

Town Centre Car Parks Remain Free in June

All Council-owned car parks in Guildford town centre will remain free of charge throughout June as some shops and businesses start to re-open in line with new government guidance.

We are working in collaboration with our Business Improvement District, Experience Guildford, and town centre partners to reassure residents once businesses begin to re-open from Monday 15 June. We appreciate everybody's patience and adherence to social distancing guidelines.

Parking charges are expected to return from Wednesday 1 July, but Farnham Road Car Park will remain free to allow us to continue to prioritise parking for key workers. These spaces will be available on a first come first served basis.

The Artington Park and Ride service will continue to operate, with the Merrow service due to recommence from 15 June. Capacity will be increased to meet rises in demand.

Lead Councillor for Parking, Cllr James Steel says:

"We will work with Experience Guildford and our local businesses to ensure that safety is paramount and all government guidelines are followed to give people the confidence to return to our town centre. We have been extremely proud to do everything we can to help our residents and businesses get through the coronavirus pandemic, and as we begin to take the first steps back towards normality we want to maintain that level of commitment. It is essential that we support our key workers in doing their vital work, and I am delighted that we can continue to provide free parking for them.

"Economic recovery is one of the key factors in how the UK emerges from this pandemic and with Guildford being one of the top shopping destinations in the South-East I look forward to the town being at the forefront of that recovery."

Amanda Masters, Chief Executive of Experience Guildford says:

"We are here to help shoppers as much as possible, whilst at the same time supporting our wonderful local businesses. We are excited to be able to welcome people back to Guildford town centre but recognise that recovery will be a gradual process, and hope that free parking throughout June will encourage more people back. I am, though, confident that we will all soon be able to enjoy everything which makes Guildford so special again."