

## STATEMENT OF REASONS

### **SOUTH OXFORDSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL (OFF STREET PARKING PLACES)(NO.1) ORDER 2021**

South Oxfordshire District Council proposes to make the above order under Sections 32, 33(4) and 35 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 and Part III of Schedule 9 to the Act, the effect of which will be to regulate the use of and set the tariff of charges to be made at the Council's off street car parks. The proposals are set out in full in the Notice of Proposal, Order and Schedule.

The council is seeking comments on the proposed car park order. This order introduces spaces reserved for electric vehicles whilst charging, and enforcement for unauthorised parking in those spaces in respect of i) non-electric vehicles parked in those spaces and ii) electric vehicles parked in those spaces but not for the purpose of charging. The order sets out these changes and some other changes to the use of the car parks, including to align all car parks in the centre of market towns of Didcot, Henley, Thame and Wallingford, as well as Goring and to change the current permitted parking period from Monday to Saturday to Monday to Sunday 9am to 5pm in all car parks.

At a cabinet meeting of 6 August 2020 it was resolved to introduce spaces reserved for electric vehicles whilst those vehicles are being charged and to allow enforcement of those spaces for unauthorised parking. The council is working to reduce carbon emissions and the use of electric vehicles is to be encouraged. In aligning those car parks in the centre of Didcot, Henley, Thame and Wallingford as well as Goring, all those car parks will have up to one-hour free parking between the charging hours of 9am to 5pm, including Kings Road and Greys Road car parks, Henley and free parking in Goldsmiths Lane will reduce from two hours to one hour.

Apart from the proposed changes referred to above, other proposals include:

- To change the permitted parking period from Monday to Saturday to Monday to Sunday 9am to 5pm in all car parks;
- To introduce a maximum two-hour stay at High Street car park, Chinnor Monday to Saturday at no charge;
- To remove half price permits if you travel into the town to work;
- To remove half price permits for those vehicles with less than 120g/km CO2 emissions and replace this with half price permits for electric vehicles only (those vehicles able to travel at least 20 miles with zero CO2).

The excess charge or concessionary excess charge will not change under these proposals.

The proposed changes referred to above require the council to make a new order. The council's main current car parking order was made in 2011 and accordingly the new order will mean improved car park management, more efficient enforcement and will bring the order up to date in line with legal requirements. Under the Local Authorities' Traffic Orders (Procedure)(England and Wales) Regulations 1996 the council are required to publicise the proposals and accordingly you are invited to give your views on the draft order by 19 November 2020 in writing or by email to John Backley, Technical Services Manager, Vale of White Horse District Council, 135 Eastern Avenue, Milton Park, Milton, Abingdon, OX14 4SB

or [technicalservices@southandvale.gov.uk](mailto:technicalservices@southandvale.gov.uk) . Alternatively please follow the consultation link at [www.whitehorsedc.gov.uk/parking](http://www.whitehorsedc.gov.uk/parking) .

John Backley  
Technical Services Manager  
Vale of White Horse District Council

29 October 2020