

# CAR PARKING – FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

## Why do we have to pay for car parking?

The management of car parking is essential to ensure a safe and accessible environment for all campus users. The Parking Permit system was introduced in September 2000 in response to ever increasing congestion and associated hazards caused by inappropriate and dangerous parking on campus.

The charges fund the costs associated with the service both in terms of capital investment in equipment, and annual running costs for maintenance and staff resource. The majority of people who choose to drive to their place of work have to pay for parking and the University's action is no different. Core funds cannot be used to subsidise this activity.

## How have the 2016-17 parking charges been assessed and decided upon?

Charges and enforcement measures are reviewed annually. There are no increases to Pay as you go charges (£2/day), Visitor charges (£1-£5/day) or Private Parking Notice (PPN) fees (£60/30) for 2016-17. However, parking permit charges have been increased to (£200).

## What are the current 'green travel' initiatives?

### Car Sharing

The University remains committed to the philosophy of car sharing and would encourage staff and students to car share whenever possible, to reduce both carbon emissions and motoring costs.

New for 2016-17, is the introduction of 20 dedicated parking spaces located in close proximity to main building entrances and for use only by those staff and students who car share. Cars wishing to park in these spaces within the advertised restricted times, need to be carrying 2 or more people **and** to display 2 or more valid parking permits (Standard/Pay-as-you-go). These permits should be displayed clearly on the dashboard/windscreen of the relevant vehicle occupying a dedicated car share space. Outwith the advertised time restrictions, other car park users are entitled to use these spaces provided they display either a valid parking permit or pay and display ticket.

The University's own web-based [Liftshare](#) scheme which is in turn part of a national scheme, can help put drivers in touch with those travelling from the same location.

### Nextbike

The University joined an initiative in 2014 involving Nextbike, Transport Scotland, Forth Environment Link and Stirling Cycle Hub, to provide a bike rental scheme in Stirling. The University additionally funds a corporate subscription with Nextbike that allows all staff and students free use of the scheme and free rental of a bike for the first 1 hour of every ride. A small charge (50p/ ½ hour) will apply for bike rentals longer than one hour. After initial registration, staff and students are able to swipe their staff or student identity card at any of the Stirling or University hubs to rent a bike.

This subscription is being funded from the revenue raised from car parking charges as part of the University's commitment to 'green travel' initiatives.

Further details on this scheme and cycling in general are available at:

<http://www.stir.ac.uk/about/getting-here/>

## NEXT BIKE CYCLE HUB LOCATIONS

<b>On Campus:</b>
Alexander Court
Willow Court
Cottrell – Upper Car Park
<b>Off-Campus:</b>
Stirling Railway Station
Port Street Stirling
Murray Place Stirling
The Back Walk, Stirling
Castle Business Park
Raploch Community Campus
Forth Valley College
NHS Forth Valley Community Hospital

### What option do I have other than taking my car?

Alternatives to travelling to/from campus by single occupancy car journey can be found by logging on to the Getting Here section of the University's web pages: <http://www.stir.ac.uk/about/getting-here/>

### What does the University do with the money raised from car parking charges?

The revenue from car parking charges is used to cover the cost of administering parking permit applications and payments, systems maintenance and enforcement of the University's Traffic & Parking Regulations. Apart from essential roads and car park maintenance, any surplus generated is reinvested in 'green travel' initiatives such as the Nextbike and Liftshare schemes, as well as the provision of additional bike shelters and lockers.

### Will I be guaranteed a parking place now that parking charges have increased?

No. Provision of any valid permit simply entitles car park users to search for a space and there is no guarantee of locating a parking space, particularly in peak hours and in the most central car parks. Whilst there are approximately 1650 parking spaces on campus, users may have to consider utilising some of the more remote car parks, particularly at peak times or alternatively, park off-campus.

### Why doesn't the University build more car parking spaces?

The University campus is said to be one of the most beautiful in Europe and its development is very carefully considered to ensure that it remains this way. It is also a designated Historic Garden and Designed Landscape, which aims to ensure that its landscape setting is protected. Further, all planning authorities are reluctant to allow the creation of additional parking and expect organisations to limit demand by offering alternative means of travel.

While a new car park was recently constructed on the south side of the campus, this had to meet strict planning requirements which took account of the loss of existing car parking space, as a result of the construction of the new INTO Building

### What will happen if I don't display a valid permit or a pay and display ticket or otherwise breach the University's Traffic & Parking Regulations?

Vehicles that do not have a permit and/or have not paid and displayed, or have otherwise breached the University's Traffic & Parking Regulations, will be issued with a PPN, requiring a payment of £60 to be made to the University. This will be reduced to £30 if paid within 14 days of the date of the notice. Failure to pay a PPN within 28 days may result in disciplinary action and/or formal debt collection procedures.

## STAFF AND STUDENTS

### PERMITS

#### What are the different permit options now available?

There are three general categories of Permit available and an application can be made for one of the following:

- Standard Permit (allows eligible students and staff parking of a vehicle within designated parking spaces on campus during the Charging Period/Charging Hours)
- Resident Permit (allows eligible students who live on Campus to park only adjacent to the Residences)
- Pay as you go Permit (must be used in conjunction with a Pay and Display Ticket and allows eligible students and staff parking of a vehicle within the designated parking spaces on campus during the Charging Period/Charging Hours)

#### How much will my permit cost?

A standard full year permit for academic year 2016/17 costs £200.

#### I work/study part-time; will I have to pay for a full permit?

No. Part-time permits for staff working up to 0.6% FTE will be made available at a cost of £100.

Alternatively, part-time staff and students have the option of a Pay as you go Permit. Pay as you go Permits are issued free of charge and applied for in the same way as Standard Permits. They are used in conjunction with a Pay and Display ticket purchased in one of the car parks. Staff and students with a Pay as you go Permit pay a flat rate of £2 to park all day.

Students also have the option to apply for a half year permit at a cost of £100.

#### How can I pay for my permit?

- **Standard Permit (Staff)** – Either one lump sum payment or 12 monthly instalments direct from salary. Payment can also be made by cheque (made payable to University of Stirling), cash **or** credit/debit card at the Car Parking Office, on-line or by phone. Where payment is received in full by 30 September, a £5 discount will apply.
- **Standard Permit/Half-Year Permit (Student)** – Either cheque (made payable to University of Stirling), cash or by credit/debit card at the Car Parking Office, on-line or by phone. For Standard Permit applications only, where payment is received in full by 30 September, a £5 discount will apply.
- **Pay as you go permits are FREE** upon application.

## **How do I apply for a 'Standard' or 'Pay as you go' permit?**

Permits are obtained by applying on-line via the University Portal or where this is not possible, by obtaining a paper-based application form, available from the Car Parking Administration office or University Main Receptions.

## **PAY AND DISPLAY FOR VISITORS**

### **How much will it cost to Pay and Display?**

The P&D rates for 2016-17 are as follows:

- Up to 1 hour - £1.00
- 1-3 hours - £2.00
- 3-5 hours - £3.00
- 5+ hours - £5.00

### **How will I pay at the Pay & Display machines?**

All Pay & Display machines will accept cash (but please note, no change can be provided). Some machines will also accept debit/credit card payments.

### **During what hours will Pay and Display be operational?**

Monday to Friday, 9am-5pm all year round excluding Christmas & New Year's Day.

### **What if I get held up and my Pay and Display ticket runs out?**

The staff who issue parking notices will exercise some discretion. However, it is the responsibility of the individual to ensure that they pay the relevant charge for the duration of their parking visit.

### **Will visitors such as training personnel, external examiners and visiting academics be required to pay for parking?**

Yes. It will be up to individual departments to refund any car parking charges to the relevant visitors where applicable.

### **Will I have to pay for parking when I come to events at the University?**

If you come to an event that takes place during normal office hours (9am to 5pm, Monday to Friday), you will be required to pay. No parking charges apply at weekends or outwith the above times.

### **Will patients at Airthrey Park Medical Centre still be able to park at the medical centre carpark free-of-charge?**

Yes. Patients will be able to obtain a token from the Reception in the Medical Centre for the Pay & Display machine within this designated car park, which will allow them to park for the duration of their appointment.