

Statutory Consultation **Report**

To present the objections received during statutory consultation for consideration and decision.

Decision Maker	Graham Cox Director Environment and Property
Report Author	Paul Harrison Network and Enforcement Manager

Report Summary

This report provides a summary of the statutory consultation and the officer decision to consider any objections received during statutory consultation.

In recent years there has been a decline in the car share permit scheme resulting in an underuse of the car share permit only parking spaces in Central Milton Keynes.

On 26th November 2024, it was decided to remove the Car Share permit scheme from Central Milton Keynes and convert the 260 car share permit only parking spaces to standard or premium tariff parking.

The Council has 300 on-street free and limited waiting parking spaces in Central Milton Keynes, which attract congestion on the network, whilst motorists wait for spaces to become available. This also causes engines to idle, impacting on the environment and air quality.

Free parking undermines the Council's initiative to promote alternative modes of transport by making it easy for motorists to come to Central Milton Keynes through the provision of free parking.

On 21st March 2025 it was decided to convert 300 on-street free and limited waiting parking spaces in Central Milton Keynes to Standard and Premium tariff parking.

On 3rd April 2025, the Council served notice on the proposal to make two traffic regulation Orders.

The general effect of the proposed Orders is:

- to remove all existing car share parking places in Central Milton Keynes and replace with standard tariff and premium tariff parking places.
- to remove all existing free and limited waiting parking places in Central Milton Keynes and replace with standard tariff and premium tariff parking places.

Statutory consultation concluded on 24th April 2025.

Proposed Traffic Regulation Orders

- 1) Milton Keynes City Council (The Council of the Borough of Milton Keynes) (Central Milton Keynes) (On-Street Standard Tariff Parking Places) Order 2020) Variation Order 2025
- 2) Milton Keynes City Council (The Council of the Borough of Milton Keynes) (Central Milton Keynes) (On-Street Standard Tariff Parking Places) Order 2020) Variation Order 2025

Statutory Consultation

On 3rd April 2025, the Council served the notice of proposal which initiated 21-days of statutory consultation in accordance with the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 and Sections 6 and 7 of The Local Authorities' Traffic Orders (Procedure) (England and Wales) Regulations 1996.

The notice of proposal was served in the local newspaper **CitizenMK**.

The notice of proposal was served on the Council's website [Proposed alterations to parking restrictions in Central Milton Keynes \(TRO-420\) | Milton Keynes City Council](#).

The notice of proposal was served (by email) to the following statutory consultees:

- Chief of Police (Thames Valley Police)
- British Motorcycle Federation
- South Central Ambulance Service
- Bucks Fire and Rescue Service
- Road Haulage Association
- Freight Transport Association
- Cycling UK
- British Motorcycle Federation
- Milton Keynes Parks Trust
- Councillor Moriah Priestly (Ward Councillor for Central Milton Keynes)
- Councillor Martin Petchey (Ward Councillor for Central Milton Keynes)
- Councillor Darron Kendrick (Ward Councillor for Central Milton Keynes)
- Central Milton Keynes Parish Council

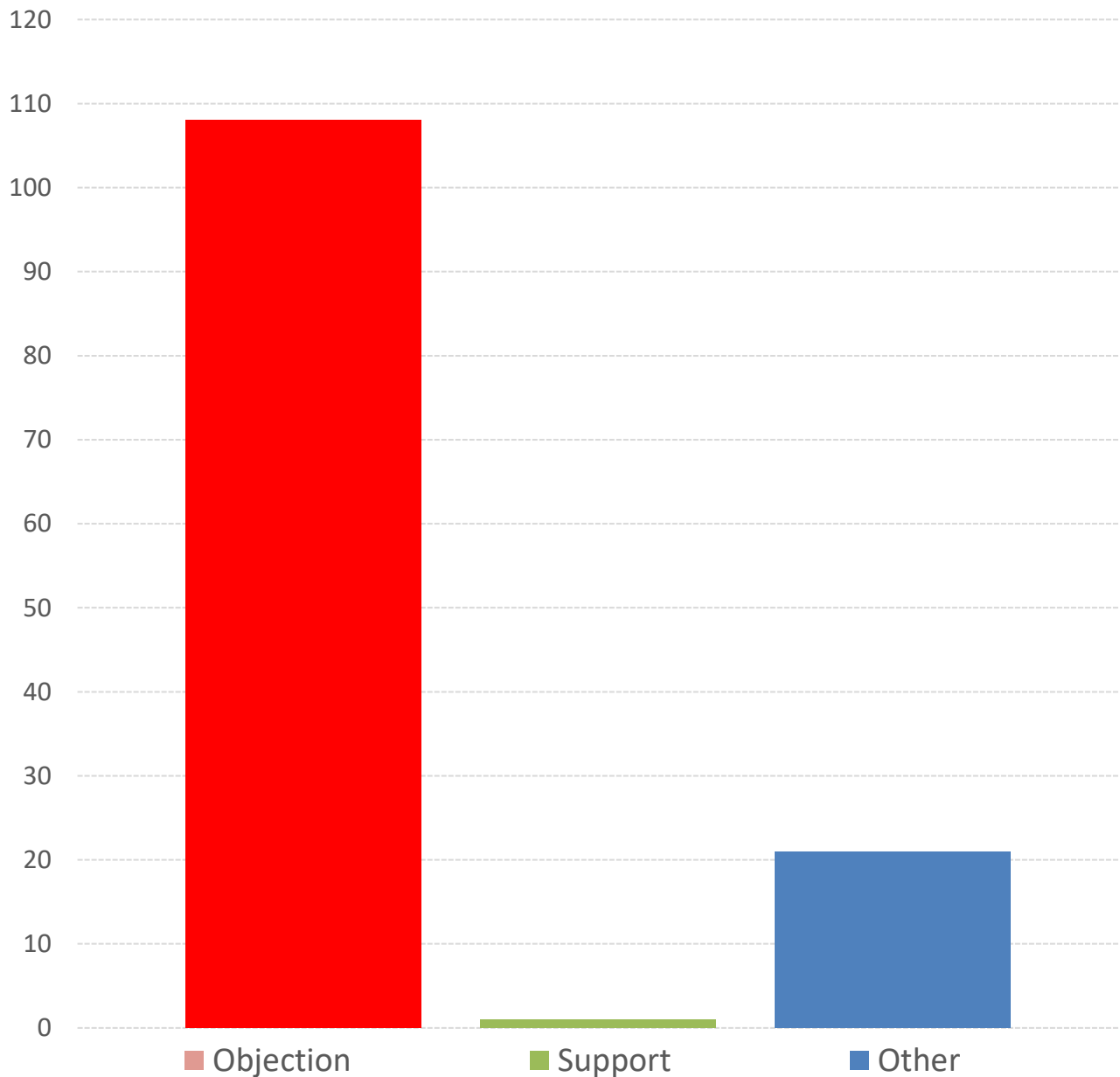
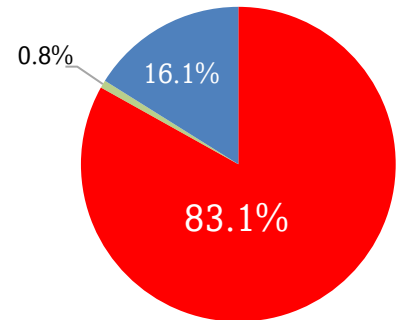
Response Received

During the statutory consultation period the Council received **130** representations (as shown in Annex A to this report).

108 **Objections**

1 **In favour**

21 **Other**



Objections (In summary)

- Removing the free parking could displace parking into neighbouring estates where it is free.
- Removing the free parking could result in people finding other places to shop where parking is free or shop online.
- This puts a burden on people with low income.
- CMK was built around free parking.
- Local bus services are not adequate and therefore do not provide a suitable alternative.
- Retail parks offer free parking and therefore will attract the CMK Shopping centre customers.
- Parking is already too expensive in CMK.
- This is another opportunity for the Council to make money.
- Removing the car share permit will discourage the use of more sustainable and environmentally friendly transport options, contradicting wider goals of reducing carbon emissions and traffic congestion.

Formal Consideration

The Assistant Director Highways and Transport must now now consider the objections received during statutory consultation and make a decision whether to uphold any of the objections.

Options

After carefully considering all the objections received during statutory consultation, the Decision Maker must not decide on the following options:

Option 1	Do not uphold the objections and implement the changes as proposed on 3rd April 2025.
Option 2	Uphold the objections and not implement the changes as proposed on 3rd April 2025.
Option 3	Uphold the objections relating to part of the proposal and only implement the changes where the objections have not been upheld.
Option 4	Amend the proposals and re-consult.

Officer Response

It is the Officers opinion that the Councils reasons for making the proposed changes outweigh the reasons of the objections received.

The reasons for making the proposed changes not only align with the executive decision made on 26th November 2024, to discontinue the Car Share Permit, which has now been implemented, but to better align the cost of parking to the cost of the bus travel. The changes will also influence parking space turnover and regulate the supply and demand of parking spaces which will help improve congestion and local air quality in Central Milton Keynes.

Additionally, the Council is trying to rationalise its parking options to ensure that wider aims such as behavioural change of motorists (balancing up the public transportation option) or longer dwell times to support local businesses are also factors in these changes.

Decision

Accordingly, under my delegated powers, I have duly considered the objections received during statutory consultation and make the following decisions:

- 1) To not uphold the objections.
- 2) To proceed with the implementation of the alterations of the parking arrangements in Central Milton Keynes as proposed on 3rd April 2025.

Delegated Decision Maker:

Signed:

Assistant Director Highways and Transport

Date: 25th May 2025

List of annexes

Annex A – Representations received during Statutory Consultation

List of background papers

Executive Decision on 26th November 2024

Officer Decision on 21st March 2025

The Notice of Proposal, Proposed Traffic Regulation Orders and Statement of Reasons

Annex A

Representations received during Statutory Consultation

	Representative	Received	Response (in full)
(1)	Member of the public Objection	3rd April 2025	I wish to object to this change to parking. If you go to CMK on any weekday most of the paid for spaces are empty because free parking, even if time limited, is obviously preferred. If this option for free parking is removed it is likely to push car parking out onto nearby estates and cause problems for the residents. Time limited parking is good because it facilitates the parking for those who want to shop, go to the market etc. & support our shops etc., for an hour or two, rather than work related parking. Parking fees have gone up and with coin operated machines no longer available it makes parking difficult for those of an older generation who will be the ones most affected by these restrictions/charges. As people find other places to shop so as to park for free it will affect the viability of many shops and market stalls. Eventually the shopping centre will fail as rents increase and footfall diminishes. Already we have lost the only Arriva bus that comes through Willen, thus removing the option for using the bus for CMK and forcing us back into our cars and now you want to take away the free parking. Shame on you for targeting the older generation once again
(2)	Member of the public Objection	3rd April 2025	Regarding your recent plans to increase parking costs and remove all free parking. Have you lost your minds? 1) You're alienating poorer and wealthy shoppers by doing this. 2) Times are hard enough for people on a mid to lower income the prices of parking already are too much for some people to happily pay on top of their lunch and shopping budget. Increasing them more and removing free spaces will stop this bracket of earners visiting cmk. 3) cmk is not a prestigious shopping centre. Half of the stores are lower budget which would attract the very people you're putting off with parking charges. 4) for those who spend more and higher end stores. They have a better shopping experience in other shopping centres that have a larger variety of higher end stores. 5) everyone in the middle would spend more time visiting places like Oxford or Bicester village. Not places like discount flannels. And with the new train line opening this year and free parking at Bicester village and park and rode at Oxford. I myself will be spending my money shopping there and elsewhere
(3)	Member of the public Objection	3rd April 2025	MK city was built around free parking for all. You are our caretakers we urge you to bring back free parking, not to sell the promises made to us. We are ashamed. This move will be bad for already struggling retailers, for people who would like to visit their own city centre to socialise for wellbeing and to buy locally. You are also taking away free parking for electric vehicles from those who invested in them because you provided free parking, to help the environment. Also local bus services have been discontinued, cutting residents off from the freedom of travel – especially the elderly and unwell. Taking away free parking is the last straw. INCREASE free parking. What are you doing!? If this is enacted I and my friends and family will be shopping, eating and socialising elsewhere – and I know that others feel the same way. Please turn these plans around to reinstate free parking to help residents as well as the retailers who have set up shop here. Help our city, do not ruin it. MK already has an awful reputation as a dump, do not make it any worse than it is. Please could someone find the original plans and ideologies that once made MK a benchmark for the future of green cities?
(4)	Member of the public Objection	3rd April 2025	I am writing to oppose the proposed removal of free parking in cmk. Our once vibrant shopping centre is now begin looked over in favour of retail parks that offer free parking .. doesn't this tell you something ? This tells me that your greed is stopping people from visiting the centre , I have worked in cmk throughout the 90s and 2000 and have seen its decline and this is particularly

			due to your fees , we should be encouraging people to the area not discouraging them . We should be offering free parking and getting footfall back into the centre not away from the centre . Stop begin greedy.
(5)	Member of the public Objection	3rd April 2025	I strongly oppose the parking rules you are wishing to enforce. The parking situation is already disgustingly expensive and the shops are suffering, as I'm sure people living and working in the area are too. It should all be FREE. Just remember, after all ITS OUR MONEY you're spending. I hope you reconsider and even reverse previous parking restrictions and laws. To boot, parking fines are unreasonably high for when you do go over by a few minutes. Another money making venture farmed out to someone just as greedy.
(6)	Member of the public Objection	3rd April 2025	Having lived in MK since 1984, I can remember the joy of free parking all around the shopping centre and the huge attraction that was for visitors. What a nuisance it has become over the years to seek out the purple bays. My visits to CMK have reduced as a result as the parking costs put me off. I am a retired teacher. I volunteer at MK Gallery and frequently use the free parking in the bays near the theatre and post office. If I now have to pay for three hour parking every time I volunteer it will definitely have a negative impact on me. This will be a cost which will put me off volunteering which is vital to the gallery to ensure it can exist on the goodwill of the many volunteers. Please consider some sort of permit or volunteer badge for people in my position. To conclude, I am against the removal of the last remaining free parking in MK and disagree with this proposal.
(7)	Member of the public Objection	3rd April 2025	I object to the removal of all limited free parking for Central Milton Keynes shopping. Often you just need to pop in to collect something, which takes no more than 20 minutes. Removing this and making people pay will not be practical when it is for only doing things like making a collection. The costs are becoming too high and pushes everyone to now buy online which ruins the high street.
(8)	Member of the public Objection	3rd April 2025	I am writing to express my strong objection to the proposed Traffic Regulation Orders that would remove all free parking and car share bays in Central Milton Keynes (CMK). This proposal would bring significant inconvenience and hardship to many residents and visitors. Removing all free and limited waiting parking spaces will disproportionately affect low-income individuals and families who rely on short-term free parking for essential trips such as medical appointments, school drop-offs, or grocery shopping. Not everyone can afford to pay for parking, especially during the current cost of living crisis. Furthermore, eliminating car share bays will discourage the use of more sustainable and environmentally friendly transport options, contradicting wider goals of reducing carbon emissions and traffic congestion. Local businesses will also suffer. The availability of free and short-stay parking encourages foot traffic and helps smaller shops and cafés compete with out-of-town retail parks. Replacing these spaces with only premium tariff and standard tariff bays risks driving customers away, reducing trade and possibly leading to store closures. I urge the Council to reconsider this proposal and retain at least some free and limited waiting parking spaces, as well as dedicated car share bays, to support equity, sustainability, and local economic vitality. Thank you for taking my views into consideration.
(9)	Member of the public In Favour	3rd April 2025	I agree that car share bays should be repurposed as they are substantially underused. I agree that parking charges should be sufficient to cover the cost of maintaining them, but no more. The current government wants growth, and this policy objective should be an important consideration. Excessive parking charges (more than are required to maintain them) deter visitors to the shopping centre and dampen economic activity. I am therefore opposed to increasing the number of premium spaces and suggest repurposing premium bays to standard
(10)	Member of the public Objection	3rd April 2025	I am writing to oppose the changes to parking to paid parking. This is detrimental to the city centre.

(11)	Member of the public Objection	3rd April 2025	I am writing to formally object to the proposed removal of all free and car share parking spaces in Central Milton Keynes (CMK). I strongly believe that this change will have a negative impact on residents, workers, and visitors, and I urge the Council to reconsider this proposal. Reasons for Objection: 1. Increased Financial Burden on Residents and Workers Many people rely on free parking in CMK for short visits, essential errands, or work-related travel. Removing these spaces will place an unnecessary financial strain on local workers and residents, especially those who cannot afford to pay high parking fees daily. 2. Negative Impact on Local Businesses Free and time-limited parking helps attract visitors and shoppers to CMK. Replacing these with only paid options could discourage people from visiting local shops, restaurants, and services, leading to reduced footfall and potential business closures. 3. Reduced Accessibility and Convenience Free and limited-wait parking options provide accessibility for individuals who may need quick and convenient stops, including parents with young children, elderly individuals, and people with mobility issues. The removal of these spaces could create unnecessary hardship for these groups. 4. Undermining Sustainable Transport Initiatives Car-sharing is an environmentally friendly alternative that helps reduce congestion and pollution. By removing dedicated car share parking, the Council may inadvertently discourage the use of sustainable travel options, contradicting its own environmental goals. 5. Lack of Consideration for Public Opinion Many residents and stakeholders were not adequately consulted about this proposal, and there is strong public opposition. The Council should seek a fair balance between revenue generation and public convenience rather than enforcing a blanket removal of all free and shared spaces. Suggested Alternatives: • Retain a reasonable number of free or time-limited parking spaces for short visits. • Maintain dedicated car-share parking to support sustainable transport options. • Conduct a thorough public consultation and impact assessment before proceeding with any changes. I urge the Council to reconsider this proposal in light of the potential negative consequences. Thank you for taking these concerns into account
(12)	Member of the public Objection	3rd April 2025	I am writing to express my objection to the proposed changes outlined in TRO-420, which seek to remove all free parking and car share bays in Central Milton Keynes (CMK). While I understand the need to optimize parking management, I believe this proposal would disproportionately impact the local community, including families, workers, and those reliant on shared transportation. Free parking and car share bays are critical for many residents and visitors in CMK, providing accessibility and supporting sustainability initiatives. Many people visit CMK for short periods, and without free parking, it will discourage individuals from coming altogether, negatively impacting the shops and businesses in the area. This is not beneficial for the local economy and will reduce footfall for businesses that depend on visitors. Additionally, I suggest that, instead of removing free parking altogether, a more balanced approach could be implemented. For example, offering incentives such as free parking for up to four hours when visitors spend £10 or more in CMK could encourage people to visit the area, support local businesses, and still generate revenue for the council. Furthermore, rather than raising funds by charging for currently free parking spaces, the council could enforce stricter penalties for vehicles parked illegally—such as on double yellow lines, pedestrian pathways, or outside school entrances where they often block the road. Regular enforcement of these rules would not only improve safety and compliance but also provide an additional revenue stream for the council. I urge the council to reconsider the proposal and focus on alternative measures that balance revenue generation with the needs of residents and visitors in CMK. Thank you for considering my views as part of this consultation process
(13)	Member of the public Objection	3rd April 2025	MK city was built around free parking for all. You are our caretakers we urge you to bring back free parking, not to sell the promises made to us. We are ashamed. This move will be bad for already struggling retailers, for people who would like to visit their own city centre to socialise for wellbeing and to buy locally. You are also taking away free parking for electric vehicles from those who invested in them because you provided free parking, to help the environment.

			Also local bus services have been discontinued, cutting residents off from the freedom of travel – especially the elderly and unwell. Taking away free parking is the last straw. INCREASE free parking. What are you doing!? If this is enacted I and my friends and family will be shopping, eating and socialising elsewhere – and I know that others feel the same way. Please turn these plans around to reinstate free parking to help residents as well as the retailers who have set up shop here. Help our city, do not ruin it. MK already has an awful reputation as a dump, do not make it any worse than it is. Please could someone find the original plans and ideologies that once made MK a benchmark for the future of green cities?
(14)	Member of the public Objection	3rd April 2025	I am writing to formally object to the proposed Traffic Regulation Orders listed below, as published in the recent consultation notice: • Milton Keynes City Council (Central Milton Keynes (On-Street Standard Tariff Parking Places) Order 2020) Variation Order 2025 • Milton Keynes City Council (Central Milton Keynes (On-Street Premium Tariff Parking Places) Order 2020) Variation Order 2025 The proposed removal of all existing car share parking places, as well as free and limited waiting parking bays, and their replacement with standard and premium tariff parking spaces, is counterproductive for several reasons: 1. Undermining Sustainable Transport Initiatives The removal of dedicated car share bays directly contradicts environmental and transport policies that encourage shared mobility, reduce congestion, and lower emissions. Car sharing plays a crucial role in reducing private vehicle ownership and promoting sustainable urban transport. Eliminating infrastructure that supports this undermines the Council’s own sustainability objectives. 2. Disproportionate Impact on Low-Income Residents and Visitors Free and limited waiting bays provide critical access for individuals who cannot afford premium or extended paid parking, including those on low incomes, volunteers, carers, and visitors conducting short errands. Replacing all such bays with paid tariff spaces introduces unnecessary financial pressure and limits inclusivity in the city centre. 3. Detrimental to Local Business Local shops and services benefit from short-term, free, or limited waiting bays which enable high turnover of visitors. The shift to entirely paid parking is likely to deter casual footfall, directly impacting small businesses and local commerce. 4. Lack of Justification and Impact Assessment The consultation fails to provide sufficient data or impact assessments to justify the sweeping removal of these parking categories. The absence of transparency in the rationale and anticipated outcomes is concerning and does not provide the public with adequate grounds for informed feedback. This proposed change appears to prioritise revenue generation over community needs, sustainability, and equity. I urge the Council to reconsider this course of action, retain a balanced mix of parking types—including car share, free, and limited waiting bays—and conduct a more thorough impact analysis before proceeding.
(15)	Member of the public Objection	3rd April 2025	I am writing to formally object to the proposed traffic regulation orders for Central Milton Keynes, specifically the changes regarding the removal of car share parking spaces and free/limited waiting parking places, and their replacement with standard and premium tariff parking places. As a regular visitor to Central Milton Keynes for shopping and dining, I am concerned that these changes will discourage people, including myself, from visiting the area. The introduction of additional charges for parking, particularly the premium tariffs, will likely deter customers from frequenting the centre. This may significantly reduce the incentive to spend time in Central Milton Keynes for shopping, dining, or other activities, as the increased cost and reduced convenience of parking will make the area less attractive. The removal of car share parking spaces and free/limited waiting parking areas further limits accessible parking options, especially for those of us who rely on these spaces for convenience and affordability. I believe these changes will have a negative impact on the local economy, social accessibility, and overall convenience for visitors. Due to these concerns, I would be discouraged from visiting Central Milton Keynes for any activities, as the parking situation will become increasingly cumbersome and expensive. I urge the council to reconsider these changes and explore alternative solutions that continue to support both the local economy and the community's ability to access the area easily and affordably.

			Thank you for considering my objection. I hope the council will take into account the broader consequences of these changes on residents, visitors, and local businesses.
(16)	Member of the public Objection	4th April 2025	I am writing to express my strong opposition to the proposed Traffic Regulation Orders (TRO-420) that aim to eliminate all free parking and car share bays in Central Milton Keynes (CMK). I believe that implementing such measures will have detrimental effects on the local community and economy. Milton Keynes has long been recognized for its unique design, which includes ample free parking spaces that encourage residents and visitors to engage with the city center. This accessibility has been instrumental in fostering a vibrant local economy, as it facilitates easy access to shops, restaurants, and other businesses. The removal of free parking is likely to discourage people from visiting CMK, leading to decreased footfall and potential revenue losses for local businesses. The recent closure of the Farmfoods branch in Bletchley's Brunel Centre serves as a pertinent example of the challenges faced by local businesses. The closure was influenced by factors such as the rise of online shopping and increased operational costs. Additionally, the availability of free parking in retail parks has drawn customers away from high streets where parking fees have been introduced or increased. This trend underscores the importance of maintaining free parking to support the viability of businesses in CMK. Furthermore, public transportation within Milton Keynes presents its own set of challenges. Bus services have been reported to experience issues with reliability and coverage, making them less convenient for many residents. The design of the city, with its dispersed layout, often necessitates the use of personal vehicles for efficient mobility. Eliminating free parking without a robust and reliable public transportation alternative in place may inadvertently isolate certain demographics, particularly those who rely on personal vehicles for their daily activities. The proposed removal of car share bays is also concerning. Car sharing schemes contribute to reducing overall vehicle numbers on the road, thereby decreasing traffic congestion and environmental impact. By removing dedicated spaces for car sharing, the council may inadvertently discourage the use of these eco-friendly alternatives, counteracting efforts to promote sustainable transportation within the city. In light of these considerations, I urge the council to reconsider the proposed changes. Maintaining free parking and car share bays in CMK is essential for supporting local businesses, ensuring accessibility for all residents, and promoting sustainable transportation options. Thank you for considering my objections. I hope that the council will take into account the potential negative impacts of these proposals and seek alternative solutions that balance economic vitality with urban development goals.
(17)	Member of the public Other	4th April 2025	I'm a busy mum of two and I also run my business. Our community needs few area of free parking. Allows people like me to run some admins at the city centre, like going to deposit money to the bank or a quick drop at the post office. Also sustains the nearby market if you need quickly grab some fruits and vegetables. If the council decides to start charging for parking, for me won't be practical and efficient time and money wise. A lot of businesses will suffer from it.
(18)	Member of the public Objection	4th April 2025	I strongly opposed removing all free parking and car share from Milton Keynes centre. It will undermine and deter a great many visitors from the town centre and will massively impact many people who need to visit the town centre for basic facilities which have now been phased out in many other locations, such as the post office. This will surely have a detrimental impact on residents.
(19)	Member of the public Objection	4th April 2025	I am emailing in response to the proposal for the removal of free parking in Milton Keynes. MK city was built around free parking for all. You are our caretakers we urge you to bring back free parking, not to sell the promises made to us. We are ashamed. This move will be bad for already struggling retailers, for people who would like to visit their own city centre to socialise for wellbeing and to buy locally. You are also taking away free parking for electric vehicles from those who invested in them because you provided free parking, to help the environment. Also local bus services have been discontinued, cutting residents off from the freedom of travel – especially the elderly and unwell. Taking away free parking is the last straw. INCREASE free parking. If this is enacted I and my friends and family will be shopping, eating and socialising elsewhere – and I know that others feel the same way.

			Please turn these plans around to reinstate free parking to help residents as well as the retailers who have set up shop here. Help our city, do not ruin it. MK already has an awful reputation as a dump, do not make it any worse than it is. Please could someone find the original plans and ideologies that once made MK a benchmark for the future of cities?
(20)	Member of the public Other	4th April 2025	I am writing to express my concerns regarding the proposed changes to replace free car parking spaces with paid parking in the city centre of Milton Keynes. While I understand that changes to parking policies are sometimes necessary for urban development, I would like to raise several important points that I believe should be carefully considered before implementing this change. 1. Need for Free Parking for Short-term Visits Free parking spaces are essential for individuals who need to make short visits to the city centre for brief errands, business, or appointments. For many residents and visitors, the option of free parking for a short period is crucial, as it allows them to quickly attend to necessary tasks without the financial burden of paid parking. Removing free spaces would create a significant inconvenience, particularly for those who may only need to park for a short duration. 2. Impact on the Cost of Living Given the current economic climate, where the cost of living has already reached significant highs, any increase in parking charges is likely to further exacerbate financial pressures on local residents and visitors. This increase in costs could lead to reduced discretionary spending, which may ultimately harm businesses, shops, and services in the city centre. Many local enterprises rely on foot traffic from those who are able to park nearby without additional financial burden. The removal of free parking spaces could deter people from coming into the area, negatively impacting the local economy. 3. Limited Public Transport Options It is important to note that public transport options in Milton Keynes are not as comprehensive as in some other cities. For many residents, particularly those who live in suburban or rural areas surrounding the city, traveling by car is often the only feasible option. In light of this, it is essential that there continues to be a supply of free parking spaces to accommodate those who depend on their vehicles for access to the city centre. Other than that, the recent decision to double the parking fees for standard rate is questionable. While I understand that price adjustments are sometimes necessary to manage demand and contribute to the local budget, I have significant reservations about whether this change will have the desired effect of encouraging more people to visit the city centre. In conclusion, I urge the council to reconsider the decision to replace free parking spaces with paid parking. The need for short-term parking, the financial strain on local people, and the reliance on cars due to limited public transport all suggest that maintaining free parking options is crucial for the well-being of Milton Keynes residents and businesses. The new parking fee structure, which came into effect in March 2025, could potentially discourage local residents and visitors from coming into the city centre, especially given the current cost of living pressures that many are already facing. Increasing the cost of parking could result in fewer people choosing to drive into the city, leading to reduced foot traffic for shops, restaurants, and other local businesses that rely on customers who can park conveniently nearby. I would like to ask whether the council has conducted any analysis to assess the potential impact of this fee increase on local shopping habits and overall city centre traffic. It seems that higher parking fees could create a barrier, particularly for those who need to make quick, short-term trips to the area. In turn, this could have unintended consequences, such as reducing the amount of time people spend in the city centre and diminishing the footfall that businesses depend on. I appreciate that there are various factors involved in managing parking and ensuring adequate revenue for city services. However, I would encourage the council to explore alternatives that balance the need for revenue with the importance of maintaining a vibrant, accessible city centre. Perhaps there could be designated free or low-cost parking zones for short-term visits, which would still support local businesses without causing undue financial strain on visitors

(21)	Member of the public Objection	4th April 2025	I believe the proposals to completely replace the last remaining free parking in centre MK for paid tariffs is absolutely disgraceful. There is one word to sum it up and it's 'greed'. I have lived in MK my whole 35 year life and the City just gets worse and worse with greedy companies and awful development. Our green areas just constantly being replaced by poor quality housing with no gardens. Roads are busier and worse than ever. The Milton Keynes shopping centre was once the heartbeat of the city with so many huge brand names and leisure facilities. When you go there now it's a shell of its former self with loads of units to let. People would come from afar and a big attraction was the free parking we used to have. Most of that has been taken away over the years and as the shops battle with online sales, footfall is very low these days. To constantly charge more and more for people to park is only going to make the situation worse and not bring people in. It's a terrible decision and one that is only made to line pockets. I implore you to reconsider, and actually think about introducing some more free parking to actually attract people to the centre.
(22)	Member of the public Objection	4th April 2025	I object to the changes in the car parking as set in the above. It already costs a high amount of money to park in MK which not everyone can afford. You will drive down attendance to the shopping centre even further by removing the free spaces. The cost to pay and work especially if you are on the minimal wage makes it not worth working. Please don't go ahead with these changes.
(23)	Member of the public Objection	4th April 2025	I am more likely to need to pop in to CMK during the day for half an hour or so for a specific visit to a shop than to spend hours browsing and shopping there. You withdrew 1 hour parking for 50p last year; now you are withdrawing the free spaces. My only option now seems to be to pay the minimum £2 for 2 hours in the purple spaces. I might prefer not to go to CMK and to go elsewhere. I could catch the bus but the service to my part of Willen is only 1 bus per hour.
(24)	Member of the public Objection	4th April 2025	I wish to strongly object to the removal of the few parking spaces in CMK which are currently free for a limited period of time. These are generally outside places that sell food and people use them to pop into the shop for 15 minutes, grab some food and then leave. If they are removed, people will be forced to pay for a minimum of 1 hour in a premium bay or 2 hours in a standard bay. This is an outrageous attempt to exhort even more money for council coffers. Is it not enough that you have put our council tax up by 5%? Raising the minimum time you could park for was also a VERY sneaky way of increasing parking revenue without actually increasing prices. How I laughed when I saw a statement from MK council saying parking prices have not increased since 'X'. That statement should have said "not DIRECTLY increased" because they HAVE actually increased. Leave the few free spaces there are and certainly do not get rid of free parking after 6pm. But nothing surprises me with this money-grabbing Labour council and government. No doubt this 'consultation' is merely lip service and you will do whatever you please, as usual. I await notification that the free spaces are being removed in due course!
(25)	Member of the public Objection	4th April 2025	I am writing to register my strong objection to the proposed discontinuation of car share permits within Milton Keynes. I wish to draw your attention to the substantial economic and community advantages that car sharing provides, particularly in densely populated zones like my own residential and work areas. Car sharing delivers a multitude of benefits, encompassing both individual convenience and broader community welfare. It directly aids in the reduction of traffic congestion and promotes more sustainable travel habits. In a city like Milton Keynes, where parking demands are high, car sharing alleviates pressure on public parking infrastructure, decreases the number of vehicles on roadways, and consequently, diminishes emissions, leading to improved air quality. Personally, as an employee with access to complimentary underground parking, I can vouch for the practical benefits of utilizing a car share service. Despite the availability of free parking within my workplace, my colleagues and I consciously opt for nearby car share spaces. This preference stems from the simplicity and convenience it offers. It liberates us from the often cumbersome and unpredictable task of securing allocated parking. Furthermore, by utilizing car share spaces, we contribute directly to the local economy. Our payment for car share permits generates revenue for the council, supporting the upkeep of the infrastructure that enables car sharing. This is a crucial consideration for Milton Keynes, where the encouragement of local economic activity and environmental sustainability should be paramount.

			The proposed removal of car share permits would not only create undue hardship for individuals like myself, who rely on this service for its efficiency and economic advantages, but it would also compromise the city’s broader goals of reducing private car ownership and fostering sustainable transport. The elimination of car share spaces could result in a surge of single-occupancy vehicles, placing further strain on the already limited parking resources in our locality. Therefore, I earnestly request that you reconsider the decision to abolish car share permits. Car sharing plays a vital role in alleviating congestion, supporting local businesses, and offering residents an accessible and affordable travel option. By removing these permits, the council risks negating these positive outcomes and impeding the adoption of environmentally responsible choices. I trust that you will carefully weigh these factors in your deliberations.
(26)	Member of the public Objection	4th April 2025	I am writing to formally object to the proposed removal of car share permits in Milton Keynes, and to highlight both the economic and positive social impacts that car sharing has in our community, particularly in busy areas such as the one where I reside and work. Car sharing provides multiple benefits for individuals, businesses, and the local economy. It not only helps reduce traffic congestion but also encourages more sustainable transportation choices. With the high demand for parking spaces in urban areas like Milton Keynes, car sharing helps alleviate the burden on public parking facilities and reduces the number of vehicles on the road, leading to fewer emissions and an overall improvement in air quality. As someone who works in an office with free underground parking, I can personally attest to the advantages of using a car share service over parking in the office’s own facilities. While parking in the underground car park would be free for us, my colleagues and I have actively chosen to park in a nearby car share space. This decision is motivated by the ease and convenience it offers. It allows us to avoid the frustration of having to book a parking space, which is often a time-consuming and unreliable process. By using the car share space, we also contribute economically to the local area. We pay for the car share permit, which is a source of revenue for the local council and helps maintain the infrastructure that supports car sharing. This is particularly important in the context of Milton Keynes, where fostering local economic activity and sustainability should be a priority. The proposed removal of car share permits would not only inconvenience people like myself, who rely on this service for its convenience and economic benefits, but it would also undermine the wider objectives of reducing car ownership and promoting sustainable transportation in the city. The loss of car share spaces could lead to an increase in single-occupancy vehicles and put additional pressure on the already limited parking resources in our area. In conclusion, I strongly urge you to reconsider the decision to remove car share permits. Car sharing has a significant positive impact on reducing congestion, supporting local businesses, and providing individuals with an affordable and convenient transportation option. By removing car share permits, the council risks reversing these benefits and making it more difficult for people to make environmentally friendly choices. I hope you will take these factors into account when making your decision.
(27)	Member of the public Objection	4th April 2025	I'm a resident of MK and would like to object to your plans to remove the free parking. There isn't much of it as it stands and the paid spaces have already gone up in price as I'm sure you know. Those spaces are usually hard to find so that tells you the demand for them, all of those people are presumably in the Xscape or city centre spending money, which benefits everyone. Removing the spaces I feel would see a reduction in footfall in both places. I am currently a Cineworld Unlimited card holder, but to be honest, if you introduced these changes, I would probably cancel it as I have absolutely no interest in paying for parking when it's currently free. I also go to other venues when I'm there, such as McDonalds etc, so yet more business would be lost and I can't be the only one. You only have to look at the charges introduced around the stadium recently, they weren't very popular and I bet people have stopped going there so often as well.
(28)	Member of the public Objection	4th April 2025	A local resident’s objection to MKCC proposal to get rid of all free parking and car share bays. MK City was built around free parking for all. You are our caretakers we urge you to bring back free parking and not sell the promises made to us. We are seeing extortionate raises in council tax, how much more money does the council need to grab from loyal MK citizens. We do not see a benefit from these raises MKCC and have not provided us with more for the money we pay, but less. This if fact not opinion. This move will be bad for already struggling retailers, have you taken the time to take note of the huge empty retail spaces in the centre. People will struggle to visit the centre to socialise and buy local. You are also taking away free parking for electric vehicles from those who have invested in them. MKCC have discontinued an invaluable bus service to local communities, for example Woolstone, there is not one single bus route that comes through the village. This service has been taken away and now you wish to charge those citizens even more money just to visit the centre. There is no freedom of choice in travel.

			Do something for the citizens living within MKCC for a change. MKCC are showing themselves to be a corrupt council happy to take a bribe from anyone to ensure planning permission is granted. Take away free parking go back on their word and continue to take from their residents. How about give a little!
(29)	Member of the public Objection	4th April 2025	I have just seen the proposal to remove all free parking in central Milton Keynes. I would like to object to this - specifically the free parking outside the Post Office. I run a small business and post multiple small parcels most days. I often have too many parcels to conveniently drop off at one of the small Post Offices (usually in Tesco or Co-op). Parking at Brinklow delivery office is terrible, and they are only open for very short periods. It is convenient to be able to pull up outside MK central Post Office (usually at 9am when they open), and drop off a few parcels. I am usually only there 5 minutes. Having to pay a parking fee just to do that might make it untenable. I may have to consider alternate couriers, and remove business from our local Post Office. I would urge you to reconsider this - even making it free but reducing the amount of time you can stay there would be fine (e.g. 15 minutes).
(30)	Member of the public Other	4th April 2025	Ridiculous proposal, although I'm sure given this council the decision is already made. Removing the small amount of free spaces will impact on the market traders and the wider shopping centre as potential customers will move elsewhere or online. This, in turn with other rising costs, will only end in units closing jeopardising jobs and leaving unattractive empty rows of units in the market or centre. It would not be quite as bad if the monies raised from parking was spent on repairing the spaces but this is clearly not the case. Having lost our bus service to Willen, I cannot get up to the centre without the car now so would look at visiting other more welcoming towns in the area and have a day out at the same time. Disappointed and angry.
(31)	Member of the public Other	4th April 2025	I recently read (with great annoyance) that you're now planning to remove all free car parking space in Central Milton Keynes. Seriously does your greed know no bounds - Isn't the overpriced parking already lining your pockets? When does it stop, I'm guessing soon we'll be charged to actually enter the shopping centre to wander the empty units that couldn't afford to stay open! Back in the day it used to be free parking all over CMK which encouraged people to frequent the centre, which in turn allowed more shops to flourish given more frequent footfall. All you're doing is stopping more people from being able to afford to 'nip to the shops' because once more their pockets are being drained by a greedy council. At a time when bills are constantly going up, shops are struggling to survive (hello increased tariffs!) and people are really getting hit hard, you decide let's see how much more money you can grab. An absolute disgrace and I hope you reconsider this action if it's actually true. It's awful steps like this that will kill our high streets that are struggling against the online giants.
(32)	Member of the public Objection	4th April 2025	I object to the proposed removal of limited waiting and car share spaces. These spaces are still used and without these spaces it will prevent me from visiting the city centre due to the increased parking charges.
(33)	Member of the public Objection	7th April 2025	Please do NOT end the limited free parking at the shopping centre. It will lead to even fewer shops being able to stay open. So many of my friends already shop at other venues with free parking. I appreciate you need to find more sources of revenue, but this move would backfire.
(34)	Member of the public Objection	7th April 2025	I am completely against the proposed changes to the remaining free parking, free waiting places and limited waiting places in the City. This is another block to the pocket of Milton Keynes residents during the cost of living crisis while there are no reliable alternatives to private car travel in MK. The council has already doubled the standard parking charges this year making it more costly to visit the city centre. In the proposals there are no references to where the additional revenue generated by these changes will be spent. It would be nice to see some regular enforcement of the current parking regulation especially the disabled and electric car charging bays. Please do not inflict yet another stealth tax on the hardworking residents of Milton Keynes.

(35)	Member of the public Other	7th April 2025	In addition to this please add an offer peak tariff of 50p per hour from 18:00-22:00 for all parking across mk.
(36)	Member of the public Objection	7th April 2025	I wish to write comments objecting to the following notice: Milton Keynes Council intends to make the following named traffic regulation Orders under Sections 1(1), 2(1) and (2), 4(1) and (2) of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984: Milton Keynes City Council (The Council of the Borough of Milton Keynes) (Central Milton Keynes (On-Street Standard Tariff Parking Places) Order 2020) Variation Order 2025 Milton Keynes City Council (The Council of the Borough of Milton Keynes) (Central Milton Keynes (On-Street Premium Tariff Parking Places) Order 2020) Variation Order 2025 The general effect of the above proposed Orders will be as follows: - to remove all existing car share parking places in Central Milton Keynes and replace with standard tariff and premium tariff parking places. - To remove all existing free and limited waiting parking places in Central Milton Keynes and replace with standard tariff and premium tariff parking places. This is another infringement on locals as well as “Destination MK” - an incentive to drive more visitors to Milton Keynes making it a “place to visit & stay” With huge costs of living increasing aggressively, rising rents on commercial properties not to mention central government changes on how companies are now governed to pay extra National Insurance Employer contributions - how does this council expect: A) People wanting to visit Milton Keynes from outside the area, or is this an incentive to take as much as we can from unexpected parking costs? B) Constituents from Milton Keynes coming to shop - what if a single parent or low household income can barely afford to run a car - now they MUST be hit with a higher cost to shop or use the leisure facilities in the city centre region? C) Employees working - how on earth can this council expect people who are on low incomes to now afford £4-£10 per day off a basic income....perhaps the council should do some benchmarking or perhaps the Senior members might look to swap their income for a low income for a month - and witness for themselves how difficult live can be financially in this city. D) Economic Growth - We need people shopping, visiting, staying etc.....how can we see that objective come to life with the aforementioned proposal in parking changes, this is better in the system not MKCC’s growing Limited company bank account..... I remember a Town that was alive with opportunities, youthfulness, hope and growth. The city I live in now with my adult children is frankly embarrassing! A city with a growing culture for music, has been step upon like a unwanted child’s toy - perhaps this council might be best placed with a more pragmatic approach to making our City become more vibrant, attain more visitors & grow would be to create a plan to restore our nightlife & culturepeople would flock to our wonderful city like life once was..... But not with these silly aforementioned proposals.
(37)	Member of the public Objection	7th April 2025	I am writing to object in the strongest possible terms to the proposals outlined in TRO-420, which aim to remove all existing free and limited waiting parking spaces and car share bays in Central Milton Keynes, replacing them with standard and premium tariff spaces. This proposal is fundamentally flawed for several reasons: Disincentivising Sustainable Transport Removing dedicated car share bays flies in the face of Milton Keynes’ stated ambitions to support greener travel. Car sharing reduces emissions, traffic, and parking demand—replacing these spaces with paid individual bays sends a clear message that environmental responsibility is being deprioritised in favour of revenue generation. It’s short-sighted and regressive. Discouraging Visitors and Local Economic Activity

			Introducing charges to previously free or time-limited parking will create a barrier for residents from surrounding towns and villages who come into Milton Keynes for shopping, entertainment, or leisure. This could harm local businesses and reduce the vibrancy of the city centre—especially at a time when high streets need all the support they can get. 3. Disproportionate Impact on Low-Income Residents Many people who rely on the free parking are on lower incomes. This proposal would effectively penalise them, making access to the city centre less affordable. Public transport options in Milton Keynes remain patchy, so driving is often the only realistic option. It is unfair to frame this as a ‘choice’ when the infrastructure doesn't support genuine alternatives. 4. Perception of a Money-Grabbing Exercise There is no disguising that this move appears to be driven by revenue rather than strategy. If the aim were truly to improve parking management or promote sustainability, the council would be increasing support for car sharing, public transport, and active travel—not scrapping the few incentives we have. In conclusion, TRO-420 is poorly aligned with the city's goals for sustainability, inclusivity, and economic growth. I urge Milton Keynes City Council to withdraw this proposal and instead look at progressive solutions that balance environmental responsibility with accessibility and fairness.
(38)	Member of the public Objection	7th April 2025	I am writing as a concerned resident of Milton Keynes to formally object to the proposed changes outlined in Traffic Regulation Order TRO-420, specifically the removal of all free parking and car share bays in Central Milton Keynes (CMK). This proposal is extremely concerning for a number of reasons: 1. Financial Pressure on Residents: The current cost of parking in CMK is already high. Removing all free and limited-waiting bays will place an even greater financial burden on residents who regularly travel into the city centre for work, errands, or leisure. This move disproportionately affects lower-income individuals and families who rely on free or affordable parking options. 2. Negative Impact on Local Businesses: CMK businesses, particularly small and independent shops, rely heavily on footfall from both local residents and visitors. Increased parking costs will likely deter people from coming into the city centre, opting instead for out-of-town shopping centres or online shopping where parking isn't an issue. This could have a long-term detrimental impact on the vibrancy and economic health of our city. 3. Discouragement of Sustainable Practices: The removal of designated car share bays seems counterintuitive to Milton Keynes’ broader environmental and sustainability goals. Car sharing reduces traffic congestion and emissions, and should be encouraged—not penalised. I urge the Council to reconsider this proposal and instead look for more balanced solutions that support both sustainability and accessibility. Maintaining some free and low-cost parking options, as well as supporting car sharing schemes, will better serve the needs of our diverse community and the city’s long-term interests.
(39)	Member of the public Objection	7th April 2025	As a resident of Milton Keynes, I am writing to express my strong opposition to the proposed removal of all free parking and car share bays in Central Milton Keynes (CMK). There are already very few free parking spaces available in the city centre. Removing the remaining ones would make it even more difficult for residents like myself to justify going into CMK for shopping or leisure. With the added cost and inconvenience of paid parking everywhere, I would personally choose not to visit the city centre at all. This proposal would disproportionately impact local residents, families, and lower-income individuals, and it may also hurt local businesses due to reduced foot traffic. I urge the Council to reconsider and retain at least some free parking and car share bays, or to explore a more balanced solution that supports both effective traffic management and the needs of the community.
(40)	Member of the public Objection	7th April 2025	I am writing to formally object to the proposed Traffic Regulation Order TRO-420, as outlined in the public notice dated April 3, 2025. I believe these changes will unfairly impact residents, businesses, and visitors in Milton Keynes for the following reasons: 1. High Parking Costs: Parking in Milton Keynes is already expensive, with annual permit costs among the highest outside London. Introducing further charges or removing free parking options will place an additional financial burden on residents and visitors.

2. Insufficient Public Transport Alternatives: Unlike larger cities such as London, Milton Keynes lacks a comprehensive public transport network to provide viable alternatives to driving. This makes it unfair to increase parking charges or reduce free parking when many people have no choice but to drive.
3. Limited Free Parking Compared to Other Cities: Other cities, including London, offer free parking on Sundays or in specific areas, helping to support local businesses and reduce costs for residents. Milton Keynes already has limited free parking options, and these proposals further restrict accessibility and affordability.

The proposed changes will discourage visitors, harm local businesses, and make life more difficult for residents who rely on their cars due to the limited public transport options available. I urge the Council to reconsider these proposals and explore more balanced solutions, such as improving public transport infrastructure or introducing more free or low-cost parking options.

(41)	Member of the public Objection	8th April 2025	I am writing to make my objections known on the proposal to remove free limited time parking spaces. I whole heartedly disagree with the proposals. There are only a few free parking spaces and they are for a limited time. If you ever wish to make a short trip to the centre say for banking or use the library to return books or other reasons which are not a shopping trip there should be at least the chance to park for free. The parking charges have already just gone up and are putting people off from visiting the centre. I know myself and many others I know visit the centre a lot less than we used to as the cost of parking is off putting. This basically reduces the footfall for passing trade losing sales for retail outlets and food outlets. Once upon a time you may go to the centre for a trip out to browse which would sometimes lead to making an unplanned purchase which was good for the retailer . Nowadays this happens less as people only visit the centre for a specific reason. The change is obvious where there once was a full carpark of people visiting the centre for days out they are now half empty. Where there was once a busy shopping centre where people would pass time and socialise there are now retailers struggling to keep their head above water. Maybe rather than trying to take money at every opportunity you should look to encourage people to visit rather than putting up financial barriers then naturally money will be spent and profit will be made. And rather than killing off our shopping centres they will once again thrive and we will have a healthy city of people able to be social rather than sitting at home behind a screen because it cheaper and easier for them to do so. It's worth looking at the bigger picture than a quick fix. Give people some small help and they in turn will help those retailers and hospitality places to keep going.
(42)	Member of the public Other	8th April 2025	I am writing with connection to the proposal to introduce parking charges to current free/ limited time free spaces. The residents of mk pay enough in council tax charges and you already increased parking charges across the city. It is v disappointing that Labour has total disregard for the cost of living crisis and keep putting pressure on hardworking individuals. Please stop penalising us and stop this additional charge.
(43)	Member of the public Objection	8th April 2025	I am strongly opposed to removing the last of the free parking in Milton Keynes. It does not affect me as I cannot afford a car nor the bus, I walk everywhere. It will affect my elderly parents enormously. My mum drives down every day to meet me in town for a little walk around and to look in the shop windows, popping in to buy something almost every time. Taking the bus is simply not an option, our nearest route has been cut so she would have to walk a long way to catch the bus and then stand in the cold while the bus inevitably doesn't turn up (which along with the price increases is why I stopped using it myself). If my mother has to pay to park her car she simply will not come to central MK anymore; she will stay at home not getting any exercise and not spending any money in the shops and restaurants. Is this the council's goal? If these plans are to go ahead then there needs to be an exemption for pensioners, students etc, some sort of badge to display on the dashboard to allow them to continue parking for free. Local people nipping down to stretch their legs and pick up a few bits from the shops is vastly different from tourists who only visit once a week or less and expect to pay for parking; if councillors care about the local economy then they will rethink these plans.
(44)	Member of the public	8th April 2025	I understand there are discussions underway about removing the remaining free parking that exists. Without knowing the rates you would look to implement and where you intend to use the funds, I would have to question why.

	Objection		Other than the additional funds how are Milton Keynes and its residents going to benefit? The public transport links aren't very good, taxis are expensive, the scooters are only great for short journeys (not sure they are cost effective and at the moment need far more control and regulation as the majority of drivers are not using these responsibly). Unless your health/fitness levels are great you would struggle to cycle/walk into the centre and back, especially if you're then having to carry multiple bags and/or heavy items. Then you have the pot holes to contend with if you do drive and the parking charges. The easiest way to get around MK is to drive and the majority of people I know do as a necessity as they cannot rely on other methods of transport. Ultimately I don't agree with removing the free parking. It is already heavily restricted and limited, with the paid for parking pretty busy too.
(45)	Member of the public Objection	8th April 2025	I am writing to formally object to the proposed changes outlined under TRO-420, which include the removal of all free and limited waiting parking spaces in Central Milton Keynes, replacing them with standard and premium tariff bays. This proposal represents yet another blow to residents, businesses, and workers in CMK. Removing the final remaining bit of free parking spaces disproportionately affects those already facing financial pressures—market stallholders, students, self-employed individuals, and residents making quick visits or essential drop-offs. These spaces are not a luxury. For many, they are a necessity. The decision comes on the back of recent increases in parking charges, including the doubling of the minimum stay cost, despite over 1,250 residents signing a petition in opposition. It appears the Council is moving towards making CMK an exclusive area for those who can afford to pay—pricing out hard-working people who make this city thrive. I urge you to reconsider this proposal and explore more balanced alternatives that support economic activity and accessibility for all. I object to the proposed Traffic Regulation Order and call for the Council to retain these free and limited waiting parking spaces in Central Milton Keynes.
(46)	Member of the public Objection	8th April 2025	As a long term resident in Milton Keynes I'm writing to STRONGLY OBJECT City Council's plan to remove all existing free and limited parking places in Central Milton Keynes and replace them with standard and premium tariff parking. It is clear to me that the Labour Party administered City Council doesn't care about residents' concerns and is solely focused on extracting as much money as it can from hardworking residents while neglecting basic services.
(47)	Member of the public Objection	8th April 2025	I object to the latest proposals for the parking in Milton Keynes City Centre.
(48)	Member of the public Objection	8th April 2025	I'm writing to object to the proposed increase in parking fees at CMK. I feel that there should be chesp short stay charges for locals to run a quick errand. Parking fees can be also prohibitive to those working in CMK too. If you need to make money have you considered speed cameras and fining speeding drivers. This would bring in a hefty revenue and be a deterrent to dangerous driving.
(49)	Member of the public Objection	8th April 2025	I completely object to all pay for parking and the increase of parking charges in Milton Keynes. The cost of parking already deters me and my family of making use of any of the businesses situated in central Milton Keynes and judging by the run down and filthy state of downtown Milton Keynes, many residents share my feelings on this. If you would like to encourage businesses to flourish in Milton Keynes – make it easier for their customers to do business with them, don't put more hurdles in place for them to overcome.
(50)	Member of the public Objection	8th April 2025	I am writing to submit my formal objection to the proposed changes under TRO-420. In the last few years the council has made a number of changes to increase the cost of parking in Milton Keynes with the cheapest price somebody could stay for an hour in CMK rising from 50p to £2. The removal of the remaining free and time limited waiting parking spaces in CMK would further push costs onto motorists and risks losing footfall in the centre. There has been a strong public opposition to the continuing increases in parking costs with over 1,000 local people signing a petition against last year's increases.

			I do appreciate the aims to get people out of cars, but with such a poor bus service Milton Keynes remains a city of the car with the majority of people using a car and we can't push them away from using our shopping centre, especially with other 'out of town' retail parks which offer free parking. If somebody wants to pick up a quick coffee from one of our many local coffee shops, this move would add an extra £2 to their cost. It might not seem like much but it's if they do this every day/week after work they cost will add up and it may put them off supporting a local business. I also note that the two hours free parking spaces near Bouverie House on Silbury Boulevard have already been replaced with 'Red' premium parking spaces, but was not aware of any consultation about this. I hope the council will re-consider adding further burden to local people and local drivers in Milton Keynes.
(51)	Member of the public Objection	9th April 2025	I as a resident of Milton Keynes for 40+ years I object to the removal of the free parking places. There are only a few left. I occasionally use them to shop at the centre. If they are removed I will shop elsewhere; either on-line, the nearby towns (Newport is closer to me than the centre) or other, large centres, where parking is free. If the council wish to kill off the Golden Goose, then go ahead. I suspect footfall in the centre will decrease, the high rental cost will deter traders and then.
(52)	Member of the public Objection	9th April 2025	I've been made aware of Labour-run MK Council is now proposing to remove every single free parking bay in Central Milton Keynes — including limited waiting and car share spaces — and replace them with paid standard and premium tariff bays. We think it's ridiculous and unreasonable burdening residents and those who work in CMK even more. This is ridiculous! I and many avoid going to paid parking areas! I and many will not pay to shop and spend money. You are driving more people to shop online. Give your heads a wobble!. Pure greed!
(53)	Member of the public Objection	9th April 2025	I wish to object to the proposals to remove free and time-limited car parking at CMK. We see every day large expanses of empty parking spaces in the pay-and-display parking areas. The effect will be even more store closures at CMK. We can see many empty units there already. Is this the desired aim for a few thousand pounds per annum? Despite on-line-shopping, people still like places to go and this will have negative effect on CMK shopping. Some years ago, I used to regularly go to Bedford. I stopped when the free parking I used to use was turned into pay-and -display, and this was some 600 metres from the town centre. Please don't make the same mistake.
(54)	Member of the public Objection	10th April 2025	I want to object to this being done, the cost of living is bad enough without taking these free parking spaces away. There are a lot of people that can't afford to pay for parking that live in these areas. You have just put the tariffs up and now what to make the free spaces into paying. It's not fair on people trying to make a living, all the people that work in central Milton Keynes will have to find more money and struggle to get to work. No workers No shops CMK CLOSED
(55)	Member of the public Objection	10th April 2025	I am writing to express my strong objection to the proposed removal of the remaining free parking spaces in Central Mk. As a resident of Milton Keynes, I am deeply concerned about the adverse impact this decision will have on our community, local businesses, and accessibility. Free parking is an essential service for many members of our community, particularly those who rely on personal vehicles for transportation, such as families, elderly individuals, and those with disabilities. Removing this service will place an unnecessary financial burden on residents and discourage visitors from coming to the area, which may negatively affect local businesses and the vibrancy of the community. Moreover, free parking promotes convenience and inclusivity, allowing individuals from various socio-economic backgrounds to access essential services and activities without financial barriers. The removal of these spaces may inadvertently create inequality and limit access to key resources, recreational spaces, or workplaces.

			I understand the need to address parking management or environmental concerns; however, I urge you to consider alternative approaches that balance community needs with these objectives. Options such as time-limited free parking, promoting shared and public transport, or implementing environmentally friendly parking solutions could achieve these goals without eliminating free parking entirely. I kindly request that the Council reconsider this proposal and engage with the community to explore mutually beneficial solutions. I am confident that collaborative efforts can produce outcomes that preserve the well-being and accessibility of our area for all.
(56)	Member of the public Other	10th April 2025	I am writing to you as myself and my husband have utilised the use of the Car Share Permit since I moved to Milton Keynes in 2012. You can look through your records and find my permits issued in my account but I have had the permit since they were paper based. I feel Milton Keynes Council have not fully considered the impact of removing the Car Share permits especially the environmental impact. Benefits to the City include; 1. Reduced congestion with fewer cars on the road 2. Shorter commute times with less traffic 3. Reduced emissions and pollution 4. Reducing carbon footprint 5. Working towards reduced carbon targets for better air quality 6. Less demand for parking when this is limited I would have hoped that Milton Keynes would be more concerned with building a healthier environment for people to work and live in 2025 rather than going backwards and contributing so significantly to climate change. Please reconsider and reinstate the Car Share Permits
(57)	Member of the public Objection	11th April 2025	I am writing to formally object to the proposed alterations to parking restrictions in Central Milton Keynes (TRO-420). While I understand the council's intention to standardize parking and increase revenue, I believe these changes will have several adverse effects on the community and local businesses. Impact on Car Sharing Initiatives The removal of designated car share parking places undermines efforts to promote sustainable transportation. Car sharing reduces the number of vehicles on the road, decreases emissions, and alleviates parking congestion. Eliminating these spaces discourages residents from participating in car share programs, contradicting environmental sustainability goals. Financial Burden on Residents and Visitors Replacing free and limited waiting parking places with paid options imposes a financial burden on residents and visitors. This change is particularly concerning given the recent increases in parking charges. For instance, the minimum charge for standard tariff parking increased from £1.00 to £2.00, and premium tariff parking increased from £2.00 to £2.50 as of March 31, 2025. These cumulative increases make it more expensive for individuals to access the city center, potentially reducing footfall for local businesses. Negative Impact on Local Businesses Higher parking costs and reduced availability of free parking may deter shoppers and visitors from frequenting Central Milton Keynes. This decline in visitors could adversely affect local businesses that rely on regular customer traffic. A healthy local economy depends on accessible and affordable parking options to attract and retain patrons. Contradiction to Sustainable Transport Goals The council has expressed a commitment to promoting sustainable transport options. However, removing car share spaces and increasing parking fees contradicts this objective by discouraging eco-friendly transportation methods. Instead, the council should consider enhancing support for car sharing and other sustainable initiatives. Conclusion In light of these concerns, I urge Milton Keynes City Council to reconsider the proposed alterations to parking restrictions in Central Milton Keynes. Maintaining car share parking places and preserving some free or limited waiting parking options would better serve the community's needs, support local businesses, and align with sustainability goals

(58)	Member of the public Objection	11th April 2025	I object to this - To remove all existing free and limited waiting parking places in Central Milton Keynes and replace with standard tariff and premium tariff parking places. I park (used to) in Purple on Sunday and only require an hour or less. You have TWICE doubled my parking charges in Purple - I used to pay 50p that increased to £1 and now that has become £2. I still only require an hour but it's not possible to pay for just 1 hour. Now you want to take away the very few limited waiting parking places - shame on you. Hundreds of folk need to nip to the Building Society for 20 mins or tea & toast at M&S, you are ruining that. We have now abandoned shopping in CMK because of this. We need short stay parking paid or otherwise but £2 minimum is a disaster taking away short stay free parking in the final nail
(59)	Member of the public Other	11th April 2025	I can safely say as a resident of Great Brickhill (on the edge of the city), if you get rid of free parking in Milton Keynes I will happily go out of my way to shop, eat and go to the cinema elsewhere. This will be a further nail in the coffin for small businesses which are already suffering.
(60)	Member of the public Objection	11th April 2025	Cutting ANY free parking just results in shoppers going elsewhere to shop or shopping online. At what point is this increasing footfall into an already dead shopping centre? This is only going to make the situation worse. <i>"The proposal aims to manage parking availability and usage to the benefit of residents, businesses and their visitors. This will be achieved by the alteration of a combination of parking restrictions and parking places."</i> Where is the evidence to back this up? There is no issue with 'managing parking availability'. I've not seen one parking zone that is full at any time in the last 4 years and if it is, guess what - you drive to the next nearest one. I fail to see how charging residents, business and visitors where once there was no charge is benefitting anyone. The coach part at the back of John Lewis used to be filled with vehicles bringing people into town. No more. The car parks used to be busy too - again no longer. Now you want to increase parking charges to every single space - how does that encourage anyone to come into the centre? The proposals should be to increase the number of free parking spaces to encourage people to show, spend and enjoy the centre, the restaurants as well as the shops, not decrease them! This proposal is a kick in the teeth to the shop owners who are also struggling to make ends meet and for the customers trying to keep these businesses afloat. Could it also be as a direct result of cutting the bus routes/frequency and increasing travel charges, people are now taking the bus less into town and car use is up? Is this the reason why the proposals are planned - to now take advantage of the lack of public transport and start charge those that now can't get a bus into town? Typical Labour mentality - tax everything you can to be able to spend others money with impunity. Short term narrow minded view.
(61)	Member of the public Objection	11th April 2025	I am writing to object to the proposals to remove all free parking from Central Milton Keynes, I was at a council meeting several years ago when I objected to the increase in Employee Parking charges with representatives of Argos in particular making the case (my national employer has since closed the MK office and I know staff were happy to move to work from home contracts in part to avoid the extortionate fees). I also note the Citizen reports that parking charges increased at Christmas 'despite many complaints'. Having family in Bedford and near Brent Cross I plan to time my shopping for when I visit them in future (and still can park for free). I'm convinced the Council will continue on this track until every business and shop in CMK closes.
(62)	Member of the public Objection	11th April 2025	I am writing to formally object to the proposed Traffic Regulation Orders referenced as TRO-420: 1. Milton Keynes City Council (The Council of the Borough of Milton Keynes) (Central Milton Keynes (On-Street Standard Tariff Parking Places) Order 2020) Variation Order 2025 2. Milton Keynes City Council (The Council of the Borough of Milton Keynes) (Central Milton Keynes (On-Street Premium Tariff Parking Places) Order 2020) Variation Order 2025

The proposed removal of all car share, free, and limited waiting parking spaces—replacing them solely with standard and premium tariff options—demonstrates a complete disregard for the needs of both residents and small businesses.

These changes will:

- Undermine accessibility for those who rely on affordable and flexible parking,
- Penalise residents and workers in the area with yet more costs, and
- Place further strain on small, local businesses already facing challenging economic conditions.

This proposal follows previous unpopular changes to parking charges and minimum stay requirements—changes made despite a petition of over 1,250 residents strongly opposing them. This pattern suggests a continued refusal by Milton Keynes City Council to listen to or value the concerns of the very people who live, work, and contribute to the economic and cultural vibrancy of Central Milton Keynes.

By repeatedly prioritising revenue generation over meaningful public engagement and local wellbeing, the Council is sending a clear message: the views of residents and the sustainability of local businesses are not a priority. These measures are anti-growth, anti-business, and anti-community.

I urge the Council to reconsider this proposal in light of its real-world impacts and instead engage transparently with those who are affected.

(63)	Member of the public Objection	11th April 2025	I am writing this email to protest against the removal of free parking in CMK. I’ve been made aware of your plans to remove all free parking in the centre and think this is lacks any thought or care for the people who live here. This decision or deliberation is based entirely on greed and it will not be received well by myself or by anyone in the community. Every city or town has free parking in the centre, Milton Keynes would simply be solidifying itself as a business rather than a community for people. People cannot be spending £2-10 on parking a day this is not London or Manchester. Everyone is going through a cost of living crisis. You will just stop people from going to the city as often as they like due to the parking charges. I rely a lot on r free parking and when it isn’t available, I use my permit and before I had my permit I just paid the price. That was fine because I knew that on other days, I would get free parking so it all worked out. If you remove it, less people will go up city and it was become barren just like it was a few short years ago. Retailers will leave and you will actually end up losing more money. Personally, I know that if you scrap free parking, I’m more likely to walk to the centre rather than pay a single penny to you and I’m sure there are others who do the same anyways due to there being so many cars and somehow not enough space. You’re attacking young drivers, students and those living on the minimum wage. Under a Labour government, you should not be acting like a group of Tories who only care about increasing the wealth gap. As we continue to persevere through the cost of living crisis and approach a recession and an unstable stock market, raising prices for the people of Milton Keynes who simply need to pop into Boots, M&S and Caffè Nero simply isn’t it. The suggestion is nonsensical and you will just have more protests and it is fundamentally a bad idea so I encourage you to scrap it.
(64)	Member of the public Objection	11th April 2025	I strongly oppose the abolition of free parking, and will not be visiting any food or drink venues if it happens. This will penalise all of the businesses that I usually visit.
(65)	Member of the public Objection	11th April 2025	I'm opposed to the proposal of abolishing all free parking in MK city centre, I already avoid the city centre whenever there's a alternative, because of existing lackof free parking. I'll entirely avoid it if you abolish all free parking and instead opt for more online shopping. As even with some delivery fee it'll end up being cheaper than paying for the parking.
(66)	Member of the public Objection	12th April 2025	I would like to record my objection to the proposal that free and limited waiting parking bays would be removed in CMK and replaced with with standard tariff and premium tariff places. Although not personally affected by this proposal, I have seen similar schemes in my local area - inspired purely by financial gain - detrimentally affect the local community. Think more about your responsibilities to the local community and less about your balance sheet.
(67)	Member of the public Objection	12th April 2025	I am writing to you that I am dissatisfied with how Labour is turning Central MK into a cash machine affecting us in daily commute, shopping and other activities. The proposal to end free parking spaces with standard and premium tariff is unacceptable to me as a resident of MK which puts me in a position to reduce my travel to downtown as I regularly go by free parking. The Labour is not making any easier for people like me to reduce living costs since they

			came into power. So I want to voice out my concern regarding this matter to advise them not to propose free parking scrap. Once again, Im not happy with Labour running things in this state.
(68)	Member of the public Objection	12th April 2025	I'm disabled, yes I know I get free parking in disabled bays, but if they are full I'm allowed to park in other bays, as I can't walk very far, this is needed, otherwise I will not be shopping at the city centre, also I feel lots of local people would not shop in the city centre anymore, in time I'm worried that shops will close down, they are already complaining about high rents, and are closing down already, be very careful on decisions like this, you could find it very detrimental, to you being voted in again, Labour was always a party for ordinary men and women in this country, I can tell you the word on the street now, you are not anymore and will find this out at the next general election, which means you would lose your job, if I was you I would have a major rethink, and get back to looking after the nan and women on the street.
(69)	Member of the public Objection	14th April 2025	I object to the removal of the few free parking spaces in Central Milton Keynes. I find these spaces very useful when a short visit is needed, enabling a minimal stay for one or two shops or the bank. Surely the increased fees for all the other spaces will compensate for loosing a few charges. The increases will certainly drive a lot of shoppers away from our excellent city centre
(70)	Member of the public Objection	14th April 2025	I am writing to express my deep concern regarding the proposed changes to parking restrictions in Central Milton Keynes under proposal reference TRO-420 . I find the proposal both unfair and deeply disappointing, especially given that the council has already recently doubled parking charges in the area. As a long-term resident of Milton Keynes, I have adjusted by visiting the city centre early on weekends to take advantage of the free parking and support local businesses at the open market during my weekly shop. If this option is taken away, I, like many others, would be forced to shop elsewhere. This would directly harm the small traders and independent businesses who rely on footfall, particularly during weekends. The open market is an important part of our community and deserves support, not indirect penalisation. I urge the council to consider alternative means of raising funds, rather than repeatedly placing the financial burden on older residents, many of whom are retired and already face a limited range of accessible benefits. These changes feel like another blow to those who have contributed to the city for decades. I would also like to ask—has the council explored internal cost-saving measures? Have any councillors, many of whom treat their role as a secondary income, considered taking a pay cut to support community priorities? It sometimes feels as though there is a disconnect between elected officials and the residents they are meant to represent. I respectfully ask that this proposal be reconsidered, taking into account its wider impact on the community, particularly vulnerable and long-standing residents, and the small businesses we should all be supporting.
(71)	Member of the public Objection	14th April 2025	I would like to formally object to the proposal to remove existing car share and free parking spaces from CMK. Milton Keynes was originally designed with car use in mind, and the mindset of the council over the last decade or so has been to treat the motorist as some form as cash cows. If you remove these parking provisions then that will encourage even more people to try and find alternative free parking on the residential estates adjoining the city centre. You removed residents parking permits from one section of Conniburrow after a flawed and pitiful consultation, the result of which is congestion caused by council employees on these roads. There are limits to what people are willing to put up with, life is already very expensive leave our parking spaces alone.
(72)	Member of the public Objection	15th April 2025	I am writing to object to your proposal to remove all existing free and limited waiting parking places in Central Milton Keynes and replace with standard tariff and premium tariff parking places. 1. MK Residents have already endured several years of a cost-of-living crisis. This year, we are being hit by yet more price rises: -Council Tax up 5% -Energy Price Cap up 6% -Anglian water Bills up 19%, with further rises coming. -Inflation is currently 3.8% Now you want to further increase our costs? How do you think this looks to people already struggling? 2. My wife and I use the free parking spaces on Midsummer Boulevard every week, to do our vegetable shopping at the market. We rarely take more than 30-45 minutes. According to the proposals, instead of being able to park free, we will have to pay £2 for the first two hours, then 50p per hour thereafter.

So we will have to pay £2 for 30-45 minutes' parking, just to buy vegetables! If these charges are introduced, we will simply stop using the market, and buy our vegetables elsewhere. I'm sure many other people will do the same.

3. There need to be spaces around MK Central and the market where people can park for free, to make short trips into the Centre or the market. If you remove these, people will simply go elsewhere, or do more shopping online. A lot of businesses and market stalls will lose business if these proposals are implemented.

4. With banks and other businesses closing in Central Bletchley, people are being forced to go into MK Central for services they could previously get locally. The Council should be making this easier, not more expensive.

5. The Statement of Reasons says that: "The proposal aims to manage parking availability and usage to the benefit of residents, businesses and their visitors. This will be achieved by the alteration of a combination of parking restrictions and parking places." However, this does not seem to make sense:

- The only way these proposals will improve parking availability is if they result in people spending less time in MK central. But that means less time spent shopping or using the cafes/restaurants. Is that what you want - less money spent in MK Central?
- Free parking is limited to three hours. If you want to make these spaces available to more people, you could reduce the limit to one or two hours, while keeping the spaces free.

6. The Statement of Reasons also refers to the Council's duty to "secure the expeditious, convenient and safe movement of vehicular and other traffic (including pedestrians) and the provision of suitable and adequate parking facilities on the highway." Yes – the free parking spaces are popular. But if you want to reduce the number of cars looking for free parking spaces, without reducing the footfall in the market and MK Central, surely the simplest solution is to provide MORE free parking spaces nearby.

I sincerely hope you will not go ahead with these proposals.

(73)	Member of the public Other	15th April 2025	I find the Idea of removing free parking will impact people on low incomes (like myself) an OAPS as we struggle with the cost of living as it is and yet you don't seem to care about this like most off government, I find it very useful to use the free parking if I have something quick I have to do in town, if you must remove free parking can't you give people who live in milton keynes somesort of permit we can all have for living here, but not for people visiting the area.
(74)	Member of the public Objection	15th April 2025	I wish to object to the removal of free car parking spaces in CMK.
(75)	Member of the public Objection	15th April 2025	I object to the proposal to remove all existing free and limited waiting parking places in Central Milton Keynes and replace with standard tariff and premium tariff parking places. I object on the grounds that provision of short stay limited waiting should be made available for brief trips to the main shopping area. There has already been a change so that the minimum paid parking is now a 2 hour period which generates excessive and unfair income for Milton keynes council. If a minimum 1 hour parking charge is no longer possible it seems entirely reasonable to retain some time limited free parking provision within central Milton Keynes.
(76)	Member of the public Objection	15th April 2025	I strongly object to the proposed removal of the few free parking spaces in CMK. On the occasions when I want to 'pop-in' to a shop, I resent having to pay a parking fee, so find the present few free restricted time spaces very useful. Like many others, I look for shops with free parking, such as in MK1 and Westcroft District Centre. The charging regime in CMK is a major 'put off' to many shoppers.
(77)	Member of the public Other	15th April 2025	The reasons given DO NOT support the proposed alterations to parking. There is not a general shortage of parking in MK. The stated "pressures" on specific parking areas are a result of having TOO FEW free and limited time spaces. These pressures are amplified by recent decisions to double parking charges in nearby locations. An alternative solution far better received by the residents of MK (your voters) would be to expand the number of free spaces and make them available to MK registered residents. This move backed up by necessary monitoring would alleviate the alleged pressure and encourage residents of MK to use centreMK while maintaining income from those travelling from other towns.

			Your proposal will further erode the viability of centreMK and fail to support the local community you were elected to serve.
(78)	Member of the public Objection	15th April 2025	I am writing in response to your consultation to parking charge changes in central Milton Keynes. I am not responding to changes to car shares and permit parking, as I am not a user of these. I object to the removal of all free time-restricted parking, and the proposal to enforce a mandatory two hour minimum parking tariff. I am not opposed to a proportional increase in charge per actual hour spent (for example 50p per hour becomes 60p per hour). I am a Milton Keynes resident (stony Stratford), who manages to do much of her shopping locally, but sometimes needs to go to the city centre. I do not think you should be charging people excessively for essential visits. For example, having to pay a minimum of £2 to make a transaction at the bank (I have no online banking) or collect something from the chemist which is not stocked in either of our two local chemists, is clearly disproportionate. [I know it is not your fault that most banks have closed, but it is the main reason I now have to go to the city centre.] That is where the timed free bays are useful. The two or three hour bays also mean that I might have a look round other shops for fun, or have a coffee, which helps these businesses. I think charging a minimum of four hours so that someone can nip to the bank is wrong. I also think that charging a minimum of two hours if someone arrives at, say, 5.40pm is wrong. The fact that the hourly rate is 50p means that I don't mind paying it if I am early, but would object to £2 for 20 minutes. The other reason I am against no free slots is that I do not have 'apps' or the internet once outside the house. I am capable of paying by bank card but I cannot park anywhere with 'app' only parking, and I am not the only one without this kind of 'phone. [It is unclear on your proposal as to whether all charges would become app only.] When visiting the city centre, I often notice that the premium bays are not fully occupied - and I think one way forward might be to make these bays actually cheaper; I think your revenue might in fact increase overall. I rarely use the premium bays myself, because I am happy to park further away and walk up, and do not want to pay these prices for essential shopping. I know that cmk is a destination shopping centre for people who live in other towns; but for locals, it is useful to have the free parking, which is not always obvious, to carry out these everyday tasks. Related points: when parking charges were first introduced, the revenue was supposed to be dedicated to funding sustainable travel. I have not noticed this (if you have, it is not obvious). There is a large car park standing empty in the old food hall, and there seems to be another by the station. We have already lost the timed free parking in the food hall (not to mention the food hall itself). (And, for reasons I have never understood, you got rid of the very useful theatre car park - as a keen theatre goer, it was my favourite). I am aware that the former may no longer be in your control, but it is still annoying. To sum up: I object to the removal of the time restricted free bays, and I object to the mandatory two hour minimum charge of £2 in the 50p bays.
(79)	Member of the public Objection	15th April 2025	Here are some comments and objections for the proposal to remove all existing car share, free, and limited waiting parking places in Central Milton Keynes and replace them with standard and premium tariff parking places. Objection 1: Negative Impact on Sustainable Transportation and Car Sharing * Comment: I strongly object to the removal of all existing car share parking places in Central Milton Keynes. * Grounds: * Discourages Sustainable Travel: Car sharing is a vital component of sustainable transportation strategies. Removing dedicated parking spaces actively discourages its use, potentially leading to an increase in single-occupancy vehicle journeys. This contradicts national and local objectives to reduce carbon emissions and improve air quality. * Reduced Viability of Car Share Schemes: The availability of dedicated parking is a significant incentive for individuals and businesses to participate in car share schemes. Their removal will make car sharing less convenient and less attractive, potentially leading to the decline or failure of these schemes within Central Milton Keynes. * Impact on Affordability: Car sharing offers a more affordable transportation option compared to owning and maintaining a personal vehicle. Eliminating dedicated spaces could indirectly increase the cost and inconvenience of car sharing, disproportionately affecting lower-income individuals. Objection 2: Negative Impact on Accessibility and Local Economy * Comment: I object to the removal of all existing free and limited waiting parking places in Central Milton Keynes. * Grounds:

* Reduced Accessibility for Short Visits: Free and limited waiting parking often serves essential purposes for quick errands, deliveries, and short visits to local businesses and services. Removing these spaces will make it more difficult and expensive for people to access these facilities, potentially harming the local economy.

* Impact on Small Businesses: Businesses, particularly smaller independent retailers, often rely on the convenience of short-stay parking for their customers. The removal of free and limited waiting spaces could deter shoppers, leading to reduced footfall and negatively impacting their viability.

* Disproportionate Impact on Certain Users: Individuals with mobility issues, those making quick drop-offs or pick-ups, and those on lower incomes may be disproportionately affected by the removal of free and limited waiting options.

Objection 3: Lack of Justification and Alternatives

* Comment: I request further clarification and justification for the proposed removal of these parking provisions.

* Grounds:

* Lack of Clear Rationale: The consultation documents do not provide a clear and compelling rationale for the complete removal of all car share, free, and limited waiting spaces. What are the specific objectives the Council aims to achieve with this change? What evidence supports the need for such a drastic measure?

* Absence of Alternative Solutions: The proposal appears to be a blanket removal without consideration for alternative solutions. Have options such as relocating or reducing the number of these spaces been explored? Could a more balanced approach be implemented that retains some level of these essential parking provisions?

* Potential for Negative Unintended Consequences: The proposal risks unintended negative consequences for sustainable travel, local businesses, and accessibility. A thorough impact assessment should be conducted and made publicly available before any decision is made.

Objection 4: Insufficient Consideration of Stakeholder Needs

* Comment: I believe that the consultation process should demonstrate a more thorough consideration of the needs of various stakeholders.

* Grounds:

* Limited Engagement with Car Share Operators and Users: Has the Council adequately consulted with car share operators and their users to understand the potential impact of this proposal on their services and travel habits?

* Lack of Engagement with Local Businesses: Have local businesses been consulted on the potential impact of removing free and limited waiting parking on their trade and customer access?

* Impact on Residents and Visitors: The proposal will affect residents and visitors to Central Milton Keynes. Their views and needs should be given due consideration.

Conclusion:

I urge Milton Keynes Council to reconsider this proposal and to conduct a more thorough assessment of its potential negative impacts. I believe that retaining dedicated car share parking and a proportion of free and limited waiting parking is essential for promoting sustainable transportation, supporting the local economy, and ensuring accessibility for all users of Central Milton Keynes. I request that the Council explores alternative solutions that balance revenue generation with the wider environmental, social, and economic needs of the community.

(80)	Member of the public	15th April 2025	In response to the proposal to remove all free and limited waiting spaces. It may sound trivial, but I stop at the city every morning on my way to work to go to Starbucks to buy coffee and Pret to buy lunch. It takes me about 5-10 minutes each morning to do this, and it's only possible as I can quickly park (without incurring parking charges) to go in and spend money at the shops. I also do the same at M&S, dropping in two or three times per week for a brief shop, staying for around 10 minutes. If I have to pay each day to do this, I will no longer visit the city as wouldn't want to incur a parking charge each day I wish to grab a coffee and sandwich - this would make the cost of supporting those shops disproportionate and prohibitive. I'm sure that isn't your intention, but is a likely unintended consequence. Whilst I tend to agree that bays that are free for 3 hours is may be excessive, having parking that offers short-term flexibility is still a strong argument to retain some free parking for shorter durations that would enable people to nip into the shops to spend money. Removing any form of short-term free parking will have a negative impact on those retailers in the city who do a reasonable proportion of trade from people like myself who are passing by. I'm sure there are many more people who do as I do and the cumulative effect of all of us stopping visiting the city will be damaging to retailers.
	Other		

			Your proposals seem disproportionate and unfair and I hope they are reconsidered to avoid turning people away.
(81)	Member of the public Objection	15th April 2025	I strongly object to the removal of the paltry few remaining free parking places in what should be a prime shopping attraction. As long standing residents of MK, I am acutely aware that if the Council continues along this route, MK shopping centre will be even less of an attraction to draw in shoppers from other centres. The centre and indeed the city in general has an air of neglect and gives the impression of a very uncaring and disinterested ‘take it or leave it’ attitude. This along with the total disregard for motorists in general who suffer, and have suffered for a number of years now, increasing unnecessary damage to their vehicles from what were once pot holes and are now becoming craters in the roads, although government funding was made available to repair them on several occasions in past years. These are the same roads shoppers and visitors have to risk life and limb using while the daily Grand Prix goes on around them on all roads from the frustrated formula one wannabes, both male and female All this despite continual and ever upward spiralling council tax and business interest rates increase while offering no improvement or benefit whatsoever is nothing short of a scandal.
(82)	Member of the public Objection	15th April 2025	I am writing in relation to proposal TRO-420. I would like to express my objection to this proposal. This is due to the importance of the free parking in the city centre for the business and local customers of the centre. Removing this free parking will have a detrimental impact on the local people visiting the centre and the footfall of the shops. I will not be visiting as much as I do if this is implemented. In the current climate the free parking encourages locals to shop and visit the restaurants and cafes. This will have more of an impact on MK locals than visitors from other areas who use the payed parking. Business are already struggling at the moment and many have shut down in the center, removing the free parking will result in less shoppers and therefore more business will end up shutting down especially in the market and other independents.
(83)	Member of the public Objection	15th April 2025	I have heard that there are proposed parking changes at Central Milton Keynes, that all time limited free parking spaces are to be discontinued. I am writing to declare that I strongly object to these changes. I for one am a person who visits regularly to meet with people over a coffee for both business and personal. And while there I visit shops. I can tell you now that I will no longer be doing this if these changes are implemented. Why would I when we can meet elsewhere without paying for parking? I have a family member who has opened a shop there recently. That takes quite an investment and this is very bad news as they know that business will go down as a result. Another example of the many where good people who venture out and work hard are being penalised.
(84)	Member of the public Objection	15th April 2025	Please note that I object to you removing the free parking spaces in MK centre. When the cost of living is already so high, it’s terrible that you are removing these spaces. Many people including myself and family often go into MK to pick up a few items, this extra cost will deter us going into MK centre. I feel this will affect the traders across the shopping centre, shouldn’t you be encouraging more people to come into the centre. These increases will deter shoppers from outside MK. 1)What’s really annoying is that you have been wasting £1m a year for the last 5 years, on the un-used car park at the train station. Surely this £1m can be used towards to off set the free parking as I now understand that you plan to reopen the car park albeit at a cost of £10 per day. Again a complete rip off when you haven’t got any strategy on the assets that you own. We as residents need to fully understand where all our council tax is going and have confidence that you as a council and the councillors fully understand the outcome of this poor decision 2) when I do travel to MK I see so many empty car spaces all around, surely this tells you that you are not attracting the required footfall already. These charges and changes are only going to make matters worse.
(85)	Member of the public Other	15th April 2025	I’ll simply shop elsewhere; there’s plenty of alternatives where I can park for free.
(86)	Member of the public Other	15th April 2025	I am writing to ask you to consider a possibly unknown effect removing the free parking in the city centre would have on some members of our milton keynes community. I work for a charity providing community based education for young people with ASD and other learning disabilities. We often park up the city in the limited time free spaces in order for these learners to access a range of activities such as using their local library, accessing work experience opportunities or

			community events at Middleton Hall. Being part of their community not only helps them live a 'normal' life and feel independence, it also helps safeguard them as amazing people in the local community look out for their regular visits and faces. This means that when they leave us and start to live more independently there are people they know and feel safe with. Not all these learners have blue badges due to not driving and not having a family car. We use lease work cars when working with these young people and the free limited time spaces are a real blessing as our budgets are already very tight, some learners are on as little as £6 a day for their activities and paying for parking is an added expense we would struggle to afford. Please consider this impact when making your decision. These spaces may make you extra money but could potential cost a lot more to these learners if they are cut off from another part of their local community.
(87)	Member of the public Objection	15th April 2025	I totally object to the proposed changes to the parking in Milton Keynes which includes the removal of any free parking spaces. I moved here 40 years ago and love it. However the council have moved on from ‘ a new “city “ ‘ to becoming a cash making institution. 100% the wrong decision as it will lead the footfall will dwindle to nothing.
(88)	Member of the public Objection	15th April 2025	I want to state my objections to the proposals to remove free and limited time parking spaces in Central Milton Keynes My first Objection is, as a long time resident of Milton Keynes, that the city was originally built for the car, the grid roads and free parking in CMK we were told would never be changed. Little by little all the free parking spaces have gone and your proposal would end that for ever. Secondly, in this era of straightened financial circumstances, one would hope with a labour majority council you would want to create growth and encourage people to visit CMK to shop and use restaurants and leisure facilities. Prices are high and adding parking fees on top that is another reason why people will go elsewhere, where the parking is free. Changing the current parking system - which should, in my opinion, go back to free parking everywhere, as the city was designed for, would encourage people to visits not act as a disincentive. Using the bus is not always an option with heavy bulky shopping or those withy mobility issues. Please reconsider your shortsighted proposals for taking even more money off hard pressed citizens for your coffers.
(89)	Member of the public Objection	15th April 2025	I totally disagree with the proposed removal of free parking . It is already costing more to use the bus daily to work and sone free parking for me as an employee helps with the costs of evertng going up My mum who’s a pensioner enjoys the shopping and social meet up with free parking. This will be an extra cost to her too . Might look elsewhere to meet if she can’t afford to meet for coffee etc . This will be damaging for what was nice in the centre . Will drive people out of town.
(90)	Member of the public Objection	16th April 2025	I am writing to object to removing all free and limited waiting parking in central Milton Keynes. These spaces allow people to quickly pop into one shop such as to pick up click and collect items or something from the market. They are also useful when picking people up from work or shopping safely such as teenagers. Removing these spaces means people are likely to go elsewhere for these things and not use shops or market at the city centre. I hope the council will reconsider this element of the plan.
(91)	Member of the public Objection	16th April 2025	The removal of any free parking spaces is a complete retrograde step. If you compare what is happening to MK shopping centre compared to other thriving centres then you should be encouraging more people to visit MK. Keep the balance that you have at present otherwise the decline of the shopping centre will continue.
(92)	Member of the public Other	16th April 2025	When introduced the parking was to subsidise the bus services within MK. Those bus services have become unreliable to the point that sometimes even though showing on the app they fail to arrive until the next scheduled bus, okay at peak but considering that CMK works to 2000 the peak finishes well before dropping to 30/60 minute durations! Now you want to remove all the limited free parking to what benefit, buses are not suitable as already explained. Being able to park for 30-180 minutes free allows those people to pick up prescriptions, do a quick shop and collect things, even pick up people.

			Footfall dropped as soon as parking charges came in, plenty of empty shop units which was never the case before parking charges, no longer the numerous coach loads of visitors due the a few reasons, one no coach parking at the centre now, secondly the Christmas display was the talk of the area and far away, not any more as it's all about making money for the owners and has remained unchanged and boring for 5 years or more! Removing the free parking will remove more footfall, why go there when newer places with similar shops etc provide free parking!
(93)	Member of the public Objection	16th April 2025	I am sending this email to register my objection to the proposed removal of free parking provision in Central Milton Keynes. I have been a user of the shopping centre and market since 1979 during which time I have witnessed the gradual removal of free parking across the city. This proposal puts the final nail in the coffin. I regularly (weekly) park close to the market, in the 30min parking area, and use the vegetable stall to purchase vegetables and maybe spend an average of £12.00 a visit. If this proposal is adopted, on top of this spend would be an extra £1 or £2 for a visit of less than 30min. I do not think I will be willing to pay this and would revert to my spend to a supermarket where I can park for free with the supermarket including the cost of parking for it's customers in their fixed costs which is reflected in the prices paid for the products sold. I am not a user of a moblie phone and it would appear that any fee to be paid would have to be paid by its use. Another reason to change my shopping habit. The availabilty of the 30min parking facilitates the short visit to the Centre. Remove it and a visit is no longer viable. The bottom line of this proposal I am sure is to try and generate extra income for the Council. Why add an extra burden for short term users of the Centre. It would be refreshing to see a Council encouraging the use of the Centre/market rather than deterring users.
(94)	Member of the public Objection	16th April 2025	I hereby disagree with the proposed removal of share parking and limited waiting parking places in central Milton Keynes- this is madness.
(95)	Member of the public Objection	17th April 2025	I want to state my objections to the proposals to remove free and limited time parking spaces in Central Milton Keynes My first Objection is, as a long time resident of Milton Keynes, I remember that the city was originally built for the car, the grid roads and free parking in CMK we were told would never be changed. Little by little all the free parking spaces have gone and your proposal would end that for ever. Secondly, in this era of straightened financial circumstances, one would hope with a labour majority council you would want to create growth and encourage people to visit CMK to shop and use restaurants and leisure facilities. Prices are high and adding parking fees on top is another reason why people will go elsewhere, where the parking is free. Changing the current parking - which should, in my opinion, go back to free parking everywhere, as the city was designed for would encourage people to visit not act as a disincentive. Footfall will decrease and then there will be less money for the council coffers. Using the bus for visiting CMK is not an option for people with shopping to carry, mobility issues etc. etc. and all this upheaval just for taking more money off hard pressed citizens. Please reconsider your short sighted proposals.
(96)	Member of the public Objection	17th April 2025	These are my comments against your proposals. This is, I suppose, another attempt to raise money by the Council at residents and others expense. Council taxes are already high without a "stealth tax" added to the costs of living here. Any change will of course impact on those coming to Milton Keynes to shop or use the various restaurants and other facilities. As a result there will be an inevitable drop in visitors to the Centre and some shops and venues will no doubt close as a result of that drop in footfall. Perhaps we should go elsewhere to shop, and Northampton and Bedford begin to look more attractive. Do we assume that the increasing number of electric vehicle charging slots will also be added to the parking charges alongside the charge for using the charging point? It is I feel appropriate to stop putting in more charging stations until there is evidence that any change in parking costs have not adversely affected electric car users. Finally and for me of utmost importance, as a Blue Badge Holder, there are already insufficient parking slots for those with mobility issues at the City Centre, and often we find that those slots are taken by car users and others, who do not have mobility issues and simply use a vacant slot and without a cost. It is increasingly evident that if all parking slots, other than disabled slots, are to be charged for, then those disabled reserved slots will be even more difficult to find as people will increasingly abuse/misuse that system/facility. Until those culprits who misuse disabled slots are caught and summoned, then I for one will find I cannot visit the Centre for lack of appropriate parking. Even an increase in the number of disabled slots, welcomed as it would be, will not of itself, stop illegal parking, rather increase it.

			<u>Get a grip of this misuse before changing parking arrangements please. We seldom see traffic wardens these days. Perhaps they could be used to address this issue.</u>
(97)	Member of the public Objection	17th April 2025	I wish to register my objection to the removal of free parking in Central Milton Keynes. I am unwilling to pay additional sums to use the city's parking area in addition to all the other charges that we currently pay. There are not many free spaces available at this time. The removal of these few spaces will not generate huge income. Is the aim to deter more of the city's residents coming to the city centre during the day, and keep the spaces for the plethora of occupants of the new apartments that are being built? I appreciate that there is cross the board free parking after 6 pm. However unless it is over the Christmas season, shops etc in the city centre tend to close early. No. No. No. Please do not make any further amendments to our parking facilities.
(98)	Member of the public Objection	17th April 2025	I think in shopping centre should stay some free parking spaces, I don't know how council is so blind and try to punish working people's all the time!!!! What about disabled spaces?! I spoke with parking man few times but what I was told there don't have power to check eligibility of disabled people's, thousands of them using family car and display blue batch and use free disabled parkings!!! You have many staff trying to catch shopping centre customers for dropping cigarettes on the floor, But why you don't have more people's and change roles to check if person parking on disabled bay is in the car?! And I can't see reason for this people's to don't pay, fair enough space close to the entrance but money is different matter! Specially you know disabled bays are abused constantly, I'm fed up to pay more and more because I'm working, some with ofgem proposal to pay more for higher earnings ...this is joke just drive around housing estates and look, winter time boilers on constantly but windows open, lights are on all night ?! Who is giving **** ?! I'm working class and I trying always to save energy and respect to people's, council has to open ayes !!!?
(99)	Member of the public Objection	17th April 2025	I am writing to express my strong opposition to the proposed plan to eliminate free car parking in central Milton Keynes, referring to items PS55-PS58, PS98, PS180-PS181, and PS367-PS387. This proposal raises significant concerns about its potential impact on residents, visitors, and local businesses. Free parking is essential for maintaining the accessibility and attractiveness of central Milton Keynes as a destination for shopping, leisure, and work. The removal of free parking spaces could lead to: Economic Strain on Businesses: Reduced business as visitors may choose to avoid additional parking costs, impacting local retailers and service providers. Inequitable Consequences for Residents: Financially burdening individuals and families who rely on free parking to access essential services and employment opportunities. Increased Congestion and Carbon Emissions: Drivers searching for alternative parking could lead to traffic congestion and environmental consequences. I believe there are better ways to address any challenges the council aims to tackle with this proposal. For example, strategies to optimize existing parking spaces, or invest in sustainable transport options that complement—not penalize—car users. I urge the council to reconsider this proposal and consult further with the community to explore alternatives that balance the needs of all stakeholders. Please let me know how I can participate further in this discussion
(100)	Member of the public Objection	17th April 2025	I am writing to formally object to the proposed Traffic Regulation Order TRO-420. The proposal to remove all existing car share, free, and limited waiting parking places in Central Milton Keynes and replace them exclusively with standard and premium tariff parking raises several concerns: Reduced Accessibility Removing free and limited waiting spaces disproportionately affects those on lower incomes, older residents, and those who make short visits to the city centre. These users often rely on short-term parking for quick errands, appointments, or visits without the burden of parking fees.

			2. Discouragement of Sustainable Travel The removal of car share bays could undermine efforts to reduce congestion and emissions in the city. Car sharing schemes support more sustainable and environmentally friendly travel. Removing these designated bays may disincentivize participation and limit accessibility for users. 3. Economic Impact on Local Businesses Free and time-limited parking options help attract shoppers and visitors to businesses in Central Milton Keynes. The shift to only paid parking could deter casual footfall, especially for quick stops, thereby impacting local trade. This might particularly impact smaller businesses that rely on spontaneous walk-ins. 4. Lack of Balance and Inclusion A parking strategy that removes all free or time-limited options seems to prioritize revenue generation over community inclusion and accessibility. A more balanced approach would retain some proportion of non-charged or limited-waiting bays alongside tariffed ones. 5. Recent Parking Fee Increases The proposed changes come on the heels of recent parking tariff hikes across Central Milton Keynes. Residents and visitors are already trying to cope with this added cost. Eliminating the remaining free and limited-waiting spaces adds further financial pressure and disregards cost-of-living challenges faced by the community. The rising costs associated with visits to Central Milton Keynes already have us contemplating redirecting everything from our weekly grocery shop to coffee meetups or dinner outings to other venues. If this trend continues the decision will be made for us and we will simply be forced to take our custom elsewhere. I respectfully urge the Council to reconsider the extent of the proposed changes and to preserve at least a portion of free, limited-waiting, and car share parking options in Central Milton Keynes.
(101)	Member of the public Objection	18th April 2025	Objection to removing all free carpark in Central Milton Keynes. Some of the family are hand to mouth class. Please be considerate.
(102)	Member of the public Objection	18th April 2025	This's to express my objection regarding both proposed orders 1 and 2. There're very limited free parking spaces already. It'll further withdraw the rights from low income and basic family.
(103)	Member of the public Objection	18th April 2025	Here are reasons for objecting to the cancellation of free car parking areas in Central Milton Keynes, especially in city center and shopping locations: 1. Negative Impact on Local Businesses Removing free parking could discourage visitors, especially those on a budget, from shopping or spending time in the city center. Reduced footfall may lead to a drop in sales for local shops, cafes, and small businesses, potentially harming the local economy. 2. Reduced Accessibility for Vulnerable Groups Free and limited-waiting parking supports access for elderly people, low-income individuals, and families with young children who may rely on easy and affordable car access. Replacing all such spaces with paid tariffs creates barriers for those who can least afford it. 3. Increased Congestion in Residential or Peripheral Areas Removing free parking in central areas may push drivers to seek free spots in nearby residential streets or outlying areas, increasing congestion, parking stress, and friction with local residents.
(104)	Member of the public Objection	18th April 2025	I am writing to formally object to the proposed Traffic Regulation Order TRO-420, specifically the removal of all existing free and limited waiting parking spaces in Central Milton Keynes. Grounds for Objection: 1. Negative Impact on Accessibility and Inclusivity Free and limited-time parking spaces provide essential access to the city centre for low-income individuals, elderly residents, and people with mobility issues who may not qualify for blue badges. Removing these spaces could disproportionately affect these groups and reduce their ability to access local services, shops, and leisure facilities. 2. Discouragement of Short-Stay Visits and Local Shopping

			Time-limited parking (e.g., 30 minutes to 2 hours) encourages short visits to small businesses, helping local trade thrive. Turning all bays into paid zones may deter casual visitors, reduce footfall, and harm independent retailers already under economic pressure. 3. Environmental Concerns and Increased Congestion The lack of short-stay options may lead to increased vehicle circulation as drivers search for more affordable parking further away, which could contribute to greater emissions and congestion within and around Central Milton Keynes. 4. Lack of Clarity on Alternative Provisions The documents do not make clear whether any affordable or time-restricted alternatives will be provided to replace the lost free spaces. A complete removal without proper alternatives risks creating a pay-to-access town centre, which contradicts the council's goals of inclusivity and accessibility. Request for Reconsideration: I strongly oppose the complete removal of all free and time-limited parking spaces in Central Milton Keynes. This proposal is not only inconvenient — it is exclusionary and short-sighted. Introducing a fully paid parking model in every part of the city centre sends a clear message that only those willing or able to pay are welcome. There is no acceptable justification for removing every remaining option for short-stay, no-cost parking — especially in a city that markets itself as open, accessible, and inclusive. Residents who wish to make quick stops for medical appointments, errands, or to support local businesses should not be penalised with unnecessary fees. The idea that everyone must now either pay a premium or purchase a permit — simply to exist in public spaces — is fundamentally unfair. I urge the Council to abandon this proposal in its current form and to retain a reasonable number of free and limited-waiting bays across key city centre locations. Anything less will be seen as a deliberate shift towards monetising public space at the expense of accessibility, equality, and community wellbeing.
(105)	Member of the public Objection	18th April 2025	I have moved To Milton Keynes for over two years, I love this place not only the green environments but also The convenience shopping experience. Basically, I will only shopping in Central MK if I get the free Parking, otherwise I will go somewhere else. In other words, customers will no longer to shop in Central MK if the free parking area is cancelled, the business of the shops in shopping centre will be seriously affected. Please well consider before to make the decisions, maybe to keep the limited free parking area can achieve the win-win situations, thank you.
(106)	Member of the public Other	18th April 2025	As a MK resident, I am writing to express my concern regarding the potential cancellation of the current free parking meter arrangement. The free parking meters have been extremely beneficial to both the daily lives of residents and the operation of local small businesses. Especially during this period of ongoing economic recovery, removing such an arrangement may impose additional burdens on the public and negatively affect the vibrancy of the local economy. I respectfully urge your office to reconsider the proposed cancellation and to retain the free parking meter policy, which continues to serve the interests of the wider community.
(107)	Member of the public Objection	18th April 2025	I’m writing to objecting to the cancellation of free car parking areas in Central Milton Keynes, especially in city center and shopping locations: - Negative Impact on Local Businesses Removing free parking could discourage visitors, especially those on a budget, from shopping or spending time in the city center. Reduced footfall may lead to a drop in sales for local shops, cafes, and small businesses, potentially harming the local economy. - Reduced Accessibility for Vulnerable Groups Free and limited-waiting parking supports access for elderly people, low-income individuals, and families with young children who may rely on easy and affordable car access. Replacing all such spaces with paid tariffs creates barriers for those who can least afford it. - Increased Congestion in Residential or Peripheral Areas Removing free parking in central areas may push drivers to seek free spots in nearby residential streets or outlying areas, increasing congestion, parking stress, and friction with local residents.
(108)	Member of the public	18th April 2025	As a resident, I'm outraged at this proposal. There isn't enough free parking as it is. I understand the argument to get more people using public transport, but taking away what little residents have already is preposterous! There are times when, for residents, it is not convenient or viable to use public transport.

Objection			
(109)	Member of the public Objection	22nd April 2025	I strongly oppose the removal of free parking, shared parking, and drop-off areas in Central Milton Keynes. The current parking costs are already prohibitively high and act as a major deterrent for those of us who shop, work, or visit the area. At a time when many individuals and families are facing serious financial pressures, eliminating these accessible options would only deepen the strain. Taking away affordable parking would not only hurt local businesses, but it would also send the wrong message—one that feels out of touch and inconsiderate of the community's real struggles.
(110)	Member of the public Objection	22nd April 2025	I am writing to object the proposal in removing all the existing free and limited parking places in the Central Milton Keynes. As cost of living is increasing constantly and high, I am deeply concerned about the proposal, which could discourage citizens to support local businesses and enjoy the community facilities in Central Milton Keynes. Kindly reconsider the proposal and explore any feasible solutions regarding the council's financial needs as well as the well-being of citizens please.
(111)	Member of the public Objection	22nd April 2025	In reference to the council proposal to change all free parking spaces in central MK to paid, as a long-term resident of Milton Keynes, I can see no justification for this other than trying to squeeze more tax out of motorists and residents. The given justification of managing demand does not make sense. Even during the busiest of peak times, there are always empty spaces in central MK; ironically, this has been the case since MK Council introduced paid parking many years ago. The result of this will be even fewer people visiting the shopping centre and turning to retail estates and online shopping instead. Please reconsider.
(112)	Campbell Park Community Council Objection	22nd April 2025	I am writing on behalf of Campbell Park Community Council regarding the consultation on removal of the free time limited parking spaces in CMK. As a council, we strongly object to this proposal, it automatically affects local residents who are likely to use the city centre (which is losing business) on a regular brief visit basis. Over the last many years, the parking situation has gradually worsened for a population that were enticed to the city by the Development Corporation with free parking everywhere. Please see the attached submission, which I have forwarded to the Cabinet Member responsible for Transport & Highways. Contents of the attached document: I am writing regarding the upcoming parking consultation in CMK, in respect of the current free parking spaces. These free parking spaces are a great deal of help to local MK residents , as it allows them to make a quick visit to their local centre within a limited time span. There are sign posted spaces in Midsummer Place, from the Market entrance all the way past the Post Office, outside Marks & Spencer, and opposite the old Iceland store. Outside M&S, and Iceland sites there are 42 parking spaces that allow 2 hours free parking. The other sites, with a total of 139 spaces allocated 3 hours. Both myself, and Campbell Park Community Council believe these spaces should be allowed to remain open, although we have no objection to all the spaces giving the same 2 hour window as a fair amount of time for a short visit from MK residents and workers. I appreciate that the days of free parking as advertised by the Development Corporation attracting people to the growing city are long gone, but I feel very strongly the current concessions should be maintained. Whilst writing, I have to mention the 40 non-marked spaces opposite the Post Office, down to the Iceland site outside the old food centre multi-storey. These spaces have had no signage for a considerable period of time, and are being used for all-day parking, even in the loading bays. Surely, this should be a greater priority to address.
(113)	Member of the public Other	22nd April 2025	It is terrible that you are going to stop the very limited free parking. I come into the city centre I always use the limited free parking. There aren't many spaces and you do have to wait awhile on occasions but the parking is so expensive. I don't think the additional revenue that MKCC will make from this will be very much if anything it will make less as people will be less inclined to go to CMK shopping. I will not go unless I'm going to the theatre and this will be in the evening when the parking is free unless you are going to charge for parking at that time? I appreciate you have make money somehow but this is not very cost effective
(114)	Member of the public	22nd April 2025	As a pensioner I regularly use these free spaces for short stay parking in the city when I collect prescriptions (medical, optical etc), collect & return books from the library, & buy fruit/veg from the market. My trips to town will be restricted in future as a consequence.

Objection			Also I object to the minimum 2 hr parking charge, when frequently all I need is 30 mins. If free parking spaces are to be abolished, why is there no provision for short term parking? This minimum parking charge will have the effect of a reduction in both my planned and unplanned purchases at city centre outlets as I will certainly go less frequently, and will not buy the extra few items that I invariably do, when I come to the city centre for a specific purpose in mind. I'm sure there are many more like me that will react the same way, and cumulatively trade will be reduced in the centre.
(115)	Member of the public Objection	22nd April 2025	I oppose the traffic regulation orders proposed to make under Sections 1(1), 2(1) and (2), 4(1) and (2) of the Road Traffic Regulations Act 1984. The removal of all existing car share parking spaces and existing free and limited waiting parking places in Central Milton Keynes with standard tariff and premium tariff parking places will impose great difficulties <u>for both the owners of the shops there and the people living in Milton Keynes with the following reasons:</u> 1. The share and free parking spaces offered by the Council now are already insufficient and limited. There is no grounds that these spaces have to be further removed. 2. We have paid increasing council tax and should have some more services. Now it is the opposite if these parking spaces are removed. 3. In present economic situation with high inflation and poor economic growth, UK citizens already suffer increasing living costs with increased council tax, rising energy costs, water costs, food costs, etc. This is no exception to people living in Milton Keynes. 4. Unstable employment, job cut and businesses closing down under the employer NI increase already impose financial hardship on people living in Milton Keynes. 5. With increased costs of parking, people will choose not to go to the Centre. This will affect the business of the shops there. 6. With less customers and sales, the shops in the Center will close down and no new tenants will move in, and this will affect the income of the landlords. 7. People not going to the Center may also affect their relationship with friends and family and their psychological well-being as they are unable to afford to go there for shopping , eating and socializing. 8. With less people going to the Center, the income from parking spaces to the Council will be much lower than expected. To conclude, the harm done is more than the benefit of implementation of this Traffic Act. I urge the Council to reconsider this change.
(116)	Member of the public Objection	22nd April 2025	I am writing to formally object to the proposed alterations to parking restrictions in Central Milton Keynes under Traffic Regulation Order (TRO-420). While I appreciate the efforts to manage parking and traffic flow in the area, I believe these changes could have unintended consequences that outweigh the intended benefits. I urge the council to reconsider the proposed restrictions and engage further with the community to ensure that any changes reflect the needs and interests of all stakeholders.
(117)	Member of the public Objection	23rd April 2025	I am writing to formally object to the proposed changes under reference TRO-420 regarding the removal of free and limited waiting parking places in Central Milton Keynes. The availability of free parking spaces is essential to many residents, workers, and visitors in the area. Removing these spaces and replacing them entirely with standard and premium tariff parking will create a financial burden, reduce accessibility, and discourage visits to Central Milton Keynes for those who rely on affordable parking options. Free and limited waiting spaces provide necessary flexibility and convenience, especially for short visits, errands, and access to services. They are a vital part of maintaining an inclusive, accessible city centre. We strongly urge the council to reconsider and retain some or all of the existing free parking spaces.
(118)	Member of the public Objection	23rd April 2025	I write to register my objection to the proposals under TRO-420. These proposals seek to remove the remaining free and limited waiting parking areas in central Milton Keynes in favour of standard and premium tariff bays. Following my Masters degree, I worked as a partner at John Lewis in Centre:MK. An important part of that business was the collection point which has a series of free limited parking spaces which customers could use to collect items after their shopping trip. I know from experience how important this area was to John Lewis's business in MK. It provided a space for customers to collect bigger items, or in some cases a place for them to store their shopping from John Lewis before supporting businesses in other areas of the centre.

			While this area is fortunately not impacted by the TRO the concept remains the same. People use these spaces in order to make quick trips to the centre. These free spaces help to provide business to our retail and hospitality sector. A sector that is about to be hit with inevitable increased inflationary pressures due to the movements of the global economy and further compounded by employers NI increases. The council has just increased parking charges across Milton Keynes, making it more expensive to support our local businesses and retail outlets. Removing the remaining free parking spaces in central Milton Keynes is hardly conducive to economic growth and may negatively impact local businesses. We need to be finding ways to incentivise economic growth, not finding ways to depress it. Surely the economic benefit received by the council from monetising these spaces will be outweighed by the impact on the trade of local businesses in doing it. Please reconsider this proposal and consider alternative options that help grow the economy of Milton Keynes whilst helping the council to achieve its goals.
(119)	Member of the public Objection	23rd April 2025	I would like to object to your proposal to remove the remaining free and subsidised parking in Central Milton Keynes. If car sharing has declined, more effort should be put into increasing it.
(120)	CMK Town Council Objection	23rd April 2025	The Town Council objects to the removal of free and limited waiting spaces in the following locations; -Midsummer Boulevard - PS 373 to PS 382 3 Hours free -Lower 12th Street - 30 minutes free The proposal to replace these spaces with Standard Tariff charges will severely impact on the trading of the CMK Market and CMK Post Office. The spaces closest to the Post Office on the corner of South 12th Street, currently 30 minutes short stay, are important to allow customers of the Post Office, a significant community asset, to make quick transactions and use the banking facilities, especially important for older customers. There is a campaign currently being undertaken to save this post office from threatened closure being led by our local MP Emily Darlington and the loss of these limited free short stay spaces will undermine the moves to secure its future. We therefore urge the Council to reconsider the proposed Traffic Order 420 to exclude the loss of these important free short term spaces. As an alternative we would recommend that all of the free short term spaces that currently serve the CMK Market and the Post Office be made 60 minutes with no return within 2 hours. It is worth noting that all town and city centres have some free parking for a variety of commercial and other reasons. We see no reason why Milton Keynes should be any different when the driver is for purely income generation.
(121)	Member of the public Objection	23rd April 2025	I am writing to express my strong and unequivocal objection to the proposed changes outlined in TRO-420, specifically the removal of all free and limited waiting parking spaces in Central Milton Keynes. These proposals are deeply concerning. The removal of all free parking provision is not only unreasonable but also unacceptable. Many residents, workers, and visitors depend on these spaces for essential daily activities. Replacing them with paid standard and premium tariff bays will place an unfair financial burden on the community and disproportionately affect those who are already struggling with the cost of living. The current balance of paid and free parking ensures accessibility, fairness, and inclusion. Removing free options entirely will discourage local engagement, reduce footfall for small businesses, and damage the social and economic wellbeing of the area. Milton Keynes has long benefited from a practical and forward-thinking approach to urban planning. These changes would represent a step backwards and send a clear message that the needs of the public are being ignored in favour of revenue generation. I urge the Council in the strongest terms to retain the existing free and limited waiting parking spaces. These are essential, and their removal would be a serious mistake
(122)	Member of the public Other	23rd April 2025	I'm writing to let you know as a Milton Keynes resident, the proposal to remove all free parking from the city centre is very upsetting, and would be highly detrimental to small independent businesses especially in the central market. Making all parking paid will cause an inconvenience and unwanted financial burden to the residents who often need to make quick essential trips to the centre for the shopping or other work, like visiting the bank or post office. The parking fee has already been doubled, and so has the minimum period been doubled in less than a year. Previously we could pay 50p for an hour of parking if we needed to stop by the centre quickly, now we are forced to pay £2 for 2 hours, regardless of whether we just need to stop for less than 15 minutes.

			This additional burden will affect those, like my Father who only works part time, and who regularly makes quick trips to shop for groceries in the central market. People like him and other residents will start to change where they shop and go to places like retail parks and large supermarkets which almost always offer free parking. I trust you will take into account the needs of small businesses and residents, and not move forwards with the proposal to remove all the free parking spaces. At very least, whatever spaces are already free, should continue to be free for Milton Keynes residents
(123)	Member of the public Objection	24th April 2025	I am writing to object to the proposal to: - Remove all existing car share parking spaces and replace them with standard and premium tariff parking. - Remove all free and limited-waiting parking spaces and replace them with standard and premium tariff parking. These changes would discourage the use of car sharing, increase costs for residents and visitors, and reduce access to affordable, short-term parking in the city centre. This could negatively affect local businesses, people on lower incomes, and those who rely on occasional or short visits. I ask the Council to reconsider this proposal and to look at options that support fair, sustainable, and accessible transport for everyone
(124)	Member of the public Objection	24th April 2025	I am writing to express my growing frustration and strong objection to the ongoing and increasingly aggressive approach you are taking towards parking in Milton Keynes—specifically, the removal of the remaining free parking spaces and the continued escalation of parking charges. The fact that the price of parking has double is already unreasonable and unjustified. Now, to also eliminate the few free spaces that remain feels like a deliberate and targeted move to exploit residents, workers, and visitors. The majority of parking in the city is already paid. Expanding this even further shows a complete disregard for the financial pressures people are facing. To make matters worse, the cost of parking permits for employees working in CMK is equally excessive. It is absurd that workers, like myself, are being penalised just for needing to park near their place of work. Not only is this unfair, but it also discourages people from working in central areas or supporting local businesses. This relentless monetisation of public space is short-sighted and deeply frustrating. The removal of free options, combined with rising fees and unaffordable permits, is making Milton Keynes less accessible, less attractive, and less liveable for the very people who keep it running. I urge the Council to reconsider this path and listen to the residents who are bearing the brunt of these policies. These changes do not serve the public—they serve revenue targets at the expense of community wellbeing.
(125)	Member of the public Other	24th April 2025	I am writing to you today to express my concern about the latest proposal to remove free parking in Central Milton Keynes. I would also like to comment on the prices of employee permits for workers in Central Milton Keynes. In Central Milton Keynes, the prices of parking are far too high. I think this because sometimes people run errands which may only take 20 minutes, meaning they would have to pay for one hour in total. Due to the obscene costs of parking, this could range anywhere from 50p-£2. No one should be paying £2 an hour even if it is close to the entrance. From my personal experience, I only go to Central Milton Keynes on days I do not work due to free parking. This is because it allows me to not spend my entire paycheck just to pay for one whole hour of parking which I simply do not need. Free parking allows people to have freedom of being in Central Milton Keynes for a limited amount of time. I would say people would not want to come shopping in Central Milton Keynes if they have to pay for parking everywhere. My next comment is the prices of employee permits. I find that the prices I pay for the distance I park is not okay. This is because I have to walk alone to my car, in the dark, which could be very dangerous. This can be dangerous due to all the issues which have occurred recently in Milton Keynes, it simply isn't safe. The prices of employee permits put me off driving to work entirely. It's nearing being classified as unaffordable, just like parking costs for standard people. The distance I work from the centre means it doesn't work to take public transport, which is also way too high. Given that I have other costs I must pay for, which are more important than parking. I urge the council to reconsider the withdrawal of free parking and also to please review the prices of employee permits. Numerous surveys have gone around to get the council to reconsider, which I and my co-workers have all signed. I would like Milton Keynes to promote fair and balanced restrictions which the entire community can agree on.
(126)	Member of the public Other	24th April 2025	I am writing as a concerned regarding the proposed removal of free parking in our city. Free parking has long been a crucial support for local businesses, residents, and visitors. It encourages people to come into town, shop locally, and

			participate in community events without the burden of additional costs. Removing this benefit may deter people from spending time in the city center, negatively impacting small businesses and reducing accessibility for those who rely on their vehicles for essential travel. Please reconsider this decision and engage with the community for a more inclusive and sustainable solution
(127)	Member of the public Objection	24th April 2025	I am writing as a local resident to strongly object to the proposed Traffic Regulation Orders (TRO-420), which would remove all free and limited waiting parking bays in Central Milton Keynes and replace them with standard and premium tariff spaces. The timing and nature of this proposal are deeply concerning. The Council has only recently increased parking tariffs, and now, to remove all free and limited-time options feels both excessive and unfair. As it stands, I would now have to pay a minimum of £2 just to quickly stop and pick up something to eat — a task that previously took only a few minutes and didn't warrant a parking charge. This level of inflexibility makes everyday errands unnecessarily expensive and frustrating. These changes would disproportionately affect ordinary residents, especially those who rely on short-term parking for quick visits to local shops, services, or community facilities. Not everyone can afford to pay parking fees for brief stops, and these extra charges will add up, particularly for families, older residents, and those on tighter budgets. The city centre should be welcoming and accessible to all — not just to those who can afford to park there. This move also risks damaging the appeal and vibrancy of Central Milton Keynes. Small businesses depend on a steady flow of customers, many of whom rely on quick, convenient parking to pop in for a meal, a coffee, or a purchase. Pushing away this kind of footfall could be hugely detrimental at a time when high streets are already under pressure. Additionally, I am disappointed to see the removal of car share bays — a regressive step when we should be doing more to encourage shared and sustainable transport solutions. I understand the desire to manage traffic and support long-term environmental goals, but this proposal risks alienating the very residents who help keep the city centre alive. Until public transport becomes a genuinely convenient alternative across all parts of Milton Keynes, removing practical and affordable parking options is simply not reasonable. I urge the Council to reconsider this decision and look at solutions that support accessibility, fairness, and the continued vitality of our city centre.
(128)	Member of the public Other	24th April 2025	I wanted to express my concerns about the proposed changes to free parking areas in Central Milton Keynes Growing up the city centre was all free parking - the shopping centre was vibrant and the place to be - now it is full of empty shops - the local council should be looking at ways of increasing footfall and safety to the shopping centre not putting another nail in the coffin of bricks and mortar retail. the current fees increase recently by stealth when moving from a 1 hour minimum to 2 hour minimum fee - i often park around 5.30 and am forced to pay for 2 hours - the machines and ringo should be programmed to adjust in a pro rata basis once the 6pm time is reached - this would then not penalise those who wish to pop in after work or even those going to work for twilight shifts - safety for those workers also need to be considered when they leave work at night. Please consider a more thoughtful approach to the current situation, more retail equals more jobs and people actually putting back into the local economy - this proposal goes against all logic and can only been seen as another labour government stealth tax - Milton Keynes needs businesses to succeed, i can only see this proposal hampering business and the everyday person trying to earn a living.
(129)	Member of the public Objection	24th April 2025	I am writing in objection to the free parking spaces being removed from the city centre parking. This change will put off many visitors from visiting and instead increase the visits to free parking in the city such as mk1 and the local retail parks instead. I appreciate that parking in MK is apparently cheaper than neighbouring towns but it is not cheaper than equivalent size shopping centres such as bluewater, the Trafford centre and meadowhall. Short stay free car parking is one of the last remaining benefits of shopping up the city centre and helps maintain a steady flow of customers - especially since you have raised the price of the purple parking to ridiculous rates. You've already got half an empty midsummer place and people will prefer to park in the John Lewis Debenhams car parks as they are under cover and closer so this is a shortsighted endeavour. You should be running more events in the city and free parking to encourage citizens to visit and not just buy everything from Amazon and just eat! What incentive is there to go to the city now?

(130)	Member of the public Other	24th April 2025	I would like to express my disagreement and disappointment to the plan of removing the exiting free car park spaces at central Milton Keynes. The standard and premium parking fees have been just recently raised a lot. Council tax has also been raised. Electricity, gas, water and internet etc prices have increased as well. Those increments are significantly affecting lives of local residents. Besides, there are not a lot of free parking spaces, they should be kept as free for residents. I hope the government will deeply consider the burdens of the local residents. Although, the minimum wage has gone up, the little increment has been offset by all other charges/fees.
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