

	Meeting (No)	<b>Community &amp; Environment (5)</b>
	Date	<b>10 October 2023</b>
	Document	Ref No
	<b>Chester Road Car Park</b>	<b>CE5/53</b>

Cheshire West and Chester Council has recently installed new signage in Chester Road car park and begun issuing fines for contravention of the newly displayed regulations.

*Contravention of the following parking regulations may incur a penalty charge*

1. *Parked in a restricted area of the car park*
2. *Not parked correctly within the markings of a bay or space*
3. *Parked in a designated disabled person parking place without displaying a valid disabled person's badge in the prescribed manner.*



Access to disabled parking has been restricted to a maximum of four hours.



The Town Council has received very negative feedback about these changes and there appears to be a strong opinion that it has become common practice over a considerable period of time to park in some currently unmarked areas of the car park. Additionally, it has been commented that some of the existing markings are very faded (some directional markings such as "one-way" and "give way" are also faded to the point of being unreadable which makes safe navigation of the car park more difficult).

Residents have also pointed out that able-bodied drivers continue to enjoy unrestricted free parking, whilst residents with disabilities are now only able to park for four hours (the width of standard parking bays are not always practical options for those with restricted mobility). It has been noted that it is rare for all disabled parking bays to be taken at the same time which led some residents to question the need for such a restriction in the Chester Road car park.

The Community & Environment Committee will need to consider this new implementation policy and restriction on disabled parking and agree a response for submission to Cheshire West and Chester Council. In considering these matters, the Committee might wish to take into account the following points:

- whether a review of the current layout is required in order to increase parking capacity;
- whether improvements are required to ensure the flow of traffic around the car park and increase visibility at junctions within the car park;
- whether Council should request that the restriction on disabled parking be reversed in order to allow usage to be surveyed over a period of time, thereby providing data to inform a final decision about the necessity for time restrictions.

Audrey Duncan  
Community & Environment Manager