



Flintshire County Council

Draft Car Parking Strategy

Consultation Summary Report

March 2015

Background

During the summer of 2014 the Council, in response to a further significant cut in Welsh Government funding, began its Big Budget Consultation. Aiming to raise awareness of the size and scale of the budget challenges the Council asked a series of questions designed to gauge levels of support for some of the difficult decisions ahead.

The responses provided at that time identified 68% of people would support the Council if it needed to make 'some changes' to the way it delivers some of its services and 75% supported an affordable increase in charges for services.

On the 17 February 2015 the County Council approved a set of proposals designed to bridge the 2015/16 budget gap. One of the proposals related to the revision of the Council's Car Parking Strategy and the introduction of parking charges across the County. The proposal would see an increase in income of £400,000.

In order to develop the framework of the Strategy for consideration and final approval by the Council's Cabinet in April, a period of public consultation took place.

The purpose of the consultation:

- To seek views and opinions on a range of options that would help to develop the framework of the Strategy.

The period of consultation:

- Monday 9 March 2015 – Sunday 29 March 2015

How people could feedback:

A bi-lingual, on-line consultation accessible via the Council' website.

Consultation Responses:

- A total of 173 forms were completed on-line
- Also during the period of consultation there were 481 unique page visits to the English draft parking strategy page of the Council's website and 10 unique page visits to the Welsh.

What people told us

The strategy predominantly proposed that car parking charges would be applied six days a week, Monday to Saturday. Views were sought as to whether this should be extended to include Sundays and Bank Holidays.

Where people agreed that charges should be applied on Sundays and/or bank holidays they were asked to identify their preferences against each of the ten town strategies.

24% of people who took part agreed that charges should be applied over these periods and identified their preferences for each area strategy as follows:

Table 1: Sunday and Bank Holiday charging

	Sundays	Bank Holidays	Total number of people responding for each area
Buckley			
Actual no. responding to each option	10	12	12
% of responses against overall number of people taking part	5.78	6.94	6.94
Caergwrle			
Actual no. responding to each option	8	10	10
% of responses against overall number of people taking part	4.62	5.78	5.78
Connah's Quay			
Actual no. responding to each option	12	14	14
% of responses against overall number of people taking part	6.94	8.09	8.09
Flint			
Actual no. responding to each option	11	12	13
% of responses against overall number of people taking part	6.36	6.94	7.51
Hawarden			
Actual no. responding to each option	11	13	13
% of responses against overall number of people taking part	6.36	7.51	7.51
Holywell			
Actual no. responding to each option	12	14	14
% of responses against overall number of people taking part	6.94	8.09	8.09
Mold			
Actual no. responding to each option	11	14	14
% of responses against overall number of people taking part	6.36	8.09	8.09

	Sundays	Bank Holidays	Total number of people responding for each area
Queensferry			
Actual no. responding to each option	11	13	13
% of responses against overall number of people taking part	6.36	7.51	7.51

Shotton			
Actual no. responding to each option	11	13	13
% of responses against overall number of people taking part	6.36	7.51	7.51

Talacre			
Actual no. responding to each option	26	28	29
% of responses against overall number of people taking part	15.03	16.18	16.76

When asked about the times between which parking charges should be applied 56% of the total number of people who took part responded. Table 2 identifies the preferences for each area strategy.

Table 2: Charging bandwidth preferences

	8am - 5pm	8am - 6pm	9am - 5pm	9am - 6pm	Total number of people responding for each area
Buckley					
Actual no. responding to each option	24	16	35	1	76
% of responses against overall number of people taking part	13.87	9.25	20.23	0.58	43.93

Caergwrle					
Actual no. responding to each option	28	14	16	1	79
% of responses against overall number of people taking part	16.18	8.09	9.25	0.58	45.66

	8am - 5pm	8am - 6pm	9am - 5pm	9am - 6pm	Total number of people responding for each area
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Connahs Quay

Actual no. responding to each option	25	17	32	1	78
% of responses against overall number of people taking part	14.45	9.83	18.50	0.58	45.09

Flint

Actual no. responding to each option	25	19	33	1	78
% of responses against overall number of people taking part	14.45	10.98	19.08	0.58	45.09

Hawarden

Actual no. responding to each option	25	14	34	2	75
% of responses against overall number of people taking part	14.45	8.09	19.65	1.16	43.35

Holywell

Actual no. responding to each option	24	15	35	1	75
% of responses against overall number of people taking part	13.87	8.67	20.23	0.58	43.35

Mold

Actual no. responding to each option	23	18	37	1	79
% of responses against overall number of people taking part	13.29	10.40	21.39	0.58	45.66

Queensferry

Actual no. responding to each option	24	15	32	3	74
% of responses against overall number of people taking part	13.87	8.67	18.50	1.73	42.77

Shotton

Actual no. responding to each option	25	14	33	2	74
% of responses against overall number of people taking part	14.45	8.09	19.08	1.16	42.77

8am - 5pm	8am - 6pm	9am - 5pm	9am - 6pm	Total number of people responding for each area
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Talacre

Actual no. responding to each option	23	18	32	5	78
% of responses against overall number of people taking part	13.29	10.40	18.50	2.89	45.09

To ensure the free flow of traffic and to protect access routes for pedestrians, we asked whether people agreed with the provision of dedicated motorcycle parking bays in larger Council car parks. 54% of those people who responded to this question agreed that dedicated bays should be provided, whilst 29% had no view and 17% disagreed.

To maximising the turnover of spaces in short stay car parks the proposal aims to restrict parking to two hours at a charge of 20p. A question was asked to gauge the level of support for an affordable higher rate to be charged of no more than 50p for two hours. Of the people who responded to this question there was a clear majority (72%) who did not support a higher rate charge. A lower figure of 26% supported an affordable increase whilst 2% did not have a view.

Agreement was sought on the proposal to prohibit returns to short stay car parks within one hour of the expiry of a purchased ticket. The level of agreement with this proposal was fairly equal, 45% agreed and 49% disagreed. The remaining 6% didn't have a view.

57% of people responding to Q6 agreed that the misuse of parking bays outside of the hours of charging should be managed through enforcement. 38% disagreed and 5% had no view.

Only 26% of those who responded were against the provision of resident only parking schemes, with the majority (69%) agreeing that the needs of residents likely to be affected by the introduction of the car parking strategy should be addressed through residents only parking. When asked to determine their preference for the hours of operation of such a scheme, of those who responded, 76% favoured 24 hours whilst 24% preferred 8am to 6pm. The majority of those who expressed a view did not agree with including a charge for Saturdays, Sundays and bank holidays.

Table 3: Charging for Saturdays, Sundays and bank holidays

	Saturday			Sunday			Bank Holiday		
	Yes	No	I have no view	Yes	No	I have no view	Yes	No	I have no view
Actual no. responding to each option	32	104	15	24	109	12	24	108	12
% of those responding to each option	21	69	10	17	75	8	17	75	8

Finally people were asked to indicate their support for a percentage of the money raised being given to Town and Community Councils to fund local projects/ services. 55% agreed that this contribution should be made whilst 34% did not agree. 11% had no view.

Demographic Information

How people best described themselves

Answer Choices	Responses
I live in Flintshire / Rwy'n byw yn Sir y Fflint	32.74% 55
I work in Flintshire / Rwy'n gweithio yn Sir y Fflint	11.90% 20
I live and work in Flintshire / Rwy'n byw ac yn gweithio yn Sir y Fflint	47.02% 79
I represent a Flintshire business / Rwy'n cynrychioli busnes yn Sir y Fflint	1.79% 3
I represent a Flintshire organisation / Rwy'n cynrychioli sefydliad yn Sir y Fflint	0.60% 1
I am a visitor to Flintshire / Rwy'n ymweld â Sir y Fflint	1.19% 2
I represent a Town or Community Council / Rwy'n cynrychioli Cyngor Tref a Chymuned	2.98% 5
Other / Arall	1.79% 3
Total	168

Those people who selected either option 2 or 3 above were asked a supplementary question 'Are you an employee of Flintshire County Council?' Overall 39% of all those people who took part in the survey work for the Council

Preferred Language

Answer Choices	Responses	
English / Saesneg	98.66%	147
Welsh / Cymraeg	0.67%	1
Other / Arall	0.67%	1
Total		149

Age

Answer Choices	Responses	
under / dan 16	0.00%	0
17-24	1.39%	2
25-44	38.19%	55
45-64	48.61%	70
65-74	9.03%	13
75 +	2.78%	4
Total		144

Disability

Answer Choices	Responses	
Yes / Ydw	9.03%	13
No / Nac Ydw	81.94%	118
Prefer not to say / Well gen i beidio â dweud	9.03%	13
Total		144

Gender

Answer Choices	Responses	
Male / Gwryw	40.69%	59
Female / Benyw	48.28%	70
Prefer not to say / Well gen i beidio â dweud	11.03%	16
Total		145

Sexuality

Answer Choices	Responses
Bisexual / Deurywiol	0.00% 0
Gay man / Dyn Hoyw	2.36% 3
Other / Arall	2.36% 3
Gay woman / lesbian / Merch Hoyw / Lesbiad	0.00% 0
Heterosexual / straight / Heterorywiol / Strêt	70.08% 89
Prefer not to say / Well gen i beidio â dweud	25.20% 32
Total	127

Do you consider yourself transgender

Answer Choices	Responses
Yes / Ydw	0.00% 0
No / Nac Ydw	83.82% 114
Prefer not to say / Well gen i beidio â dweud	16.18% 22
Total	136

Ethnicity

Answer Choices	Responses
White / Gwyn	75.95% 120
Mixed / Cymysg	0.00% 0
Other / Arall	2.53% 4
Asian, Asian British / Asiaidd, Asiaidd Prydeinig	0.00% 0
Black, Black British / Du, Du Prydeinig	0.00% 0
Prefer not to say / Well gen i beidio â dweud	21.52% 34
Total	158

Cultural background

Answer Choices	Responses
British / Prydeinig	45.38% 54
English / Seisnig	12.61% 15
Other / Arall	0.84% 1
Scottish / Albanaidd	0.84% 1
Welsh / Cymreig	39.50% 47
Prefer not to say / Well gen i beidio â dweud	0.84% 1
Irish / Gwyddelig	0.00% 0
Gypsy or Irish Traveller / Sipsi neu Deithiwr Gwyddelig	0.00% 0
Total	119

Religion

Answer Choices	Responses
Buddhist / Bwdhydd	0.00% 0
Christian / Cristion	52.55% 72
Hindu / Hindŵ	0.00% 0
Jewish / Iddew	0.00% 0
Muslim / Mwslim	0.00% 0
Sikh / Sikh	0.00% 0
Atheism / Anffyddiaeth	9.49% 13
Prefer not to say / Well gen i beidio â dweud	29.20% 40
Other (please specify / nodwch)	8.76% 12
Total	137