



Fylde Council Annual Parking Report 2018/19

Financial and Statistical Information

1 Introduction

Welcome to Fylde Council's Annual Parking Report for 2018/19. This report sets out the off-street parking provision that is provided by the Council and details information relating to income and expenditure plus enforcement statistics associated with the provision of this service.

From the end of April to the end of July 2018 the Fylde Coast experienced an extended heat wave period resulting in continuous hot and dry weather. This resulted in a surge of use of the car parks. In July 2018 the option of paying by card (chip and pin and contactless) was introduced on almost all car parks. By the end of the summer season of that year about 16% of payments were by card. In October 2018 Stanner Bank and St Paul's Avenue Car Parks were shut to enable sea defence works to take place around Fairhaven with closures expected to remain in place until 2020. In January 2019 the Town Hall Car Park was shut to enable the car park and landscaping to be reconfigured, re-opening in April 2019.

During 2018/19 Fylde Council owned and operated 16 car parks spread over Lytham St Annes. Of these 16, 2 were free to use and 14 were charged via pay and display. The car parks comprise a total of 1,374 spaces made of 163 free spaces (88 disabled bays, 7 coach bays and other designated bays including general parking and reserved bays) and 1,211 charged spaces. Further details of the Council's car parks can be found on the Council's website www.fylde.gov.uk/resident/parking/car-parks.

Fylde Council aim to meet or exceed the Department for Transport's suggested guidelines on the number of spaces that should be allocated on each car park for use by those with physical mobility issues. Three hours free parking is provided to blue badge holders when parked within designated disabled bays and displaying a parking clock. However if no designated disabled bays are available then blue badge holders are required to pay if they choose to park in a standard bay.

All Fylde Council owned and operated car parks are enforced under the Traffic Management Act 2004 and the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 and subsequent amendments. A copy of Fylde Council's Traffic Regulation Order and amendments under which the car parks are enforced can be found in the Traffic Penalty Tribunal's library - <http://tro.parking-adjudication.gov.uk/>

2 Financial Performance

2.1 Section 55 (Parking Enforcement Accounts)

As a local authority which operates Civil Parking Enforcement (as an 'Enforcement Authority') with regards to its own off-street parking provision the Council is required to keep an account of all of its income and expenditure in connection with its off-street enforcement activities. These finances are governed by Section 55 (as amended) of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984. The legislation sets out provisions for dealing with any deficits or surpluses in the account at the end of the financial year. Any deficit is to be made good out of the authority's general fund, whilst a surplus can either be carried forward in the account to the next financial year, or it can be appropriated to the carrying out of a specific project for one of the following purposes:

1. The making good to the general fund of any amount charged to it for the making good of a deficit in the parking account in the 4 years immediately preceding the financial year in question.
2. Meeting all or any of the cost of the provision and maintenance by the local authority of off-street parking accommodation.
3. If it appears to the local authority that the provision in their area of further off-street parking accommodation is unnecessary or undesirable, the following purposes:
 - (i) Meeting costs incurred, whether by the local authority or by some other person, in the provision or operation of, or of facilities for, public passenger transport services, and
 - (ii) The purposes of a highway or road improvement project in the local authority's area.

As Fylde Borough Council is not the local highway or transport authority it is unlikely that any surplus in enforcement revenue would be used for 3(i) or 3(ii) above.

The Council's parking account during 2018/19 performed as follows:

**Report on Fylde Borough Council's Parking Account
(kept under Section 55 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 - as amended)
for the financial year ending 31st March 2019**

	2014/15 (£)	2015/16 (£)	2016/17 (£)	2017/18 (£)	2018/19 (£)
Income					
Off-street penalty charges	45,835	50,917	44,269	41,828	49,281
Total Income	45,835	50,917	44,269	41,828	49,281
Expenditure					
CEO Time and Notice Processing Costs	42,603	46,138	44,030	48,019*	49,847
Patrol and TEC Costs	1,836	1,507	1,079	1,115	850
Transport	7,308	5,696	4,312	3,532	3,421
Additional Enforcement Costs (phones, stationery etc...)	49	97	167	337	678
Service recharges	23,551	24,632	37,224	36,303	29,629
Total Expenditure	75,347	78,072	86,812	89,306	84,425
Total Surplus/Deficit	-29,512	-27,155	-42,543	-47,478	-35,144

*Part of the increase in costs was a result of a one-off investment of £3,100 to replace aging CEO handheld computers and printers

The deficits in the parking accounts were funded from the Council's General Fund.

2.2 Off-Street Parking (Car Parks)

Income from off-street parking charges and expenditure on the purchase, maintenance, running and repair of off-street sites are not subject to Section 55 of the 1984 Act (although some of those expenditures can be funded from an end of year surplus in the Section 55 account). The Council's financial performance with regards to off-street parking during 2018/19 was as follows:

Report on Fylde Borough Council's off-street parking income and expenditure for the financial year ending 31st March 2019

	2014/15 (£)	2015/16 (£)	2016/17 (£)	2017/18 (£)	2018/19 (£)
Income					
Pay & display income	541,775	580,225	631,125	602,314	678,100
Contribution for maintenance of 3 rd party car park	901	2,098	2,417		
Permit sales	19,069	21,567	21,680	22,220	22,983
Dispensations	1,402	242	268	2,527	263
Sale of equipment		3,500			
Total Income	563,147	601,632	655,490	627,061	701,346
Expenditure					
Premises (maintenance and equipment)	52,220	43,767	47,646	45,894	44,100
Supplies and Services	12,207	11,499	11,897	11,398	14,573***
Service recharges	78,134	74,786	83,279	87,420	91,401
Capital Charges	7,617	11,903	16,030	12,700	8,414
Business Rates	70,481	83,222	83,911	81,354	70,010****
Fee Refunds/Income share	19,359	24,529	23,921	20,092	19,001
Capital Works	30,000	30,000	28,895	**	60,000
Total Expenditure	270,018	279,706	295,579	258,858	307,499
Total Surplus	293,129	321,926	359,911	368,203	393,847

**Capital budget of £30,000 was deferred from 2017/18 to 2018/19. The £60,000 in 2018/19 was contribution from the car park capital budget towards the redevelopment of the Town Hall exterior, including car park, which totalled £204,867.

***Increase in costs associated with additional ongoing charges related to card payments

****Reduction in business rates a result of no longer operating Kirkham car parks (saving £8,108) and a rebate of £5,798 related to Kirkham car parks from 2017/18.

The surplus funds raised through the provision of off-street parking facilities are used to offset the costs to the Council of providing services to the public (such as parking enforcement deficit, refuse collection and waste recycling, street cleansing, tourism services, parks maintenance, housing services etc.). Without these surplus funds, those costs would have to be met through Council Tax.

Statistical performance

3.1 Penalty Charge Notices Issued

There is a national list of the parking contraventions for which Civil Enforcement Officers (CEOs) are empowered to issue Penalty Charge Notices (PCNs). Below is a table giving a detailed breakdown of the numbers of PCNs which the Council's CEOs issued in respect of each type of contravention applicable to car parks during 2018/19. Figures for previous years have been included for comparison purposes. Individual contravention codes that are subject to the higher or lower rates of penalty charge are shown. Higher rates are set at £70 (£35 if paid within 14 days) while lower rates are set at £50 (£25 if paid within 14 days).

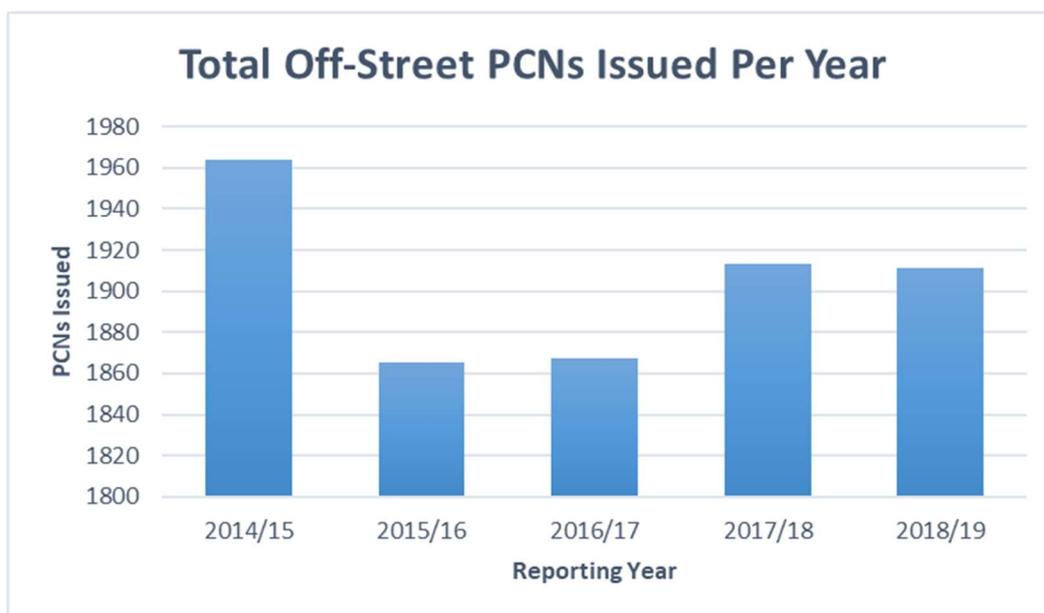
Number of Penalty Charge Notices Issued For Each Contravention Type

Off-Street (car park) Parking Contraventions						
Code	Contravention Description	PCNs 2014/15	PCNs 2015/16	PCNs 2016/17	PCNs 2017/18	PCNs 2018/19
73 (Low)	Parked without payment of the parking charge	0	0	0	0	3
80 (Low)	Parked longer than the maximum period permitted	3	2	2	5	5
81 (High)	Parked in a restricted area in a car park	6	6	14	3	7
82 (Low)	Parked after the expiry of paid for time	459	426	314	408	291
83 (Low)	Parked in a car park without clearly displaying a valid pay & display ticket or voucher or parking clock	1,160	1,119	1,192	1,248	1,369
85 (High)	Parked in a permit bay without clearly displaying a valid permit	15	26	69	24	30
86 (Low)	Not parked correctly within the markings of a bay or space	68	54	76	59	58
87 (High)	Parked in a disabled person's parking space without clearly displaying a valid disabled person's badge	227	187	182	154	136
91 (High)	Parked in a car park or area not designated for that class of vehicle	23	44	16	12	12

92 (High)	Parked causing an obstruction	2	0	0	0	0
94 (Low)	Parked in a pay & display car park without clearly displaying multiple valid pay and display tickets when required	1	1	2	0	0
	Number of higher rate off-street PCNs issued	273	263	281	193	185
	Number of lower rate off-street PCNs issued	1691	1602	1586	1720	1726
	Total number of off-street PCNs issued	1964	1865	1867	1913	1911

Total Off-Street PCNs Issued Per Year

Reporting Year	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19
PCNs Issued	1964	1865	1867	1913	1911



The issuing of PCNs has remained mostly consistent over the last five years with between 1,865 and 1,964 PCNs per year.

3.2 Progression of PCNs

The following table details the ways in which PCN cases had progressed as of January 2020.

Progression of cases	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19
Total number of PCNs issued	1964	1865	1867	1913	1911
PCNs paid at 50% Discount	1368 (69.65%)	1241 (66.54%)	1204 (64.49%)	1273 (66.55%)	1213 (63.48%)

PCNs paid at full amount (before issue of Charge Certificate)	126 (6.42%)	122 (6.54%)	126 (6.75%)	125 (6.53%)	115 (6.02%)
PCNs paid after issue of Charge Certificate (full amount + 50%)	78 (3.97%)	89 (4.77%)	92 (4.92%)	87 (4.55%)	65 (3.41%)
Total PCNs paid	1572 (80.04%)	1452 (77.85%)	1422 (76.16%)	1485 (77.63%)	1393 (72.90%)
<i>Number of Pre NtO Informal Challenges</i>	607	568	597	567	714
Number of Informal Challenges resulting in PCN cancellation	301 (15.33%)	319 (17.11%)	358 (19.18%)	317 (16.57%)	349 (18.26%)
<i>Number of Post NtO Formal Representations</i>	132	151	110	78	80
Number of Formal Representations resulting in PCN cancellation	12 (0.61%)	22 (1.18%)	11 (0.59%)	11 (0.56%)	12 (0.63%)
<i>Number of TPT Appeals</i>	6	5	2	2	7
Number of TPT appeals resulting in PCN cancellation	4 (0.20%)	0 (0.00%)	2 (0.11%)	2 (0.11%)	4 (0.21%)
Number of PCNs cancelled for other reasons (eg owner untraceable, enforcement agent unable to collect etc...)	75 (3.82%)	73 (3.91%)	74 (3.96%)	98 (5.12%)	108 (5.65%)
Total PCNs cancelled	392 (19.96%)	413 (22.20%)	445 (23.84%)	428 (22.37%)	484 (25.32%)
Total PCNs outstanding (still to pay or be cancelled)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	34 (1.78%)

Of the PCNs that are issued each year, between 76% and 80% are paid. Of those that are paid the vast majority do so within 14 days of the PCN being issued to take advantage of the discount period. Just over 20% of issued PCNs are cancelled, the majority as a result of an Informal Challenge within 28 days of the PCN being issued.

4 Adjudication cases

A motorist who has had their challenge against a PCN rejected by the Council has the right to appeal against that decision to an Adjudicator at the Traffic Penalty Tribunal (TPT). The TPT is an independent tribunal whose impartial, independent Adjudicators are lawyers who have been appointed to consider and decide upon appeals against parking penalties.

For PCNs issued during 2018/19 7 cases were registered by TPT for adjudication, equal to 0.37% of all PCNs issued during the year. Of these 3 were dismissed (ie in favour of Fylde Council), none were 'not contested' and 4 were allowed (ie in favour of the appellant).

Adjudicator's reports for previous years can be accessed on the tribunal's website www.trafficpenaltytribunal.gov.uk/downloads. These reports provide information for each local area as well as an assessment of any changes that have occurred over the previous year which impacts on parking enforcement and the decisions that adjudicators may make.