

READING BOROUGH COUNCIL

POLICY COMMITTEE

20 JANUARY 2025

COUNCILLOR QUESTION NO. 1

Councillor Thompson to ask the Lead Councillor for Climate Strategy and Transport:

Revenue from Short-Term Parking in Tilehurst

Businesspeople in Tilehurst are suffering from a drop in passing trade and attribute this to the loss of free parking for 30 minutes on weekdays at the Dunstall Close and Recreation Road car parks. Can the Lead Councillor tell us the amount of revenue the Council has received from parking for one hour at these two car parks since the removal of the free half-hour? How does this compare with the revenue received from parking for one hour at the two car parks in the equivalent periods before removal of the free half-hour and the equivalent period before the pandemic? We are particularly interested to know the revenue from parking for one hour.

REPLY by Councillor Ennis (Lead Councillor for Climate Strategy and Transport):

Thank you for your question - please see the figures in the table below.

	Rec Road Mar to Dec 23	Rec Road Mar to Dec 24	Dunstall Mar to Dec 23	Dunstall Mar to Dec 24
Total revenue	£12,819.90	£17,280.00	£2,693.80	£5,857.10
Up to 1 hour revenue only	£3,905.20	£13,616.00	£715.65	£4,336.90

Revenue information for years prior to 2023 cannot be retrieved due to a change of car park equipment and system.

As can be seen the introduction of charges has resulted in a significant increase in income in the comparative nine-month period of nearly £7,000 which will help maintain these car parks and support the Council's wider activities. The majority of revenues now come from periods of up to one hour at both these car parks.