

## **STATEMENT OF REASONS - SCHEME REF NO. TO/25/28**

### **WIRRAL BOROUGH COUNCIL OFF-STREET PAY AND DISPLAY PARKING PLACES ORDER 2026**

#### **PROPOSAL TO REVOKE THE EXISTING OFF STREET PAY AND DISPLAY PARKING ORDER AND CONSOLIDATE THE NOTICE OF VARIATION OF CHARGES NOTICES, VARY THE FREE CAR PARKS ORDER AND ADD NEW CAR PARKS TO THE CHARGING PROVISIONS AND AN OVERNIGHT PARKING CHARGE TO ALL CAR PARKS**

##### **Proposals**

The existing Metropolitan Borough of Wirral (Off-Street Pay and Display Parking Places) Order 2015 (as previously amended) and the subsequent notice of variation of charges notices will be revoked in their entirety and the Metropolitan Borough of Wirral (off-street parking places) (consolidation) Order, 2003 varied to remove certain car parks and a new order, The Wirral Borough Council (Off-Street Pay and Display Parking Places) Order 2026, will be made which will

1. consolidate the existing traffic order and the notice of variation of charges notices, and,
2. add 22 off-street car parking places listed in the order to introduce standardised parking charges, operational times and terms and conditions of use in those car parks at the same rate as the current charged car parks, and,
2. introduce a standard overnight parking fee at all off-street car parking places covered by the order.

##### **Reasons**

In the existing Metropolitan Borough of Wirral (Off-Street Pay and Display Parking Places) Order 2015, 27 off-street car parking places within the Borough are identified to be subject to charging. There are a number of other off-street car parking areas across the Borough covered by the Metropolitan Borough of Wirral (off-street parking places) (consolidation) Order 2003, that are currently able to be used for no parking charge.

This order is proposed to introduce paid for parking charges, and standardised operational times and terms and conditions of use in those car parks across the Borough. This is by ensuring all pay and display car parks are operated under one order. This is proposed following the adoption of the Council Parking Strategy which aligns and supports other policies and initiatives particularly the Cool Wirral campaign to encourage local climate-related action.

The Parking Strategy aims to encourage fairness and equity across the Borough by managing car parking demand and ensuring there is a regular turnover of spaces to support businesses and shops, with consistent charging allowing the Council to

continue to provide public car parks and access to areas into the future in a fair and sustainable manner.

By applying standardised charging at car parking places it would allow the Council to meet the costs of provision, maintenance, improvement and management of the parking places and continue to offer public car parks into the future in a fair and equitable manner ensuring that any new parking plans are self-financing. Parking charges can help address challenges and future parking impacts by managing traffic, congestion, and ensuring adequate turnover of spaces in line with the Council's approved Parking Strategy.

The introduction of charges at the same rate as other car parks within the Borough at the 22 listed places, ensures that the costs of providing and maintaining the parking places across the Borough is split between all of the parking places covered by the order, as opposed to only the 27 that are currently charged.

The proposed overnight parking charge would allow vehicles to be left in all of the car parking places overnight, as long as the correct fee is paid.

The proposed changes aim to reduce congestion and improve road safety and allow the management of the car parks more effectively and fairly to the benefit of all users. They will also enhance air quality and promote sustainable travel, while ensuring the continued availability of the car parks while providing better turnover of the parking spaces available for businesses and visitors and address any issues of misuse, overstaying and unauthorised use.

When considering whether to make a traffic order the Council is under a duty pursuant to section 122 Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 (as amended), to secure the expeditious, convenient and safe movement of vehicular and other traffic (including pedestrians) and the provision of suitable and adequate parking facilities on and off the highway having regard to the matters specified in section 122. It is considered that the proposals will generally assist to secure the safer movement of vehicular and pedestrian traffic and the provision of suitable and adequate parking facilities off the highway, thereby securing the expeditious, convenient and safe movement of vehicular and other traffic through the provision of adequate parking off the highway.

The proposals aim to influence travel choices and encourage more short trips to be completed by walking, cycling and public transport (where possible). They form an integral element of the wider strategy to reduce transport related emissions, contribute towards the Borough reducing carbon emissions and support improving air quality across the Borough.

The car parks that are to be covered by the new order are all existing car parks, albeit some do not currently charge for their use. As such there will be no alteration to access to premises in the vicinity of the car parks, or the passage of public service vehicles.

As is currently the situation, disabled badge holders would not be required to pay in the identified parking places as long as they display a valid disabled badge.

All signing and lining will be in accordance with the Traffic Signs Regulations and General Directions 2016.

### **Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 (RTRA)**

Wirral Borough Council are relying on their powers under Sections 1, 2, 4, 32, 33 and 35 of the RTRA to make this Traffic Regulation Order. In addition, thorough consideration was given to the factors set out in Section 122 of the RTRA in proposing this scheme.

### **Equality Act 2010**

Thorough consideration was given to the Equalities duty of the Council under Section 149 of the Equality Act 2010.

List of off-street parking places proposed to become charged for parking-

Fort Perch Rock Car Park, New Brighton  
Chamberlain Street Car Park, Birkenhead  
Old Chester Road/Chamberlain Street Car Park, Birkenhead  
Turner Street Car Park, Birkenhead  
Banks Road Car Park, Heswall  
Roslin Road Car Park, Irby  
Fishers Lane Car Park, Pensby  
Carr Lane Car Park, Hoylake  
Charles Road Car Park, Hoylake  
Market Street Car Park, Hoylake  
Barlow Avenue Car Park, Bebington  
Church Road Car Park, Bebington  
Roland Avenue Car Park, Bebington  
Allport Lane Car Park, Bromborough  
Mill Park Drive Car Park, Eastham  
Manor Road Car Park, Liscard  
Garden Lane Car Park, Moreton  
Holt Avenue Car Park, Moreton  
Pasture Road Car Park, Moreton  
Thurstaston Common Car Park, Thurstaston  
Derby Pool Car Park, Wallasey  
Gunsite Car Park, Leasowe

List of existing off-street parking places covered by the proposed new order-

Liscard Crescent car park, Liscard  
Liscard Village car park, Liscard  
Seaview Road Car park,  
Pye Road Car park  
Mount Avenue Cr park  
Puddy Dale Car park,  
Rocky Lane car park,  
Upper Mount Avenue Car park,

Dee Lane Car park  
Concourse Car park,  
Atherton Street Car park,  
Barton Street Car park,  
Cook Street Car park,  
Europa Square Car Park, Birkenhead  
Exmouth Street Car park,  
Oliver Street 1 Car park,  
Quarrybank Street car park,  
Wilbraham Street car park,  
Duncan Street Car park,  
Elgin Way Car park,  
Hinson Street Car park  
Woodside Approach Car park, Birkenhead  
Wirral Country Park car park,  
Europa Pools car park, Birkenhead  
Royden Country Park car parking areas  
Arrowe Country Park car parking areas  
Eastham Country Park car parking areas