

**Call-In by Cllr Alessandro Georgiou of Decision List No: 57 (22-23) – Key Decision 5588,  
On and Off-Street Parking Charges**

I would like to call-in KD5588 (On and Off-Street Parking Charges) for following reasons:

1. Now is not the right time – At a time when thousands in Enfield are struggling it is morally unjust to be increasing parking charges to shop, care for loved ones or even visit the civic centre.
2. The ‘stress test’ - this stress test was undertaken in December. It is obvious that during December people are shopping for Christmas presents or visiting their family and friends. It would appear that the test being done during this period is unfair and seeks to deliberately skew the results. Furthermore, the use of this method of judging increases is perverse. We will be penalising residents because during this period parking was being used. The Council should not be in the business of attempting to artificially limit supply due to increased demand. We are not a business; we are a civic service provider.
3. Standardising parking charges – it is obvious that we should be encouraging investment into those parts of the borough that are more deprived. If you increase parking charges in a more deprived part of the borough to equalise the parking rates to the level of a less deprived area you will reduce vital money being spent in those local communities. Surely this policy would act as a deterrent to those wishing to shop in businesses that desperately need more customers.
4. Shorter parking – one of the stated aims is to encourage shorter parking periods. This does not require increases in charging to deter commuters. Simply reduce the parking period if that is the stated aim. To make clear we do not endorse that policy, but it provides an alternative when clearly none have been comprehensively explored.
5. Public transport – clearly whoever drafted this report has not fully understood the limited transport links in some parts of Enfield.
6. Reputational mitigation – this is the most disturbing part of the report. The Council is admitting is charging people more to force them out of the cars. If you are pregnant, disabled, elderly have children or are a carer and do not qualify for a blue badge or other permissions you are being told that the method of transport that is most accessible to you is no longer a viable financial option.
7. EQIA – Older residents - Any parking charge increase may affect those motorists who rely on a pension
8. EQIA – Blue badge holders – not all disabled residents have a blue badge. The EQIA conveniently fails to mention this and is another key reason why this decision should not proceed as is.
9. EQIA – Pregnancy – Once again another disgraceful bit of misleading nonsense. We are talking about parking charges across the whole Borough and not just around the North Middlesex Hospital. Pregnant women who may need to use their cars will be penalised.

10. EQIA – Socio Economic Deprivation - According to the EQIA “Any parking charge increase may affect those motorists whose may have a low household income”. Obviously, and for this reason this policy should be stopped.

I ask that it is referred back to the decision maker.