

! Metropolitan Borough of Wirral

CALL-IN

Decision to be called in:

Date of decision:	14/06/2021
Decision maker:	Environment, Climate Emergency and Transport Committee
Decision:	Car Parking Charges Options Report

Reason(s) for call-in:

We request a review of the decision published on 15 June 2021 to adopt car parking charging options 1, 3 and 4 within the report, in view of the significant public opposition expressed in the short time frame since the decision was published.

While Wirral shops and small businesses in our retail and coastal areas have shared in the £200 million given to Wirral Council to support them, the economic recovery of Wirral's businesses is not yet assured. It is recognised that business demand will be 55% below pre covid levels for 12 months and introduction of these increased charges will reduce demand by a further 30%. Council have not undertaken any studies to determine the economic impact to our local businesses that the implementation of these charges will bring. Many businesses are on the edge of failure, and they are depending on a profitable summer period. Any reduction in footfall could be catastrophic to businesses at this time.

We are aware of the great sacrifices made and the suffering many of our residents have been through and are still experiencing. It is clear that both individuals and businesses have suffered alike. We now have to face up to the impact that the pandemic has had on our physical and mental health. The implementation of these parking charges will reduce the options open to many of our residents to improve both their mental and physical health by accessing our open and community spaces. Those most impacted during the pandemic will now have their leisure options significantly impacted upon.

The introduction of car parking charges in coastal areas at this time appears particularly ill-conceived, not only creating a stealth tax on our residents' leisure time but also causing upset and worry for local people concerned about displaced parking into residential streets at various locations across the Borough.

We believe that alternative options for funding this revenue stream have not been properly explored and would welcome the opportunity to explain this further to the Decision Review Committee.

Councillor's Name	Signature
Tom Anderson	

Bruce Berry	
Max Booth	
David Burgess-Joyce	
Helen Cameron	
Ivan Camphor	
Mike Collins	
Tony Cox	
Wendy Clements	
Andrew Gardner	
Jeff Green	

Paul Hayes	
Andrew Hodson	
Kathy Hodson	

Jenny Johnson	
Mary Jordan	
Ian Lewis	
Simon Mountney (lead signatory)	
Cherry Povall	
Lesley Rennie	
Les Rowlands	
Steve Williams	
Alison Wright	