



Egham Chamber of Commerce

Supporting Business in Englefield Green, Virginia Water, Thorpe and Egham

**Runnymede Borough Council ,
Environment and Sustainability Committee**

6 October 2022

Dear Sirs,

Car Parking - Review of Charges

Egham Chamber understands that we are approaching the annual review of car park charges across Runnymede Borough. That being the case we wish to put forward a number of proposals/suggestions for car parking in Egham for consideration.

As we have mentioned in previous correspondence Councillors will be aware that businesses suffer when shoppers are deterred by high charges and must balance the deterioration in health and viability of town centres against any increase in Council income.

We would now put forward proposals for consideration as follows:

- A 60 minutes free parking rate be introduced in all council operated car parks. This would encourage more short term visitors to the town and provide potential visitors to Egham the same opportunity that is currently in place for visitors that use the multi-storey car park in Addlestone.
- A review is undertaken of existing car park signage to ensure that visitors entering the town from all access routes can be directed easily to available car parking, this may also include a notice of parking spaces available.
- RBC to look into the potential for utilizing car parks in the town centre that belong to commercial properties that may not be in use at the weekends and in the evening.
- RBC to co-ordinate a review of car parking spaces at commercial properties to identify spaces/locations that could be utilized by employees of retail outlets in the High Street area. It is important to provide facilities for those people working in the town centre in addition to visitors.

In addition to proposals for car parking Egham Chamber would also invite and encourage RBC to investigate the potential for secure and publicly visible bicycle storage for visitors to the town and those using the train station. This should encourage more people to use this mode of transport for short journeys if they have the reassurance that the property will be where they left it when they return. The existing facilities are simply not good enough.

On a similar note we would encourage RBC to undertake a feasibility study for the introduction of a bike hire scheme, particularly to and from the town centre and the Royal Holloway University campus.

Egham Chamber of Commerce believes that the proposals above will encourage more visitors to the town and stimulate economic activity. It is essential that Egham can identify what it can provide to potential visitors and how it can encourage them to come here. Egham does not have the range of shops that can be found in other larger local centres so needs to concentrate on what it can provide.

If you require any additional details please let us know.

Yours Sincerely



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Vice-Chairman

“Sealing Local Business”

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