

Parking Management Strategy 2024

Our vision statements

- Well-managed, well-maintained parking facilities that meet our current and future needs, support local economies, respond to the challenges of the climate emergency, and uphold our ambitions for healthy communities, which are safe and attractive places for residents and visitors to use.
- Finding the right balance of parking provision to meet community and economic needs whilst discouraging unnecessary car journeys or blighting neighbourhoods.
- Parking that is self-funding where possible or which creates surplus that the Council can invest back into improved parking, transport, infrastructure and maintenance.



Our aims

This strategy sets out how North Somerset Council will manage the areas of parking provision that it has direct influence over, namely on-street parking, council-owned carparks, and other council owned land. It acknowledges diverse demands for parking space, not just cars but also bicycles, motorcycles and mopeds, taxis, buses, coaches, and goods vehicles.

The strategy aims to:

- support our town economies and employment sites by delivering fair charges across the district which help fund maintenance of the transport network and reduce congestion
- allocate space on our streets more efficiently and fairly, taking into account the range of different uses to be consistent with the updated Highway Code's new hierarchy of road users
- support healthy and safe neighbourhoods and increase the range of options for people to travel other than just by car
- meet our obligation to contribute to the management of the traffic network to help the movement of traffic, including people walking/wheeling, cycling and using our enhanced bus network
- reduce car commuting and car use, and align with other strategies and action plans that provide alternative ways to travel that are healthier, cheaper and more sustainable
- meet the needs of people with disabilities, with some people unable to use public transport and depend entirely on the use of a car allocate space across North Somerset Council owned land to ensure that demand is managed fairly.

How will we deliver these objectives?

- Managing parking to help **make our streets safer**.
- Mechanisms to manage parking **in town centres and places of high demand**, supporting the introduction of **residents permit parking** alongside new **parking charges** where appropriate, to manage displacement and achieve fair access to the available spaces.
- Managing **commuter parking** to encourage those with alternatives not to commute by car.



- Providing more **cycle and e-bike parking** facilities, including on-street secure bike storage (enabling one car parking space to



provide bike parking for up to eight bikes).

- Providing more **motorcycle, mopeds, and e-mopeds parking** facilities.
- Developing options for **future parking management measures**.
- Blue badge holder** parking – ensuring there are enough spaces in locations ensuring there are enough spaces in the **right** locations.



District-wide we will consider:

- Reinvesting new income** to help progress existing initiatives and introduce new measures to bring us closer to carbon neutrality,
- New **Technology** such as booking systems to optimise usage of spaces.
- New developments** will be designed and equipped to prioritise sustainable travel
- Extending **bus lane camera enforcement** to enable bus journeys to become more reliable.
- A network of **transport hubs**.
- Reviewing parking charges annually**.
- Transitioning from traditional parking **pay & display machines to payment via online app, phone**
- Alignment between parking payment systems and those used to pay for **Electric Vehicle (EV) charging and Mobility As A Service (MAA) app/systems**.
- Utilising available powers to **tackle nuisance parking**.
- Making **goods vehicle movements** as efficient as possible. Suitable lorry parking should be provided at strategic locations.



Strategic Objectives

- Establish a **fair and consistent** approach to parking and charges which is mindful of local considerations across North Somerset.
- Ensure car parking contributes to effective traffic management and **thriving local economies**, while reducing congestion and air pollution.
- Invest to maintain** and improve the quality and safety of parking.
- Ensure car parking provision and network management **encourages sustainable travel** and supports climate emergency goals.
- Minimise the potentially negative **impacts of parking** on residential communities and outside our schools.