



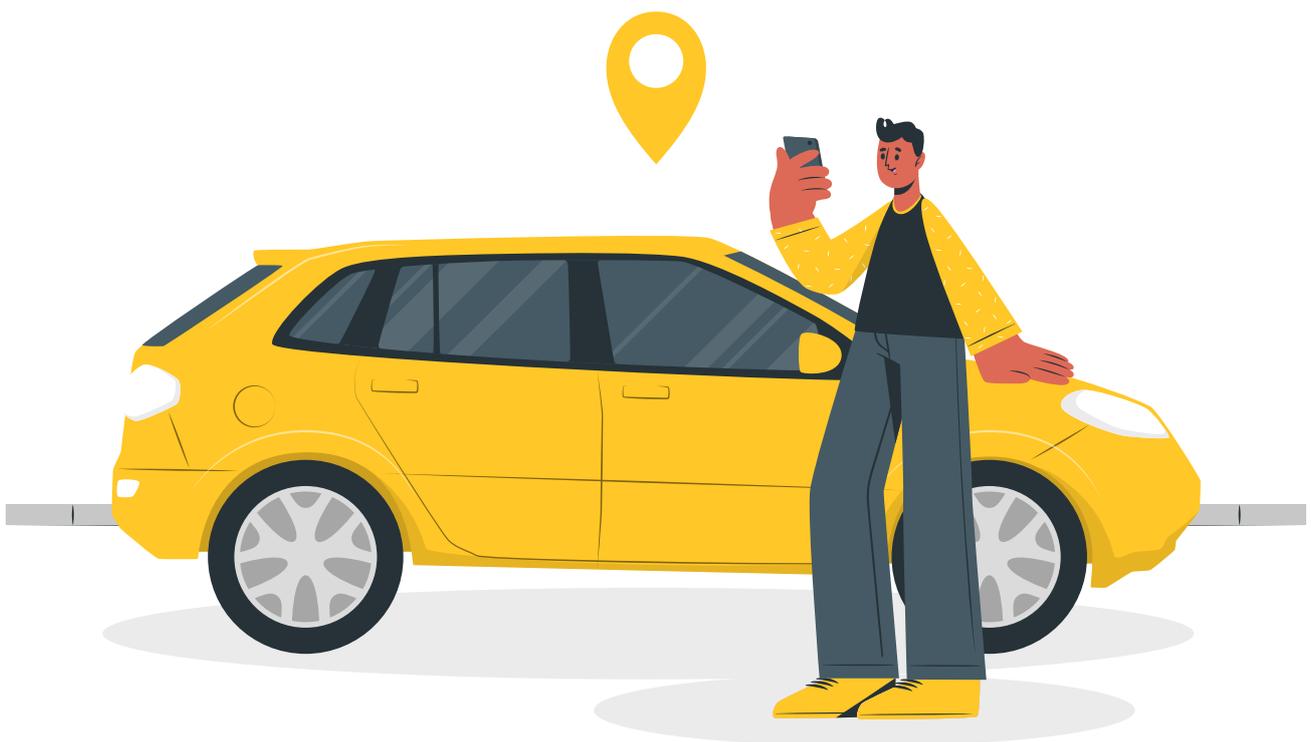
Annual Report

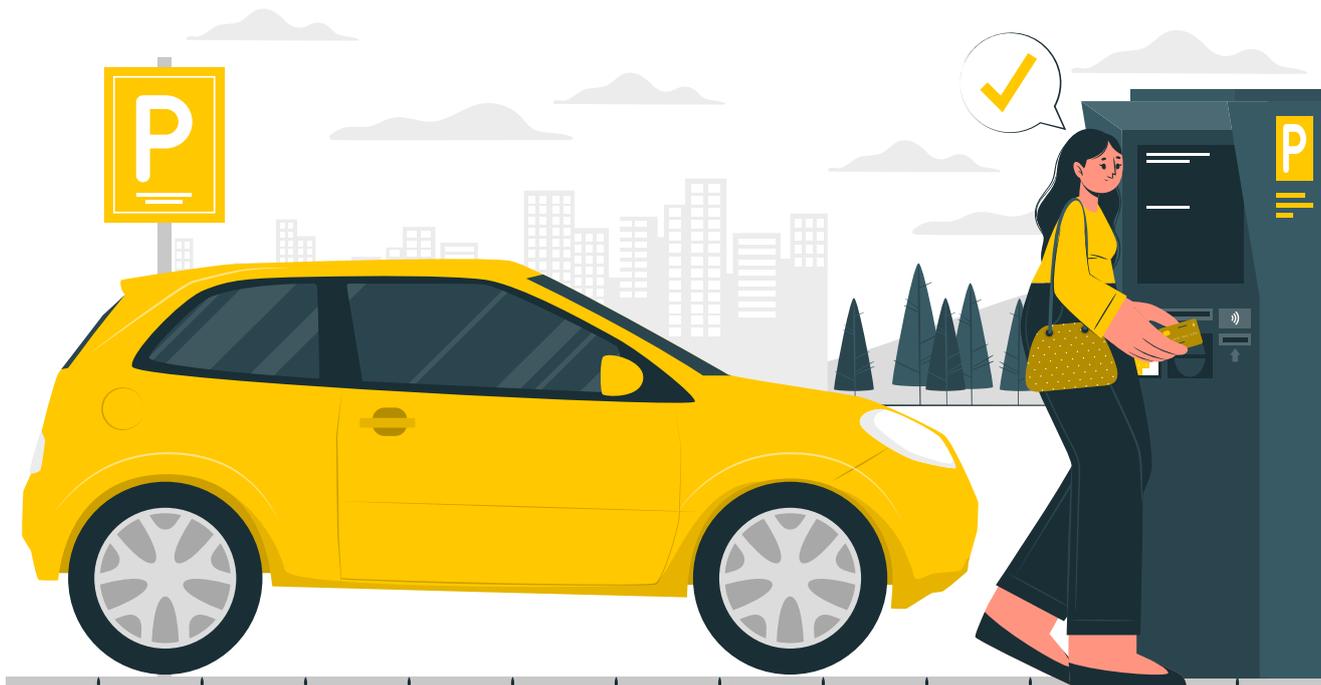
on Eastleigh Borough Council Parking Enforcement Operations **2020-2021**



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Introduction

1. This is the thirteenth Annual Report produced by Eastleigh Borough Council in accordance with the guidance to Local Authorities contained within Chapter 4 of the Department for Transport operational guidance first published in March 2008. The report also takes due regard of the requirements of the Traffic Management Act 2004 and the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984.
2. Eastleigh Borough Council commenced decriminalised parking enforcement under the Road Traffic Act 1991 in October 2004 which gave the Council (through an agency agreement with Hampshire County Council (HCC) powers) to enforce on-street parking regulations as well as off-street car parking where a Penalty Charge Notice (PCN) is issued for a parking contravention.

Background

3. The Council is responsible for the delivery of parking enforcement in support of the Council's Traffic Management Agency responsibilities.
4. In addition, the parking service is also responsible for the administration of the Residents' Parking Schemes, the maintenance of on- and off-street ticket machines, pay on foot systems, and Borough car parks, with close links to the Borough public realm CCTV system.

Scope

5. This document describes the performance data for the Council's enforcement and parking activities from the 1st of April 2020 to the 31st of March 2021.

Parking Enforcement Objectives

6. Parking enforcement is undertaken between 8am to 8pm, 7 days a week. Enforcement is also undertaken outside these hours for any specific parking problems. The enforcement of parking restrictions is undertaken by directly employed Civil Enforcement Officers (CEOs).
7. The Council does not set targets on the issuing of PCNs. The primary aim of parking enforcement is traffic management, and the service seeks to focus on the following key objectives:
 - To reduce traffic congestion resulting from illegally parked vehicles;
 - To contribute towards road safety;
 - Through reducing congestion, to contribute towards improvements in air quality;
 - To assist the timely operation of public transport;
 - To facilitate access and response times for emergency services;
 - To manage kerb space and access to parking in support of residents, businesses, leisure and visitors parking;
 - To ensure improved quality of residents' area, by enforcement of residents' parking schemes; and
 - To regulate and control parking both on-street and off-street.

The Services Provided

Off-Street Car Parks

8. The Council manages 17 off-street parking places of which 8 are pay and display and 2 operate via a pay on foot system. The majority are located within Eastleigh Town Centre and are listed in Appendix A.
9. The parking tariffs adopted by the Council seek to support the management of the highway network, whilst at the same time influencing the economic viability of the town centre and other parish centres. The tariffs conform to the Council's corporate charging policy.
10. The Council has invested over the years in CCTV and improved lighting to help reduce the fear of crime including vehicle crime in a number of town centre car parks. The numbers of vehicle crimes in the town centre car parks are at very low levels.

11. The Council currently has 6 car parks that have been awarded the Parkmark award, which is an initiative of the Association of Chief Police Officers and British Parking Association (BPA). These sites have been vetted by the BPA and each car park has measures in place to create a safe environment for both the motorist and their vehicles.

Residents Parking Scheme

12. There are 11 permit parking areas within the Borough. These have been introduced to ensure that there is a balance between the needs for residents to be able to park near their homes and the needs of other motorists.

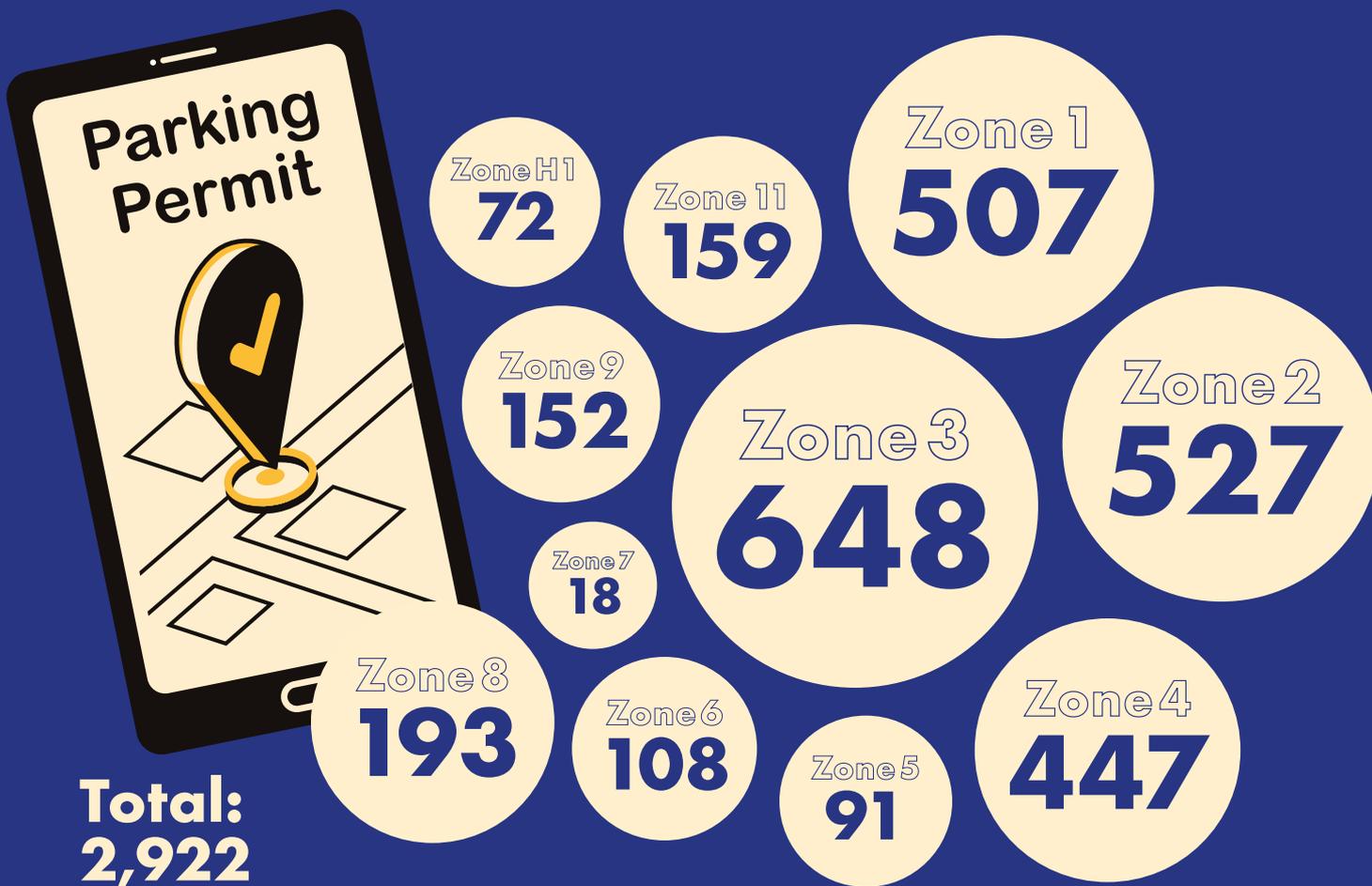
13. There are 4 main types of permits that allow motorists to park in areas/bays where controlled parking schemes apply:

- Residents permits
- Business permits
- Visitors permits
- Professional Carers/Carers permits

Residents Parking Permits

14. The council continues to issue digital permits for residents' use through a virtual permit system. The digital permits are managed via a third-party provider.

15. The total number of digital resident permits issued is as follows:



16. The cost of permits is set out below:

Permit	Charge
1st	£30 to all applicants (free 1st permits* are no longer issued by the council)
2nd	£60.00
3rd	£ 120.00 if agreed (£25 inspection fee charged to ensure the property does not have alternative off-road parking)
Visitors	No Charge
Carers	No Charge
Professional Carers	£60.00
Temporary Visitors	£42.00 for 6 days
1st Business	£60.00
2nd Business	£ 120.00
3rd Business	£ 170.00 if agreed
4th Business	£ 170.00 if agreed

*some residents in certain Zones within Eastleigh had previously been entitled to a 1st resident permit until 31st March 2020.

Due to a revised Agency Agreement with the highway authority, Hampshire County Council, the charges for resident permits must meet the conditions of the Agency Agreement and are subsequently approved by the local area committee with the allocation of 3rd parking permit or three or more Business permits made by parking services subject to certain criteria being met.

Hamble-le-Rice Parking Scheme

17. The current cost for a resident's permit is £100 and for business a permit is £200.
18. A residents' zone covering Hamble House Gardens, Meadow Lane and The Bartletts came into effect on 10th May 2010.

Dispensation and Suspension

19. A parking dispensation allows a commercial vehicle to park on a waiting restriction (yellow line) during restricted hours in circumstances where the vehicle needs to be close to a specific location, for example building/shop fitting work where access is required to load and unload tools or materials.
20. The cost for the issue of a parking dispensation is £15.00 (or £25.00 if required within 7 days).
21. A parking suspension allows a motorist to park for a specific purpose in a pay and display bay or Residents Parking bay during restricted hours. For example, for carrying out works that require the driver to park close to a building to load / unload tools or materials, or for household removals.

School Enforcement

22. The regulations for enforcement of schools at opening and closing times are seen as a key priority to ensure the safe movement of children and adults.
23. Parking services works closely with the Sustainable Transport Team in endeavouring to reduce the number of vehicle movements to and from schools and encouraging other modes of transport through School Travel Plans.
24. This year the council focused more resources on school patrols due to increasing parking problems caused by parent parking and the increasing number of complaints made by residents and the public.

Disabled Parking

25. The Blue Badge scheme provides a national range of parking concessions for disabled people with severe mobility problems.
26. The council has the powers to detain and/or seize Blue Badges if they are out of date or being used incorrectly. Badges that are retained are sent to the issuing authority, for example the Hampshire County Council blue badge unit.
27. The regulations for enforcement of Blue Badge parking bays is a key priority to ensure only Blue Badge holders can park within these bays. All the Town Centre disabled bays are patrolled daily to ensure a high level of compliance.

Traffic Management Act 2004

28. On 31st March 2008, the Government replaced Decriminalised Parking Enforcement (DPE) across the country with Civil Parking Enforcement (CPE), which is carried out under the Traffic Management Act 2004 (TMA).
29. The legislation represented the largest single shift in the way parking enforcement is conducted since the Road Traffic Act 1991. The Government's aim is to provide consistency by creating a single framework for parking regulations across the country. It ensures a fair system is in place and requires Councils to be more transparent and accountable.
30. In line with the legislation, the Council has introduced many changes to the way it deals with appeals and enforces parking regulations, for example:
 - a. Challenges received prior to the issue of a Notice to Owner (NtO) or Enforcement Notice must now be dealt with; prior to TMA, this was optional. However, this practice was already adopted prior to the new legislation.
 - b. A Penalty Charge Notice no longer needs to be placed on a vehicle, or handed to a driver to be legally served, in situations where the Civil Enforcement Officer is prevented from serving the notice to the driver or vehicle.
 - c. Parking Attendants became known as Civil Enforcement Officers (CEOs).
31. Other less obvious changes also took place; the emphasis by Central Government was on the Local Authority's duty to show transparency and fairness. The Council welcomed this approach and has actively looked at how services can be further improved in line with the legislation.

Differential Parking Penalties

32. Differential parking penalties also came into effect on the 31st March 2008 as part of the Traffic Management Act.
33. The Government's aim is to make the system fairer. Higher penalties are issued to motorists who park where it is not generally permitted. For example, on yellow lines, the footway, school "Keep Clear" markings, or in residents' permit or disabled bays without displaying the appropriate permit or badge.
34. The less serious contraventions, which incur the lower charge, include contraventions such as overstaying time paid for in a pay and display bay, or parking outside bay markings.
35. In circumstances where a driver parks in a permit bay and submits evidence in the form of a visitors' permit or voucher valid for the date of the contravention, the Council will accept the evidence as confirmation that the driver was visiting a resident and the lower charge will apply.

Financial Performance 2019/20 & 2020/21

On-Street Income & Expenditure

36. The table listed below gives a breakdown of the income and expenditure for on-street income and expenditure.

	2019/20 Outturn £	2020/21 Outturn £
Employees (IAS 19 Allocation)	0	0
Parking Services	0	0
Property	28,480	26,285
Supplies & Services (includes deferred charges)	30,382	22,749
Admin. Costs	7,316	4,314
Recharges from Service Units/Practice Accounts	290,740	243,588
payment to Agencies	0	0
Asset Rental	10,313	10,313
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	367,231	307,249
Grant	0	(48,079)
Fees & Charges	(294)	0
Licences/Permits	(6,350)	(1,547)
Admission	(252,117)	(44,915)
Season Tickets	(102,478)	(123,547)
Penalty Charge Notices	(148,770)	(89,673)
TOTAL INCOME	(510,009)	(307,761)
TOTAL (SURPLUS) DEFICIT	(142,778)	(512)

Off-Street Income & Expenditure

37. The table listed below gives a breakdown of the income and expenditure for off-street parking (includes pay & display and non-pay & display).

	2019/20 Outturn £	2020/21 Outturn £
Employees	0	11,359
Parking Services	0	0
Property	581,961	550,972
Supplies & Services (includes deferred charges)	36,269	17,251
Admin. Costs	6,665	1,891
Transport & Plant	0	0
Recharges from Service Units/Practice Accounts	86,685	102,329
Payment to Agencies	108,530	103,913
Asset Rental	190,285	251,875
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	1,010,395	1,039,590
Grants		(1,064,694)
Fees & Charges	(193,519)	(154,333)
Admission	(2,119,197)	(660,600)
Permits	(45,651)	(5,867)
Penalty Charge Notices	(55,316)	(21,233)
Misc Income	(2,186)	(547)
Rents	(3,962)	(8,538)
TOTAL INCOME	(2,419,831)	(1,921,812)
Total (SURPLUS) DEFICIT	(1,409,436)	(882,222)

Spending of the Surplus

38. The expenditure of income derived from on-street parking places and PCN income is governed by the Traffic Management Act 2004, Section 88, and the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, Section 55(a) and confirms the specific areas for surplus expenditure as follows:

- Funding the provision of the parking service;
- Meeting all or any part of the cost of the provision of off-street car park maintenance;
- Facilitating the provision of public/passenger transport; and
- Traffic or highway improvements within the Borough.

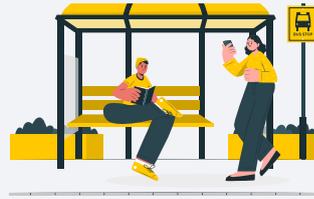
39. The off-street PCN income of £21,233 contributes to the following on-going revenue costs that are funded by the Council:



Transport Policy
£124,684



Agency Traffic Management
£0



Bus Shelters
£18,022



Dial A Ride
£94,841

Total: £237,547

On-Street PCNs



40. The table listed below gives a further breakdown of payments made at the various formal stages, adjudication, cancelled and debt registration.

TMA ON-STREET ANNUAL SUMMARY 2020/21	
Number of Penalty Charge Notices issued for parking contraventions	3,564
Number of Penalty Charge Notices paid within 14 days	1,853
Number of Penalty Charge Notices paid at full charge	268
Number of Penalty Charge Notices unpaid	1,050
Total number of Penalty Charge Notices of debt registrations	415

41. The number of on-street PCNs issued against the previous year reduced. Although enforcement resources have been stable, the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic has impacted enforcement significantly with some concessions given to motorists, certain contraventions not enforced for periods of time and parking charges suspended 6 April 2020 – 15 June 2020.

Off-Street PCN's



42. The number of PCNs has decreased significantly and this is mainly due to the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic, including concessions given to motorists and parking charges suspended 6 April 2020 – 15 June 2020.
43. The table listed below gives a further breakdown of payments made at the various formal stages.

TMA OFF-STREET ANNUAL SUMMARY 2020/21	
Number of Penalty Charge Notices issued for parking contraventions	1085
Number of Penalty Charge Notices paid within 14 days	543
Number of Penalty Charge Notices paid at full charge	73
Number of Penalty Charge Notices unpaid	403
Total number of Penalty Charge Notices of debt registrations	82

Challenges and Representations Received

44. Where a parking contravention occurs, it is the "owner/registered keeper" of the vehicle who is legally obliged to pay the penalty charge. The owner means the person by whom the vehicle is kept, which in the case of a vehicle registered under the Vehicle Excise and Registration Act 1994 (c22) is presumed to be the person in whose name the vehicle is registered at the DVLA. It is therefore essential that any changes of vehicle ownership are immediately notified to the DVLA.
45. The only exception to this is where the vehicle was hired from a firm under a hiring agreement and the person hiring it had signed a statement of liability in respect of any penalty charge notice served in respect of the vehicle during the period of the agreement.

46. Vehicle owners may dispute the issuing of a PCN at three stages:

01. They can make an informal challenge or representation before the Council issues a Notice to Owner (NtO). As a challenge at this stage will be made by the person who has received the PCN, it may be that the person submitting the challenge was the driver of the vehicle, rather than the vehicle owner.
02. Once an NtO has been served, they can make a formal representation against the NtO. This can still be lodged if an informal challenge has previously been made and rejected. The legislation sets out specific grounds on which formal representation against an NtO may be made and are specified on the notice. Representations may also be made on the basis that, in the particular circumstances of the case, there are compelling reasons for the cancellation of the PCN.
03. If the formal representation is rejected, the Council will issue a Notice of Rejection and details how to appeal to the Traffic Penalty Tribunal. The appellant has the right to appeal within 28 days of the issue of the Notice of Rejection to an adjudicator of the Traffic Penalty Tribunal. The adjudicators have a judicial position. They are appointed with the agreement of the Lord Chancellor and they are wholly independent. Their decisions are final (subject to their own power to review a decision) and they have the power to award costs against either party. No further challenges can be made other than a point of law through an application to the High Court for a Judicial Review. Appellants may choose to appear before the adjudicator in person, opt for a telephone hearing or via a postal hearing where written evidence is supplied by both parties.

47. The details of the adjudication services and of the appeal process can be found on their website www.trafficpenaltytribunal.gov.uk

Policies for the Handling of Appeals

48. Considering challenges, representations and defence of appeals is a legal process. It is necessary for the Council to keep a full and accurate record of all challenges. For this reason, the Council insists that all representations are made in writing (by letter, email or by completing one of its appeal forms either on line or at Eastleigh House). The Council has the discretion to cancel a PCN at any point in the appeals process.
49. The Council's cancellation and mitigation policies against which challenges, representations or appeals are considered can be found on the Council's website eastleigh.gov.uk
50. The Council does not immobilise or remove vehicles for parking contraventions.

Appeals to Traffic Penalty Tribunal

51. During 2020/21 a total of 2 appeals were made to the Adjudication Services. During this period the Council chose not to contest 2 appeals. This was due to new information being provided by the appellant, for example information on the keeper of the vehicle or supporting documentary evidence to confirm loading.

Improvements and service alterations within the Parking Service

52. The details are as follows:

- Initial work underway to install a new height barrier in Hedge End railway station car park along with access protection equipment
- Dutton Lane car park expanded to enable more permit holders to park
- New external & internal doors fitted into the Mitchell Road MSCP, alongside improvements to lighting, security locks for toilet doors and repairs to roof materials on stairwells to stop flooding
- Season ticket parking upgraded from paper permits to digital permits, via RingGo, at the Itchen Valley Country Park

Robert Saunders

Parking & CCTV Manager

Neighbourhood Services

APPENDIX A

Car Park Name	Location	Car Park Type	Control Type	Manufacturer	Gritting Priority	RingGo	Height Restriction	Total Spaces	Car Spaces
FREE CAR PARKS									
Bursledon Station	Bursledon	Surface	Free				Yes	60	60
Chandlers Ford Station	Chandlers Ford	Surface	Free		2			17	16
Mortimer Road	Botley (Hants)	Surface	Free		2		Yes	63	61
New Road	Netley	Surface	Free		2		2.05m	29	29
New Road Social Club	Netley	Surface	Free		2			24	24
Lowford car park	Lowford	Surface	free					42	38
Sub Totals-Free Car Parks								235	228
PAY CAR PARKS (CHARGEABLE)									
Bishopstoke Road Playing Fields	Eastleigh	Surface	P&D	Cale Briparc	1	4900		79	76
Dutton lane car park	Eastleigh	Surface	Permit only	Permit only	1	N\A		152	152
Hamble Square	Hamble	Surface	P&D	Cale Briparc	1	4901		65	61
Hanns Way	Eastleigh	Surface	P&D	Cale Briparc	1	4902		18	12
Hedge End Station	Hedge End	Surface	P&D	Cale Briparc	2	4903	2.10m	148	138
Leigh Road	Eastleigh	Surface	P&D	Cale Briparc	1	4904		36	30
M.S.C.P.	Eastleigh	Multistorey	PoF	Designa	3		2.00m	485	463
Romsey Road	Eastleigh	Surface	P&D	Cale Briparc	1	4906		48	43
Southampton Road	Eastleigh	Surface	P&D	Cale Briparc	1	4907	1.98m	58	40
Swan Shopping Centre	Eastleigh	Roof	PoF	Designa	n.o.r.		2.10m	690	643
Wells Place	Eastleigh	Surface	P&D	Cale Briparc		4909	2.10m	141	129
Sub Totals-Pay Car Parks								1920	1787
TOTALS FOR EBC CAR PARKS								2155	2015
PARISH CAR PARKS									
Hamble Parish Council									
Hamble Foreshore	Hamble	Surface	P&D	Cale Briparc	n/a			65	60
Sub Total-Parish Car Parks								65	60
TOTALS FOR ALL CAR PARKS								2220	2075