

## East Herts Council Annual Parking Report 2024-2025

East Herts Council introduced a new Parking Strategy for 2024/2025 with major policy changes focused on achieving environmental goals, standardising charges, and generating income to support services.

### **The Strategy is guided by three key objectives:**

- 1. Support the take-up of more environmentally friendly vehicles and sustainable alternatives to driving;**
- 2. Making changes to parking to make it fairer, easier, and more consistent across East Herts;**
- 3. Adopting a more considerate approach to managing parking services throughout East Herts.**

To achieve these objectives, **a set of 22 actions were developed** which are to be explored by East Herts in the short, medium, and long term.

### **Key changes and proposals include:**

- **Increased charges:** Car parking fees increased to optimise income and cover operational costs.
- **Weekend charging:** New weekend charges proposed in the two rural car parks: Bell Street, (Sawbridgeworth) and Bowling Green Lane, (Buntingford), in line with weekday operational hours.
- **Consistency:** A major aim was to create a simpler, more consistent car park estate charging structure across the district.

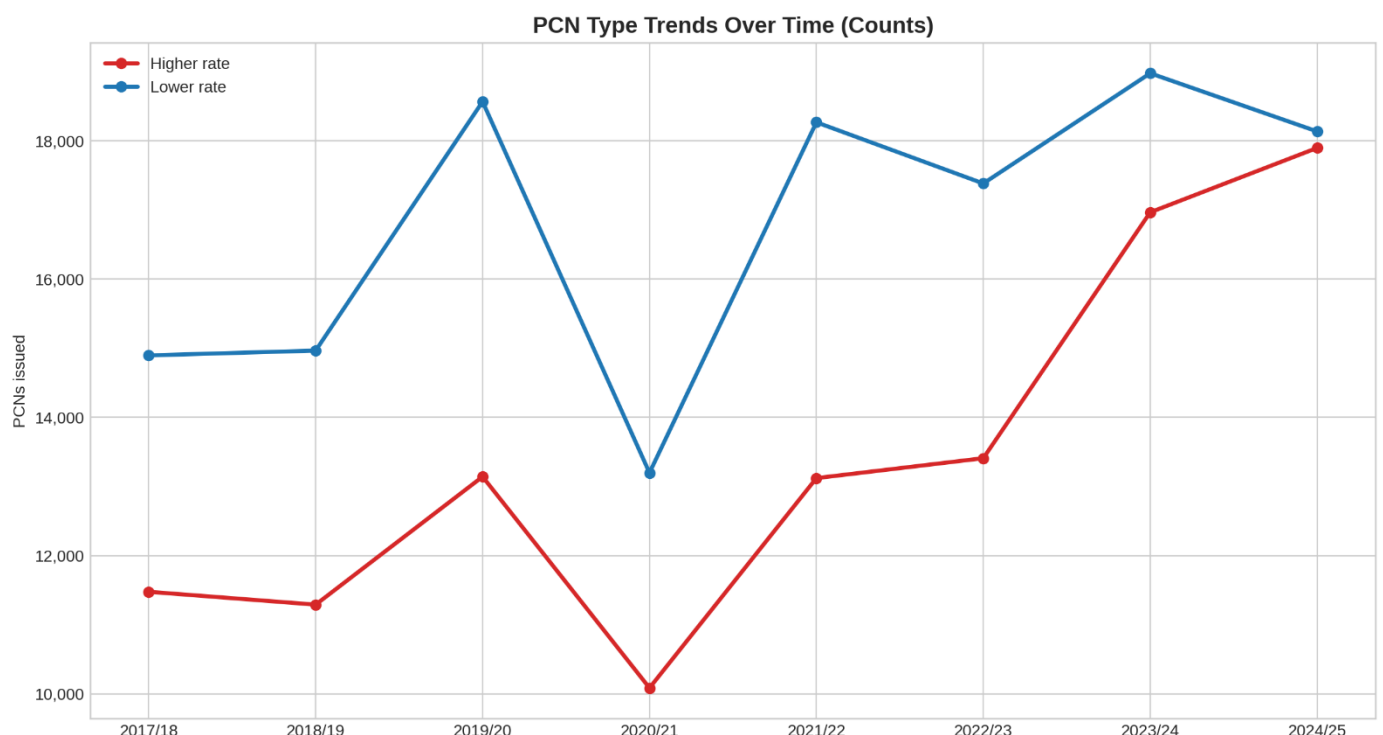
### **Policy and Operational Changes:**

- **Environmental focus:** The strategy aims to discourage non-essential car journeys and promote sustainable transport in response to the climate emergency.
- **Emissions-based pricing:** The council will explore charging different Resident Permit Zone permit prices based on vehicle emissions, including discounts for electric vehicles (EVs) and a potential diesel surcharge.
- **Blue Badge holder limits:** A 3-hour limit on free parking for Blue Badge holders in all car parks was proposed via public consultation to encourage turnover.

- **Resident Permit Zones (RPZs):** The criteria for establishing new RPZs was changed, reducing the required non-resident parking threshold from 40% to 10%, making it easier for residents experiencing non-resident parking pressures to apply for a permit zone.
- **Digitalisation:** The use of paper-based RPZ permits will be phased out in favour of a virtual permit system, with Civil Enforcement Officers applying vehicle registration checks on their Hand-Held Computers.
- **Infrastructure:** The policy supports expanding EV charging infrastructure in car parks.

## The number of Penalty Charge Notices Issued and Outcomes

East Herts	Total PCNs Issued	Higher rate	Lower rate	Total Paid	Paid at discount	Challenged or appealed	Cancelled after challenge or appeal
17-18	26371	11476	14895	19524	15376	5956	3746
18-19	26255	11290	14965	19429	14965	6290	4098
19-20	31707	13141	18566	21751	18672	9012	7393
20-21	23282	10085	13197	15961	12972	6570	5648
21-22	31438	13120	18267	22213	17657	7983	4948
22-23	30790	13408	17382	22707	17557	7613	5305
23-24	35941	16965	18976	26621	20874	8528	5806
24-25	36031	17896	18135	25996	20681	7896	5709

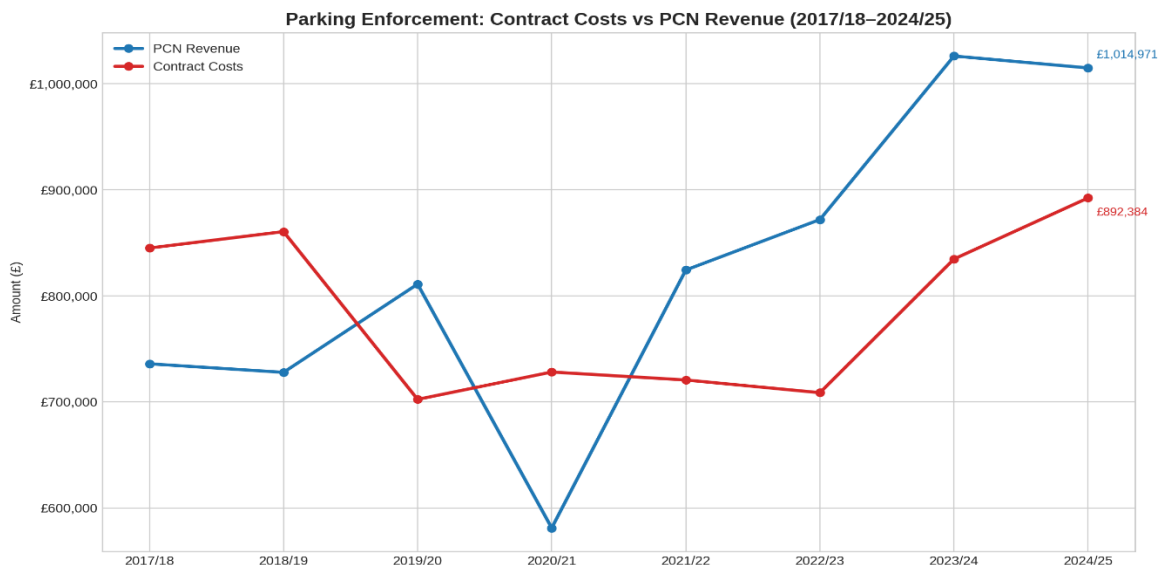


## The Percentage of Penalty Charge Notices issued by Location

Financial Year	On-Street PCNs	Off-Street PCNs
2017/18	54%	46%
2018/19	55%	45%
2019/20	48%	52%
2020/21	50%	50%
2021/22	44%	55%
2022/23	48%	52%
2023/24	53%	47%
2024/25	56%	44%

The parking enforcement contract costs compared to annual income received from Penalty Charge Notices. This excludes items such as Parking Service staff costs / signs & lines maintenance. The data table and graph are shown below

Financial Year	Contract Costs	PCN Revenue	Variance
2017/18	£845,104	£735,923	- £109,181
2018/19	£860,600	£727,857	- £132,743
2019/20	£702,369	£811,084	£108,715
2020/21	£728,175	£581,076	- £147,099
2021/22	£720,655	£824,376	£103,721
2022/23	£708,681	£871,975	£163,294
2023/24	£834,760	£1,026,205	£191,445
2024/25	£892,384	£1,014,971	£122,587



## FINANCIAL STATEMENT

### Total Income and (Expenditure) on Parking Account kept under Section 55 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 (RTRA 1984)

2024 / 2025 Financial Year	
<b>Total Income</b>	£1,651,054.66
<b>Total Expenditure</b>	-£1,404,473.53
<b>Net Position</b>	£246,581.13
<b>Breakdown of Income by Source</b>	
<b>PCN</b>	£1,014,970.54
<b>Residents Parking Schemes</b>	£190,064.57
<b>Section 106</b>	£47,308.00
<b>Contributions from other Authorities</b>	£390,055.35
<b>Dispensations</b>	£8,421.00
<b>Misc. Income</b>	£235.20
<b>Total Income</b>	£1,651,054.66
<b>Annual &amp; Cumulative Surplus</b>	
<b>To 31/03/2024</b>	-£3,824,338.55
<b>2024/25</b>	£246,581.13
<b>Cumulative Deficit</b>	-£3,577,757.42