Bath & North East
Somerset Council**

Improving People's Lives

**Policy Development & Scrutiny Panel
Emission-based Car Park Charges update
2023-07-06**

Paying for parking

- Current P&D machines obsolete
- Choice remains important
- Removal of cash not an option being considered.
- New machines –
 - will require vehicle registration number
 - Card payment terminals to be installed

Emission based charges - Context

- EB resident permits introduced Jan 2022.
- Charges linked to CO2 emissions, based on current DVLA VED
- Road Safety not Climate Change – consistent approach
- Only polluters pay more
 - diesel or 131+g/km CO2 have higher charges
- Incentivises alternatives including P&R (remains cheaper)
- Policy driven approach linked to Feb 2023 budget savings

How does emission-based charging work?

1. Vehicle Registration Mark (VRM) provided by customer
 2. System checks VRM against DVLA records.
 3. Charge display to the customer.
 4. Parking purchases.
 5. Cash ticket visible on CEO handheld in real time.
- No DVLA record (e.g. foreign/unregistered) = Highest charge.
 - DVLA data not reachable (system issue) = lowest charge for all.

Next Steps

- Machines in ground by August.
- Online TRO consultation – 6 to 27 July.
- Evaluation of feedback published mid August.
 - To include EQIA review
- Scheme live in September
 - subject to TRO consultation

Actions requested from the Panel

1. To note the replacement of new pay and display machines across council car parks and on street locations as part of the council's forward plan of works, which is a key enabler to the delivery of emissions-based charges.
2. To note the introduction to emission-based parking charges in Bath car parks as agreed in the council's budget by Full Council on 9 February 2023, with more polluting vehicles paying more for their parking.
3. To note the sensitivities regarding a further potentially significant rise to some season ticket customers within the last 12 months and the proposal to mitigate this for existing customers.
4. To note the draft signs and, recognising the complexity, provide further comment as required.