



REGENERATION AND ENVIRONMENT SCRUTINY COMMITTEE – 10TH DECEMBER 2013

**SUBJECT: REVIEW OF THE OPERATION AND PARKING CHARGES FOR BLUE BADGE
HOLDERS IN COUNCIL PUBLIC CAR PARKS**

REPORT BY: ACTING DEPUTY CHIEF EXECUTIVE

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To inform the Regeneration and Environment Scrutiny Committee of the outcome of a review carried out on the operation and current parking charges for blue badge holders in the Council's off-street public car parks.

2. SUMMARY

- 2.1 Following a review of the operation and current parking charges for blue badge holders in the Council's off-street public car parks the following actions/improvements are recommended:

- Additional disabled parking bays to be provided in 12 pay and display car parks.
- A number of existing disabled parking bays are to be increased in size in 9 pay and display car parks.
- Concession of 1hr extra free parking for blue badge holders to be introduced in all pay and display car parks.
- On-street parking exemptions for blue badge holders to be better publicised/promoted.

3. LINKS TO STRATEGY

- 3.1 To work towards the Council's corporate objective of improving peoples' living environment through targeted actions, regulation, information and advice.
- 3.2 Engineering Division Objective: To provide safe and efficient transport and land drainage infrastructure through quality services delivered by means of cost effective management, maintenance and improvement of the networks.
- 3.3 The report links to the Safer and Prosperous themes of "Caerphilly Delivers", the Local Services Board (LSB) Single Integrated plan.

4. THE REPORT

- 4.1 In order to assist the Council in understanding the full range of needs for the users of its off-street public car parks the Council has recently undertaken a consultation exercise on the charging and operation of these facilities. The consultation was published on the Council's website and also sent to a number of organisations that represent disabled and older members of the community. Information has also been gathered from the other 21 Local Authorities in Wales in order to enable comparisons to be made.

- 4.2 The Council's Engineering Services Division manages a total of 82 off street public car parks, of which 16 are subject to charges in the form of pay and display, 10 are designated for Park & Ride, 3 are designated for season tickets only and the remaining 53 (including 2 limited waiting car parks) are free. Officers based within the Traffic Management team of the Engineering Services Division undertake the day to day management and enforcement of the car parks. A list of the managed off street public car parks is provided in Appendix 1. Plans showing individual car park locations are shown in Appendices 2 – 5.
- 4.3 The car park charging system is a key element of managing the town centre environment and economic viability. This is achieved by balancing short stay and long stay parking demand and associated issues such as residential parking and on-street parking generally. Tariffs are set after considering many factors, with supply and demand being important considerations. Details of the current parking tariffs, which came into effect in 2010 are provided in Appendix 6.
- 4.4 The parking charges in the pay and display facilities currently apply between 8am and 6pm Monday to Saturday (including Bank Holidays). Charges are also made in the Twyn car park in Caerphilly on Sundays between 8am and 6pm, which are necessary to discourage long term parking by visitors/workers in the town and ensure a turnover of spaces for shoppers and tourists.
- 4.5 Disabled parking bays are provided in the majority of pay and display car parks in order to assist customers with mobility problems. The disabled parking bays are larger than a standard parking bay and are generally positioned as close as possible to the main pedestrian access in each car park. Users are required to display their blue badge at all times when parked in a disabled parking bay. Currently no concessions are offered to blue badge holders in terms of the parking charges that apply. Details of the parking bay provisions (including sizes and numbers of bays) in the Council's pay and display car parks are provided in Appendix 7 along with recommended improvements.
- 4.6 The table in Appendix 8 provides details of the pay and display car parks and concessions offered to blue badge holders by all 22 Local Authorities in Wales. From this information it is evident that 20 Councils operate pay and display car parks, of which 7 Council's charge blue badge holders to use their facilities. Of the 7 Councils that charge blue badge holders, 1 Council (Pembrokeshire) offers a concession in the form of additional 1hr hour parking free of charge, and 1 Council (Swansea) offers concessionary charges for blue badge holders in their short stay car parks. 13 Councils offer free parking/other concessions to blue badge holders, of which 6 Councils only allow the concessions to apply when blue badge holders are parked within a marked disabled bay.
- 4.7 In order to assist the Council in understanding the full range of needs for the users of its highway owned off-street public car parks officers have recently undertaken a consultation exercise on the charging and operation of these facilities. As the consultation exercise was primarily aimed at disabled users, groups who represent disabled and older members of the community were specifically targeted. A summary of the feedback was also sent to all Town and Community Councils and Community Partnerships within Caerphilly County Borough and they were asked for their comments.
- 4.8 A total of 24 questionnaires were completed and returned. Separate responses were also received from Disability Can Do and Disabled Motoring UK, as well as Gelligaer Community Council and Penrheol Energlyn and Trecenydd Community Council. Summaries of the responses received (along with officers' comments and recommendations) are provided in Appendix 9 and Appendix 10.
- 4.9 From the responses received it is apparent that a number of common areas of concern have been identified and these include lack of disabled spaces and request for some form of consideration of concession for blue badge holders. A list of these concerns along with recommended actions is provided in Appendix 11.

5. EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 The report specifically affects registered disabled people who are blue badge holders and is therefore very targeted in terms of who is covered by its contents. An impact assessment has been carried out and is attached for information as Appendix 12.

6. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 6.1 In order to implement the actions recommended in Appendix 6 the following costs would need to be met from future Engineering Services Division budgets over a phased period of time, which is dependent upon funding streams being available. The future Medium Term Financial Plan and other priorities as yet unknown can affect how monies can be programmed for this.

Action	Cost Estimate / £
Provision of 27 no. additional disabled parking bays in 12 pay and display car parks.	13,000
Enlargement of 34 no. existing disabled parking bays (including adjustment of neighbouring standard parking bays) in 9 pay and display car parks.	30,000
Advertisement/processing of traffic regulation order	3,000
Software modification for ticket machines	2,500
Erection of 30 no. new signs/tariff boards	22,500
Annual income loss from additional 1 hr free parking	20,000
TOTAL	91,000

7. PERSONNEL IMPLICATIONS

- 7.1 None.

8. CONSULTATIONS

- 8.1 The consultation was published on the Council's website between 8th August and 14 September 2013.

The following groups were consulted between 21 September 2012 and 22 October 2012.

- Caerphilly C B Access Group
- Caerphilly C B Disability Forum
- Gavo
- 50+ Forum
- Disabled Motoring UK

A copy of the consultation and responses received were sent to all Town and Community Council Partnerships for comment on 5 June 2013 with a response deadline of 21 July 2013

A summary of all responses received is included in Appendices 5 & 6.

- 8.2 The comments received from the list of consultees have been incorporated in this report and Appendices attached.

9. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 9.1 The Regeneration and Environment Scrutiny Committee is asked for its views on the following recommendations before they are submitted to Cabinet for approval.

- Additional disabled parking bays to be provided in 12 pay and display car parks.
- A number of existing disabled parking bays are to be increased in size in 9 pay and display car parks.
- Concession of 1hr extra free parking for blue badge holders to be introduced in all pay and display car parks.
- On-street parking exemptions for blue badge holders to be better publicised/promoted.

10. REASONS FOR THE RECOMMENDATIONS

- 10.1 To improve accessibility to the Council owned public off-street car parks for blue badge holders.

11. STATUTORY POWER

- 11.1 Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984

Author: Dean Smith – Principal Engineer, Traffic Management
 Consultees: Cllr T Williams - Cabinet Member for Highways, Transportation & Engineering
 Cllr D T Davies - Chair of Regeneration and Environment Scrutiny Committee
 Cllr E M Aldworth - Vice Chair of Regeneration and Environment Scrutiny Committee
 Stuart Rosser – Interim Chief Executive
 Sandra Aspinall – Acting Deputy Chief Executive
 Terry Shaw – Head of Engineering Services
 Clive Campbell – Transportation Engineering Manager
 David A Thomas – Senior Policy Officer (Equalities and Welsh Language)
 Sean O'Brien – Team Manager (Occupational Therapy)
 John Rogers – Principal Solicitor
 Gail Williams – Interim Monitoring Officer

Appendices:

- Appendix 1 – List of highway owned off-Street public car parks
- Appendix 2 – Plan of Pay and Display Car Parks – Bargoed
- Appendix 3 – Plan of Pay and Display Car Parks – Blackwood
- Appendix 4 – Plan of Pay and Display Car Parks – Caerphilly
- Appendix 5 – Plan of Pay and Display Car Parks – Ystrad Mynach
- Appendix 6 – Existing car park charges
- Appendix 7 – Existing parking bay provisions in pay & display car parks
- Appendix 8 – Concessions offered to blue badge holders by Welsh Local Authorities
- Appendix 9 – Comments received from public consultation exercise
- Appendix 10 – Summary of responses received from public consultation exercise
- Appendix 11 – Recommended actions
- Appendix 12 – Equalities Impact Assessment

Appendix 1 - Highway Owned Public Car Parks

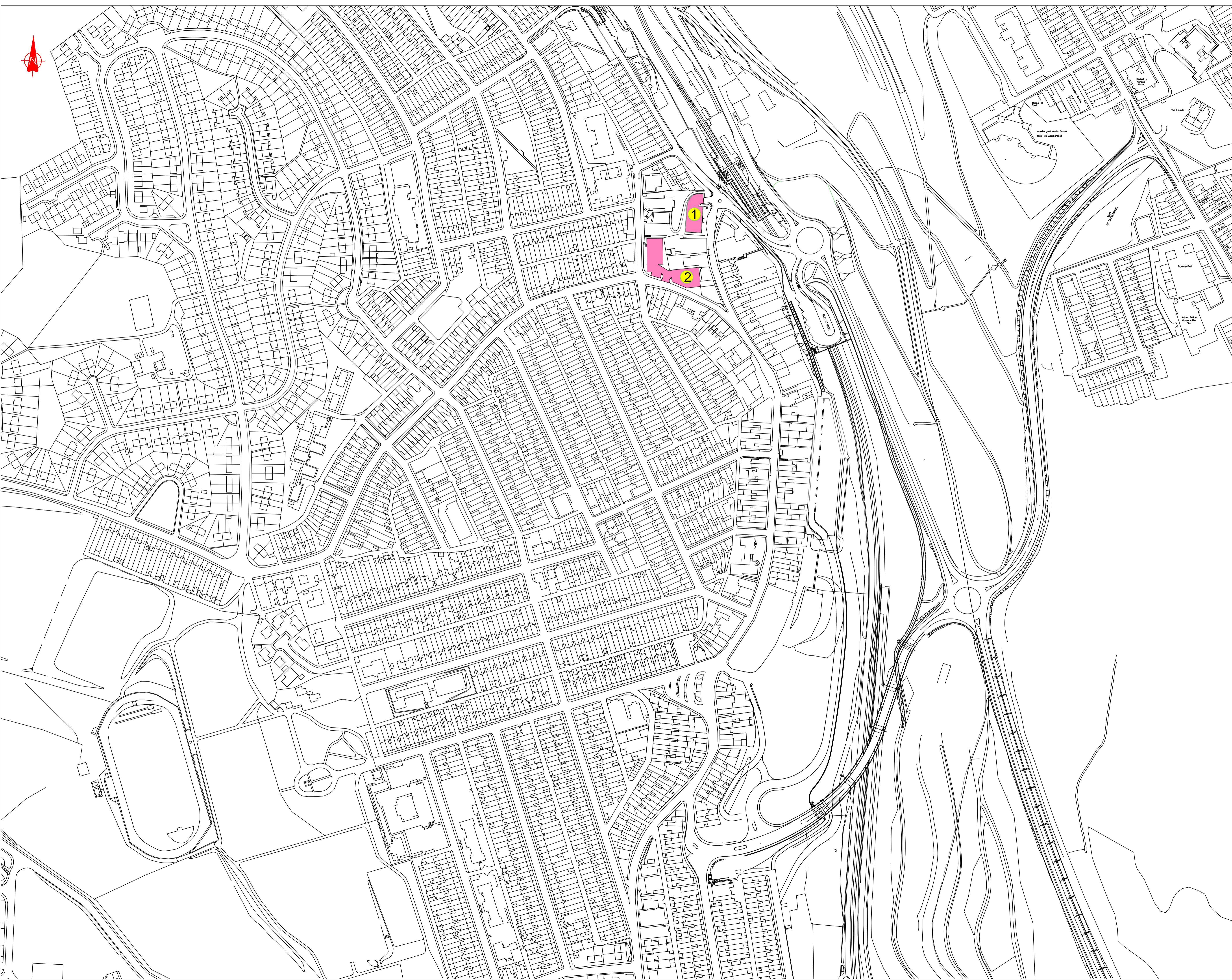
Item	Location	Car Park Name	Charges	Number of Parking Bays	
				Standard	Disabled
1	Aberbargoed	Pant Street	Free	12	0
2	Abercarn	Bridge Street	Free	15	0
3	Abercarn	Dan-y-Rhiw Terrace	Free	8	0
4	Abercarn	Gwyddon Road	Free	10	0
5	Abertyswg	Walter Street	Free	44	0
6	Bargoed	Bargoed Train Station	Free (Park & Ride)	89	5
7	Bargoed	Bristol Terrace	Free	12	0
8	Bargoed	Cardiff Road	Free	30	0
9	Bargoed	Emporium	Pay and display & season tickets	25	2
10	Bargoed	Gateway	Free		
11	Bargoed	Hanbury Road	Free	123	7
12	Bargoed	St Gwladys	Pay and display & season tickets	24	3
13	Bedwas	Bridgend Inn	Free	25	0
14	Bedwas	Church Street	Free	12	0
15	Blackwood	Bus Station	Pay and display	50	3
16	Blackwood	Cliff Road	Pay and display & season tickets	90	6
17	Blackwood	Court House	Pay and display & season tickets	41	0
18	Blackwood	High street	Pay and display	193	8
19	Blackwood	Highland Terrace	Season ticket for residents only	10	0
20	Blackwood	Gordon Road	Season ticket for residents only	9	0
21	Blackwood	Libanus Road	Season ticket for residents & non residents	20	0
22	Blackwood	Market Traders	Pay and display	23	1
23	Blackwood	Montclair avenue	Free	25	0
24	Blackwood	Red Lion	Free - 2 hours limited waiting (no return within 2 hours)	11	0
25	Blackwood	Thorncombe 2	Pay and display & season tickets	35	0
26	Blackwood	Thorncombe 3	Pay and display & season tickets	69	17
27	Blackwood	Wesley Road	Pay and display	30	1
28	Blackwood	Woodbine Road	Pay and display	35	2
29	Caerphilly	Aber Train Station	Free (Park & Ride)	130	8
30	Caerphilly	Bedwas Road	Pay and display & season tickets	20	3
31	Caerphilly	Caerphilly Train Station	Free (Park & Ride)	270	8
32	Caerphilly	Crescent Road	Pay and display & season tickets	182	7
33	Caerphilly	Lawrence Street	Free - 2 hours limited waiting (no return within 4 hours) & season ticket	14	0
34	Caerphilly	Station Terrace	Pay and display & season tickets	24	2
35	Caerphilly	Twyn	Pay and display	61	7
36	Caerphilly	White Street	Free	10	0
37	Cefn Fforest	Waunborfa Road	Free	16	2
38	Crosskeys	Gladstone Street	Free	40	2

39	Crumlin	Crown Street	Free	12	0
40	Crumlin	Kendon Road	Free	13	0
41	Crumlin	Pen-Y-Fan	Free	40	1
42	Cwmfelinfach	Alexandra Road	Free	25	0
43	Cwmfelinfach	Commercial Buildings	Free	25	0
44	Cwmfelinfach	Maindee Road	Free	10	0
45	Fleur-de-lis	Ivor Street	Free	30	0
46	Hengoed	Hengoed Train Station	Free (Park & Ride)	45	2
47	Llanbradach	Station Road	Free	20	3
48	Llanbradach	Station Road	Free	13	0
49	Machen	Siloam Hill	Free - 1 hour limited waiting (no return within 2 hours)	4	0
50	Machen	The Crescent	Free	55	3
51	Markham	Bryn Road	Free	12	0
52	Nelson	Dynevor Terrace	Free	35	2
53	Newbridge	High Street	Free	25	0
54	Newbridge	Meredith Terrace	Free	10	1
55	Newbridge	Newbridge Train Station	Free (Park & Ride)	75	6
56	Newbridge	Pantside Cottages	Free	6	0
57	Newbridge	Victoria Terrace	Free	12	0
58	Newbridge	West View	Free	14	0
59	New Tredegar	Dyffryn Terrace	Free	26	0
60	New Tredegar	Morgan Street	Free	12	0
61	New Tredegar	Jubilee Road	Free	6	0
62	Oakdale	Pen-Rhiw Avenue	Free	15	0
63	Pengam	Pengam Train Station	Free (Park & Ride)	162	11
64	Pontllanfraith	Bryn Lane	Free	10	0
65	Pontllanfraith	Sir Ivors Road	Free	42	0
66	Pontymister	Foundary Road	Free		
67	Pontymister	Herbert Avenue	Free	38	0
68	Pontymister	Mill Street	Free	22	0
69	Pontymister	Risca Train Station	Free (Park & Ride)	96	5
70	Rhymney	Lower Row, Bute Town	Free	6	0
71	Rhymney	Rhymney Train Station	Free (Park & Ride)	23	2
72	Risca	Longbridge	Free	50	2
73	Risca	Raglan Street	Free (Cars & lorries car park)	40	0
74	Risca	Rifleman Street	Free	20	0
75	Risca	Tredegar Terrace	Free	66	2
76	Senghenydd	Commercial Street	Free	15	0
77	Tir-Phil	Tir-Phil Train Station	Free (Park & Ride)	8	2
78	Trethomas	Navigation Street	Free	30	2
79	Wattsville	Islwyn Street	Free	10	0
80	Ynysddu	High Street	Free	25	0
81	Ystrad	Oakfield street	Pay and display	68	1
82	Ystrad Mynach	Ystrad Train Station	Free (Park & Ride)	93	0

Key

- 1 St Gwladys Car Park
- 2 Emporium Car Park

APPENDIX 2



Surfs	Date	Initials	Description



TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT
 Directorate of the Environment
 Engineering Division HQ.
 Council Offices, Pontllanfraith
 Blackwood NP12 2YW
 Head of Engineering Services - Terry Shaw
 B.Eng, MBA, C.ENG, MICE, MCIHT

project title

Caerphilly County Borough Council
 Caerphilly County Borough Council's
 Managed Pay & Display off street Car
 Parking locations
 Bargoed

scale	date	drawn	checked
NTS	02/10/13	CB	DS
project ref.	drawing no.	rev.	
	TM/13/54		

DO NOT SCALE

Key

- 1 Wesley Road Car Park
- 2 Cliff Road Car Park
- 3 Woodbine Road Car Park
- 4 High Street Car Park
- 5 Bus Station Car Park
- 6 Market Traders Car Park
- 7 Thorncombe Road 3 Car Park
- 8 Thorncombe Road 2 Car Park
- 9 Court House Car Park

APPENDIX 3

Surfix	Date	Initials	Description

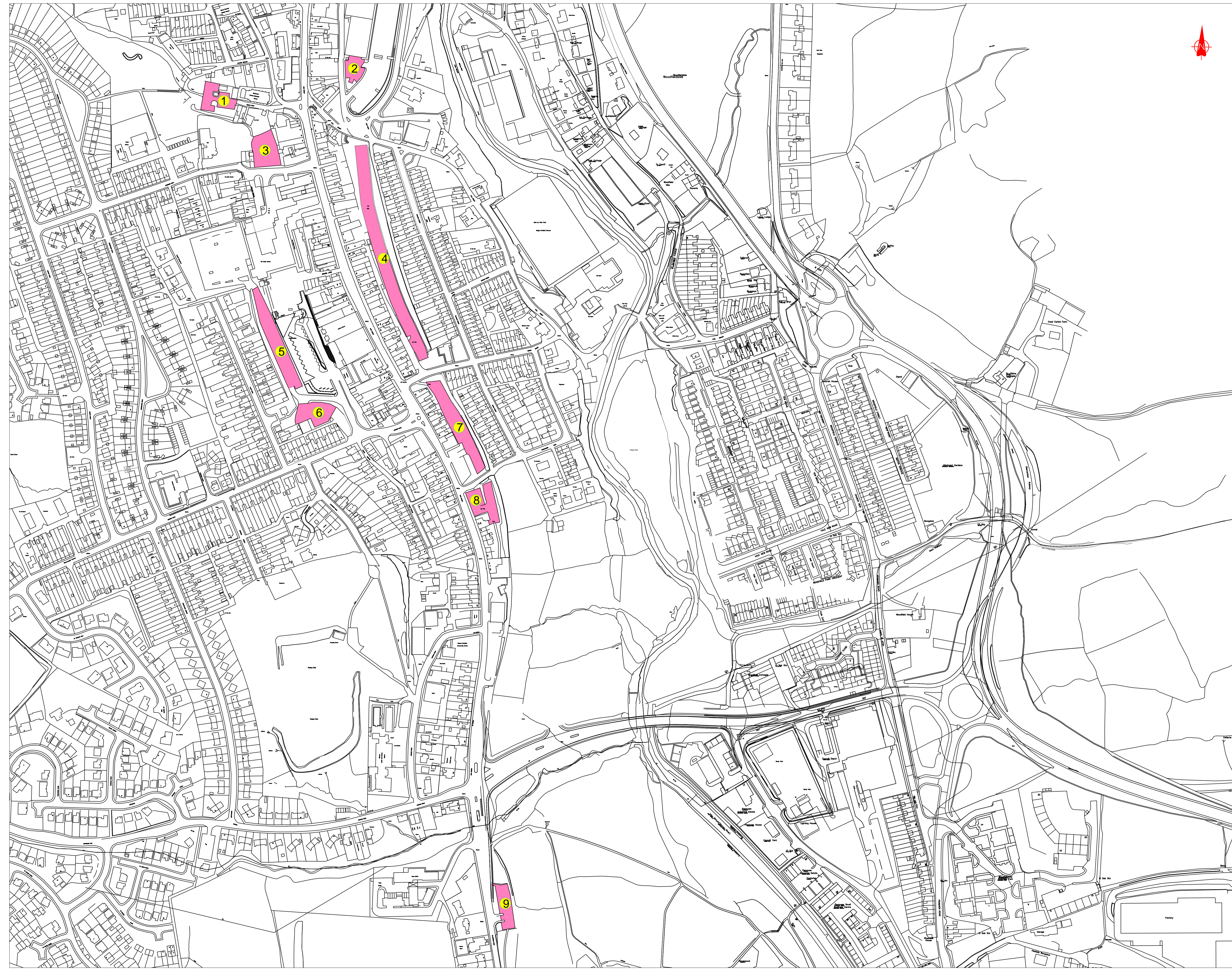


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 project title

Caerphilly County Borough Council

drawing title
 Caerphilly County Borough Council's
 Managed Pay & Display off street Car
 Parking locations
 Blackwood

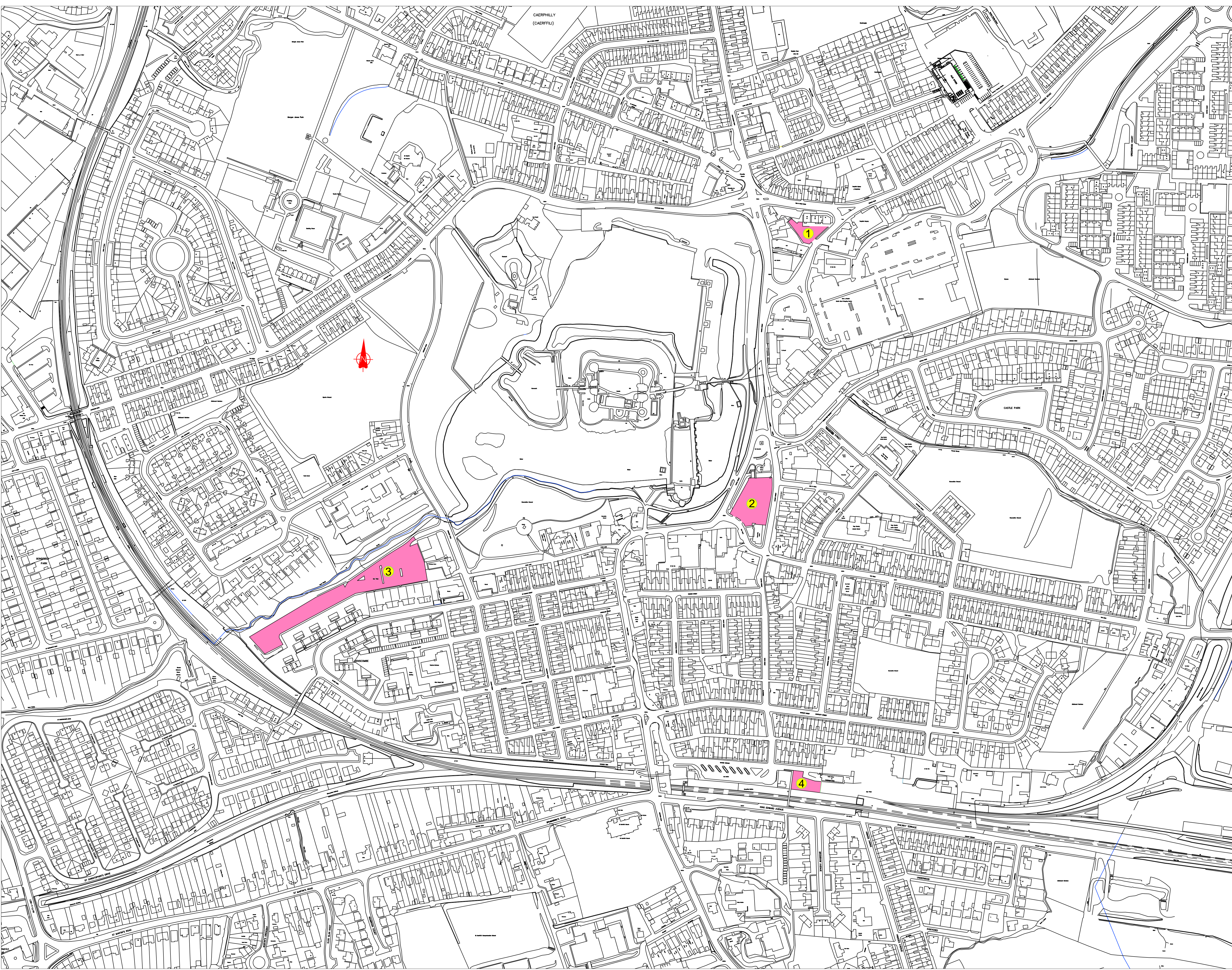
scale	date	drawn	checked
NTS	02/10/13	CB	DS
project ref.	drawing no.		rev.
	TM/13/54		



DO NOT SCALE

- Key**
- 1 Bedwas Road Car Park
 - 2 Twyn Car Park
 - 3 Crescent Road Car Park
 - 4 Station Terrace Car Park

APPENDIX 4



Surf.	Date	Initials	Description



TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT
 Directorate of the Environment
 Engineering Division HQ.
 Council Offices, Pontllanfraith
 Blackwood NP12 2YW
 Head of Engineering Services - Terry Shaw
 B.Eng, MBA, C.ENG, MICE, MCM, MCIT
 project title

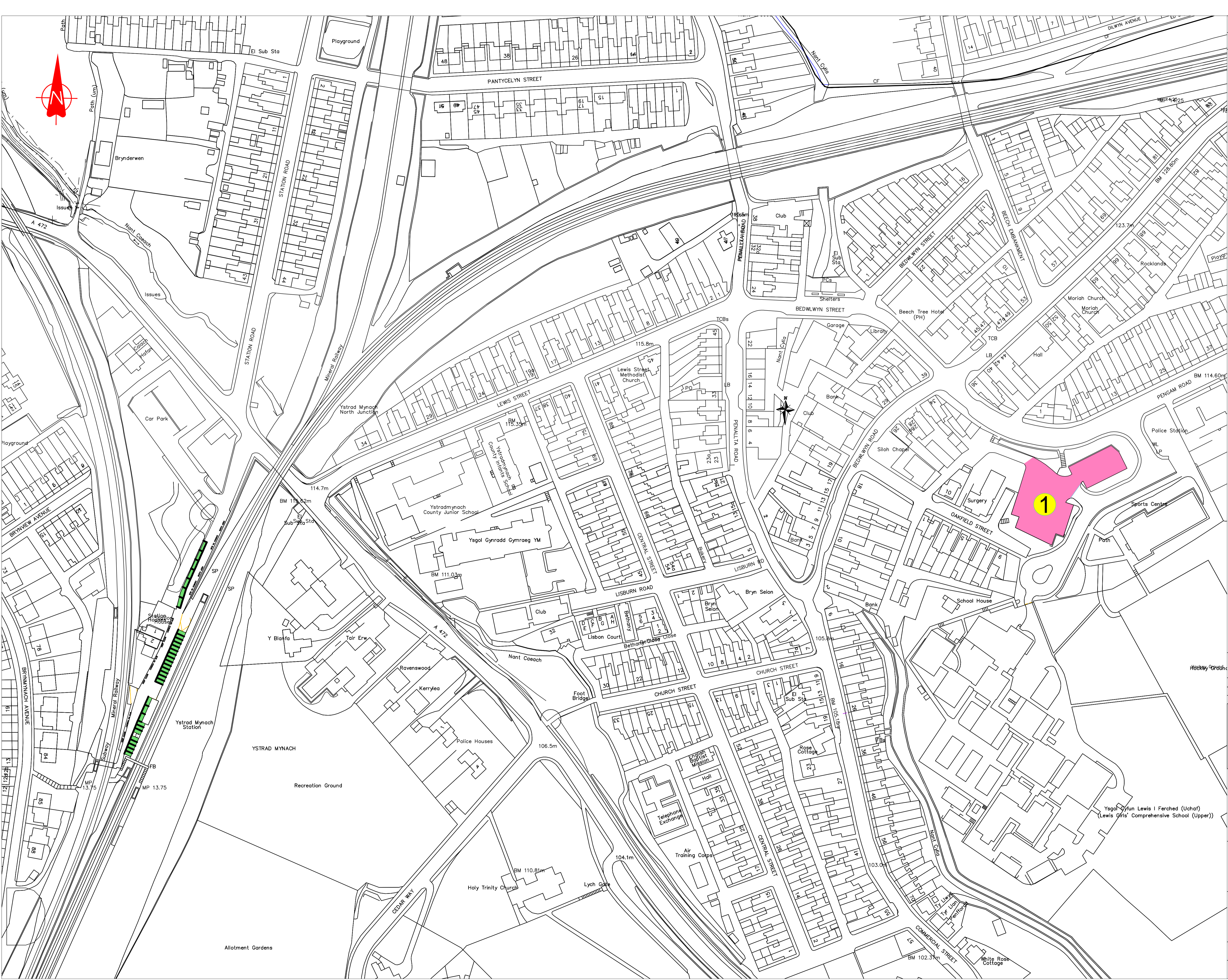
Caerphilly County Borough Council

drawing title
 Caerphilly County Borough Council's
 Managed Pay & Display off street Car
 Parking locations
 Caerphilly

scale	date	drawn	checked
NTS	02/10/13	CB	DS
project ref.	drawing no.		rev.
	TM/13/54		

Key
 1 Oakfield Street Car Park

APPENDIX 5



Surf	Date	Initials	Description



TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT
 Directorate of the Environment
 Engineering Division HQ.
 Council Offices, Pontllanfraith
 Blackwood NP12 2YW
 Head of Engineering Services - Terry Shaw
 B.Eng, MBA, C.ENG, MICE, MCMI, MCIHT
 project title

Caerphilly County Borough Council

drawing title
 Caerphilly County Borough Council's
 Managed Pay & Display off street Car
 Parking locations
 Ystrad Mynach

scale	date	drawn	checked
NTS	02/10/13	CB	DS
project ref.	drawing no.		rev.
	TM/13/54		

Appendix 6

CAERPHELLY COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL EXISTING CAR PARK CHARGES

Location	1hr	2 hr	3 hr	4 hr	Daily	Weekly	Annual Tickets
BLACKWOOD CAR PARKS							
Court House	50p	70p	90p	£1.20	£2.00	£9.00	£95/3 months, £350 year
Cliff Road	50p	70p	90p	£1.20	£2.00	£9.00	£95/3 months, £350 year
Thorncombe No.2	50p	70p	90p	£1.20	£2.00	£9.00	£95/3 months, £350 year
Thorncombe No3	50p	70p	90p	£1.20	£2.00	£9.00	£95/3 months, £350 year
Wesley Road	50p	70p	90p	£1.20	£2.00	£9.00	N/A
High Street	50p	80p	£1.20	£2.00	£3.50	N/A	N/A
Woodbine Road	50p	80p	£1.20	£2.00	£3.50	N/A	N/A
Bus Station	50p	80p	£1.20	£2.00	£3.50	N/A	N/A
Market Trader	50p	80p	£1.20	£2.00	£3.50	N/A	N/A
Libanus Road	Season tickets only (£75.00 for residents / £200 for non residents)						
Highland Terrace	Season tickets only (£75.00 for residents)						
Gordon Road	Season tickets only (£75.00 for residents)						
BARGOED CAR PARKS							
Emporium	50p	80p	£1.20	£2.00	£3.50	N/A	£95/3 months, £350 year
ST Gwladys	50p	80p	£1.20	£2.00	£3.50	N/A	£95/3 months, £350 year
CAERPHELLY CAR PARKS							
Twyn	60p	£1.20	£1.80	£3.50	£600	N/A	Every day
Crescent Road (North East Section)	50p	80p	£1.20	£2.00	£3.50	N/A	N/A
Crescent Road (Middle Section)	50p	70p	90p	£1.20	£2.00	£9.00	£95/3 months, £350 year
Bedwas Road	50p	70p	90p	£1.20	£2.00	£9.00	£95/3 months, £350 year
Station Terrace	50p	70p	90p	£1.20	£2.00	£9.00	£95/3 months, £350 year
Lawrence Street	2hr limited waiting free & season tickets						£75/3 months, £250 year
YSTRAD MYNACH CAR PARKS							
Oakfield Street	40p	50p	70p	£1.00	£1.50	£7.50	N/A

Appendix 7 - Existing Parking Bay Provisions in Pay & Display Car Parks

Car Park Name	No. of Standard Parking Bays	Size of Standard Parking Bays (mm)		No. of Disabled Bays	Size of Disabled Parking Bays (mm)			% of Disabled Bays Provided	No. of Tariff Signs	X' ht of Tariff Board (mm)	X' ht of T&C Board (mm)	Comments/Actions
		Width	Length		Width	Length	Hatching					
Emporium, Bargoed	25	2400	4800	2	2450	4800	1500	7.4	1	30	16	1 no. additional disabled bay required
St Gwladys, Bargoed	24	2400	5000	3	2400	5000	None	11	1	20	16	
Ystrad Mynach	68	2400	4800	1	2450	4300	600-900	1.4	2	25	16	4 no. additional disabled bays required. 1 no. existing disabled bay to be increased in size
Bedwas Road, Caerphilly	20	2200	4700	3	2350	5000	1260	13	1	20	16	
Station Terrace, Caerphilly	24	2450	5000	2	2400	4700	None	7.7	1	20	16	2 no. existing disabled bays to be increased in length. 1 no. additional disabled bay required.
Crescent Road, Caerphilly S/S	70	2450	5000	4	2450	4600	1260	5.4	1	25	16	1 no. additional disabled parking required. 4 no. existing disabled bays to be increased in length
Crescent Road, Caerphilly L/S	112	2350	4900	3	2400	4700	1200	2.6	3	20	16	4 no. additional disabled bays required. 3 no. existing disabled bays to be increased in length.
Twyn, Caerphilly	61	2400	4800	7	2400	4650	1300	10.3	3	20	16	7 no. existing disabled bays to be increased in length
Cliff Road, Blackwood	90	2400	4800	6	2400	4600	1200	6.25	2	25	15	6 no. existing disabled bays to be increased in length
Wesley Road, Blackwood	30	2400	4800	1	2500	4900	2240	3.2	1	25	15	2 no. additional disabled bays required
Woodbine Road, Blackwood	35	2400	4600	2	2630	4900	1340	5.4	1	25	15	1 no. additional disabled bay required
Bus Station, Blackwood	50	2440	4600	3	2400	4650	1200	5.6	2	25	15	1 no. additional disabled bay required. 3 no. existing disabled parking bays to be increased in length.
Market Traders, Blackwood	23	2420	4700	1	2440	4700	1130	4.1	1	25	15	2 no. additional disabled bay required. 1 no. existing disabled parking bay to be increased in length.
Thorncombe Road 2, Blackwood	35	2430	4700	0				0	2	25	15	Shortage of disabled bays offset by increased number provided in Thorncombe 3
Thorncombe Road 3, Blackwood	69	2340	4600	17	2450	4750	1200	19.7	3	25	15	
High Street, Blackwood	193	2450	4540	8	2430	4600	1200	3.7	5	25	15	4 no. additional disabled bays required. 8 no. existing disabled parking bays to be increased in length.
Court House, Blackwood	41	2400	4600	0				0	1	20	15	3 no. additional disabled bays required
Red Lion, Blackwood	11	2540	4250	0				0	1	15	15	3 no. additional disabled bays required

Number of disabled bays recommended by LTN 5/95

Car Park Used For:

Up to 200 Bays

Over 200 Bays

Minimum Recommended Size of Parking Bays

Employees & visitors to business premises

Individual bays for each disabled employees plus 2 bays or 5% of total capacity whichever is greater

6 bays plus 2% of total capacity

Standard Parking Bay - 2400x4800mm

Shopping, recreation and leisure

3 bays or 6% of total capacity whichever is greater

4 bays plus 4% of total capacity

Disabled Parking Bay - 3600 x4800mm (including 1200mm wide hatching except when end bay)

Appendix 8 – Concessions Offered to Blue Badge Holders by Welsh Local Authorities in Pay & Display Car Parks

Council	Does the Council operate pay & display car parks?	Is parking free for blue badge holders / are any other forms of concession offered to blue badge holders?	Do blue badge holders have to park in a designated disabled bay to qualify for free parking/concession?	Can blue badge holders park without a ticket in a regular parking bay if all disabled parking bays are occupied?	Dimensions of disabled parking bays provided? (Standard bay - 4800x3600mm)
Blaenau Gwent	No	Free	No	Yes	Standard
Bridgend	Yes	Free	No	Yes	Standard
Caerphilly	Yes	No	N/A	No	Standard
Cardiff	Yes	Free	No	Yes	Standard
Carmarthenshire	Yes	Free for up to 3 hours for blue badge	No	Yes	Standard
Ceredigion	Yes	Free	No	Yes	Standard
Conwy	Yes	Free	Yes	No	Standard
Denbighshire	Yes	No	N/A	No	Standard
Flintshire	Yes	Free	No	Yes	Standard
Gwynedd	Yes	Free	No	Yes	Standard
Isle of Anglesey	Yes	Free	Yes	No	3.6m x 5m including hatching
Merthyr Tydfil	Yes	No	N/A	No	Standard
Monmouthshire	Yes	Free	Yes	No	Standard
Neath Port Talbot	Yes	No	N/A	Yes	Standard
Newport	Yes	Free	Yes	No	Standard
Pembrokeshire	Yes	No / concession of 1 hr extra free given to blue badge holders	Yes	No	Standard
Powys	Yes	Free	No	Yes	Standard
Rhondda Cynon Taf	Yes	Free	Yes	No	Standard
Swansea	Yes	No / concession in charges for blue badge holders in short stay car parks	No	Yes	Standard
Torfaen	No	Free	N/A	Yes	Standard
Vale of Glamorgan	Yes	No	N/A	Yes	Standard
Wrexham	Yes	Free	No	Yes	Standard

Appendix 9 – Comments received from Public Consultation Exercise

Facility/Location	Comment	Response
Various Car Parks in Bargoed & Blackwood	There are very few disabled bays in these car parks.	The Department for Transport advises that a minimum of 3 disabled bays or 6% of total capacity (whichever is greater) should be provided in car parks with less than 200 bays that are used for shopping, recreation and leisure. A significant number of the car parks in Blackwood and Bargoed comply with this advice, however arrangements will be made for those car parks that do not have the minimum recommended number of disabled bays to be reviewed when future refurbishment works are carried out.
	Owns a large vehicle. Bays should be longer for rear wheelchair access.	The majority of the bays currently provided in the car parks comply with the minimum size recommended by The Department for Transport. Arrangements will be made for those smaller bays to be reviewed when future refurbishment works are carried out.
	Wheelchair user cannot get close enough to machine in a car park in Blackwood to insert money to purchase a ticket due to a 'lip' around the machine.	Most of the machines located in the vicinity of the disabled bays have been installed on the flat (i.e. not on a kerbed plinth) since 1996. All of the ticket machines used are DDA compliant, however the Council is prepared to make allowances for special cases where individuals are unable to use the ticket machines (e.g. offer advanced payment tickets)
	Parking should be free for disabled.	The parking charges are necessary to cover the maintenance and management costs for the public car parks. Our charges are in line with many other authorities in Wales that operate pay and display car parks and have not been reviewed since 2010. There are two free car parks provided in Bargoed (i.e. Hanbury Road and Gateway) and 1 free car park in Blackwood (Red Lion).
	Parking tariffs are very expensive.	See above. Season tickets can also be obtained for all long stay car parks at a reduced rate.

Various Car Parks in Bargoed & Blackwood	Does not agree that the parking tariffs are reasonable because it takes disabled persons longer to shop than others.	It is acknowledged that it can take disabled persons longer to carry out their business/shopping. In view of this, it is recommended that the following concession be made for blue badge holders - an additional 1hr free parking will be offered for all blue badge holders on top of any ticket that they purchase. For clarification, blue badge holders would still be required to purchase a ticket to cover the first hour of their stay.
	Car parks should all be long stay.	Short stay car parks provide parking space for shoppers and visitors, whilst long stay car parks provide parking space for workers at a reduced rate. If all car parks were made long stay this would result in workers taking all of the prime parking spaces and would discourage shoppers from visiting the towns.
	The car parks are very expensive.	Noted. However our charges are in line with many other authorities in Wales that operate pay and display car parks and have not been reviewed since 2010. The parking charges are necessary to cover the maintenance and management costs for the public car parks. There are two free car parks provided in Bargoed (i.e. Hanbury Road and Gateway) and 1 free car park in Blackwood (Red Lion).
Woodbine Road, Blackwood	Does not agree that the parking tariffs are reasonable for all users because it takes me longer to shop than others.	It is acknowledged that it can take disabled persons longer to carry out their business/shopping than able-bodied persons. In view of this, it is recommended that the following concession be made for blue badge holders - an additional 1hr free parking will be offered for all blue badge holders on top of any ticket that they purchase. For clarification, blue badge holders would still be required to purchase a ticket to cover the first hour of their stay.
	More time should be available.	Users can obtain both daily and hourly tickets for this car park.
	Car Park is up a hill and disabled spaces are often full.	Noted. It is acknowledged that the car park is well used due to its central location in the town, however it would not be possible to create additional parking spaces within the car park. There are provisions for blue badge holders elsewhere in the town with better access.

Twyn, Caerphilly	Not enough spaces are provided.	There is no opportunity to create additional parking spaces within the car park. The existing number of disabled spaces exceeds the minimum number (3 bays or 6% of total capacity whichever is greater) recommended by The Department for Transport.
	Car park is often full and other drivers use the disabled parking areas.	It is acknowledged that the car park is well used due to its central location in the town. The facility receives regular enforcement by the Council's car park attendants who issue excess charge notices to any vehicles parked in a disabled bay without displaying a blue badge.
	Car park is often busy with no available spaces.	It is acknowledged that the car park is well used, however it would not be possible to create additional parking spaces within the car park.
	Disabled parking is being used.	Noted. See comment above re enforcement.
	Disabled bays should be relocated to the wall of the car park where it is less steep.	There is insufficient room to accommodate the existing 8no. disabled bays adjacent to the wall next to the community centre building. However, the current location is considered appropriate.
	This is a very busy car park and is too small for Caerphilly town.	It is acknowledged that the car park is well used due to its central location in the town, Other car parking facilities (both on and off-street) exist within the town centre, however it is recognised that many of these are not as conveniently situated as Twyn car park.
	Other drivers constantly use the disabled parking spaces.	This facility receives regular enforcement by the Council's car park attendants who will issue excess charge notices to any users who park in a disabled bay without displaying a blue badge.

Twyn, Caerphilly	Parking should be free for blue badge holders.	Blue badge holders are entitled to park for free on-street (for up to 3 hours on double yellow lines and for an unlimited period of time in limited waiting and residents' parking bays), however it is acknowledged that it can take disabled persons longer to carry out their business/shopping than able bodied persons. In view of this, it is recommended that the following concession be made for blue badge holders - an additional 1hr free parking will be offered for all blue badge holders on top of any ticket that they purchase. For clarification, blue badge holders would still be required to purchase a ticket to cover the first hour of their stay.
	The parking fees are too expensive for low income users.	Noted. However our charges are in line with many other authorities in Wales that operate pay and display car parks and have not been reviewed since 2010. The parking charges are necessary to cover the maintenance and management costs for the public car parks. The annual expenditure for Twyn car park is high in comparison to other car parks due to its central location. There are two free car parks provided in Caerphilly i.e. White Street and Laurence Street.
	The time taken to get a disabled person ready e.g. get wheelchair out etc. uses time already paid for. All shopping etc. takes longer and to return to car and dismantle wheelchair etc takes time, and time is money which in this case is expensive.	Noted. It is recommended that the following concession be made for blue badge holders - an additional 1hr free parking will be offered for all blue badge holders on top of any ticket that they purchase. For clarification, blue badge holders would still be required to purchase a ticket to cover the first hour of their stay.

Twyn, Caerphilly	More parking is needed in Caerphilly town centre.	Currently there is no opportunity to provide any additional off-street parking in Caerphilly town centre. However, recent changes to the on-street parking restrictions in the town has increased the overall parking provision for shoppers (previously shoppers were unable to park in a number of locations in the morning as loading only restrictions applied – these have now been changed to all day limited waiting, which blue badge holders can park in for an unlimited period of time).
	The time taken to get a disabled person ready e.g. get wheelchair out etc. uses time already paid for. All shopping etc. takes longer and to return to car and dismantle wheelchair etc takes time, and time is money which in this case is expensive.	It is acknowledged that it can take disabled persons longer to carry out their business/shopping than able-bodied persons. In view of this, it is recommended that the following concession be made for blue badge holders - an additional 1hr free parking will be offered for all blue badge holders on top of any ticket that they purchase. For clarification, blue badge holders would still be required to purchase a ticket to cover the first hour of their stay.
Newbridge - Meredith Terrace,	The car park is subject to ongoing regeneration works.	Noted. The car park is to be refurbished as part of the phase 2 regeneration works.
Additional Comments Received		
If we all parked on yellow lines there would be havoc. We want to be able to park with everyone else – blue badge holder.	Blue badge holders can only park on single or double yellow lines where it would not cause an obstruction or danger to others.	
Wheelchair users should be involved in planning parking meters so that council can ensure all members of the public can utilise them, which is not the case in all car parks because of a high 'lip' of concrete surrounding machines that prevents wheelchair users from inserting their money – blue badge holder.	All of the machines located in the vicinity of the disabled bays in the car parks have been installed on the flat (i.e. not on a kerbed plinth) since 1996. All of the ticket machines used are DDA compliant. Representatives of Caerphilly Access Group were consulted/involved when the ticket machines were installed.	
No evidence of wardens operating to make sure disabled parking bays are solely for disabled people – blue badge holder.	Regular enforcement is carried out in all pay and display car parks by the Council's car park attendants; excess charge notices are issued to anyone who parks in a disabled bay without displaying a blue badge.	

<p>If charges apply then an allowance needs to be made for disabled users.</p>	<p>Noted. It is recommended that the following concession be made for blue badge holders - an additional 1hr free parking will be offered for all blue badge holders on top of any ticket that they purchase. For clarification, blue badge holders would still be required to purchase a ticket to cover the first hour of their stay.</p>
<p>Response from The Disability Can Do Organisation</p>	
<p>We strongly believe that by allowing disabled people extra time in town centre car parks they will be much more willing to use the public car parks than park on the main high streets causing congestion.</p>	<p>Noted. However it is recognised that there is often a desire for people to park as close to their destination as possible and therefore it is considered that many people would continue to park on street.</p>
<p>It would be safer for disabled people to depart their vehicles in designated spaces with enough room to assemble mobility aids.</p>	<p>Noted.</p>
<p>We would welcome any adjustments that could be made to the current pricing structure and would fully support and publicise any improvements.</p>	<p>Noted. It is recommended that the following concession be made for blue badge holders - an additional 1hr free parking will be offered for all blue badge holders on top of any ticket that they purchase. For clarification, blue badge holders would still be required to purchase a ticket to cover the first hour of their stay.</p>
<p>Response from Penyrheol, Trecenydd, Energlyn Community Council</p>	
<p>There should not be two different pricing levels for the north and middle sections of Crescent Road car park as many people have been caught out in the past simply because they have not realised that there are two different prices.</p>	<p>The middle section of the car park is designated as short stay, which is provided for visitors of the castle as well as shoppers. The long stay section of the car park is provided for workers in the town.</p>
<p>Generally there is an insufficient number of parking bays.</p>	<p>Noted. Generally there is little/no opportunity to provide additional spaces in the car parks, however it is intended to review the number of disabled spaces provided when future refurbishment works are carried out.</p>
<p>Parking should be free for blue badge holders.</p>	<p>The charges are in line with many other authorities in Wales that operate pay and display car parks and have not been reviewed since 2010. The parking charges are necessary to cover the maintenance and management costs for the public car parks.</p>

Disabled parking bays should be wider and longer as wheelchair users require more room to manoeuvre their chairs out of the vehicles either through their side or back door.	The majority of the bays currently provided in the car parks comply with the minimum size recommended by The Department for Transport. Arrangements will be made for those smaller bays to be reviewed when future refurbishment works are carried out.
Response from Caerphilly C B Access Group at meeting on 18-10-12	
Members generally encounter difficulty (less than 50% of the time) in finding an available parking space in the car parks.	Noted.
Members generally do not experience difficulties in the car parks.	Noted.
Members consider that the existing parking bays are generally of sufficient size to accommodate their vehicles and mobility needs.	Noted. The majority of the bays currently provided in the car parks comply with the minimum size recommended by The Department for Transport. Arrangements will be made for those smaller bays to be reviewed when future refurbishment works are carried out.
Members consider that their needs are generally met when using the public car parks.	Noted.
Members consider that it would be beneficial to allow an additional hour to all tariffs free of charge or blue badge holders with impaired mobility.	It is recommended that such a concession be introduced.
Members consider that the current parking tariffs are reasonable for all users.	Noted.
Members consider that the existing balance between short stay and long stay car parks is reasonable.	Noted.
Response from Disabled Motoring UK	
It is unfair to charge disabled people the same as non-disabled people as they tend to take longer to do their shopping and get around.	Recognised - it is recommended that the following concession be made for blue badge holders - an additional 1hr free parking will be offered for all blue badge holders on top of any ticket that they purchase. For clarification, blue badge holders would still be required to purchase a ticket to cover the first hour of their stay.
There have been a number of successful legal challenges including a case against Norwich City Council where the council had to change their parking policy to allow disabled people to have double the amount of time for the same price.	Noted.

<p>For many disabled people using a car is their only option. This is because they just do not have the same opportunities to use public transport as non-disabled people as they often need door-to-door transport.</p>	<p>Noted. However if a person receives the mobility component of the Disability Living Allowance then they qualify for concessionary bus travel. The majority of service buses operating in the county borough are low floor accessible.</p>
<p>Parking charges in car parks encourages blue badge holders to park on–street on single and double yellow lines, which can cause congestion. It is also safer for a disabled person to assemble a wheelchair or an assistance dog in a car park rather than on a busy road.</p>	<p>Blue badge holders should only park on single or double yellow lines where it would not cause an obstruction or danger to themselves or other road users.</p>
<p>Disabled Motoring UK believes that 3 hours free parking should be provided in <u>pay and display</u> car parks as it does on-street.</p>	<p>It is considered that an additional 1hr free parking would be an appropriate allowance for blue badge holders.</p>
<p>Introducing fees can create problems for disabled people with upper limb disabilities, possibly preventing them from being able to pay. Just because a payment machine is at a height suitable for wheelchair users does not mean a double arm amputee or someone with severe arthritis can use it. If someone cannot use a council car park because the machinery is not accessible then another way for them to use the car park must be introduced.</p>	<p>All of the ticket machines used are DDA compliant, however the Council is prepared to make allowances for special cases where individuals are unable to use the ticket machines (e.g. offer advanced payment tickets)</p>
<p>Some car parks only permit blue badge holders free parking if they park in an accessible bay. Disabled Motoring UK believes disabled people should be able to park free of charge even if they park in a standard bay due to the lack of space. Operators should monitor whether this is happening on a regular basis and if so, increase the number of accessible bays.</p>	<p>Disagree. It is recommended that blue badge holders will only qualify for the proposed parking concession if they are parked in a designated disabled parking bay. However it is intended that the numbers of disabled bays provided will be increased in order to comply with the minimum number recommended by DFT in all pay and display car parks.</p>
<p>Some council run car parks only offer concessions to people with vehicles that are vehicle excise duty (VED) exempt. Disabled Motoring UK feels this is confusing and unfair as it discriminates against people who do not receive Higher Rate Mobility Component of the Disability Living Allowance (HRMC-DLA).</p>	<p>Noted. However this does not apply within Caerphilly County Borough.</p>
<p>It must be made clear at the entrance to the car park (prior to entry) whether disabled people are charged for parking and what conditions are imposed (e.g. on parking in marked bays).</p>	<p>Disagree. Blue badge holders should assume that they have to pay in public car parks unless signs state otherwise.</p>
<p>All local authorities should ensure that only blue badge holders park in disabled persons' parking bays and penalise motorists who do not abide to this rule.</p>	<p>This practice is currently adopted by Caerphilly County Borough Council.</p>

<p>Pay and display ticket machines require money to be fed into a small slot as well as vehicle registration numbers to be entered on screen. These procedures can be very difficult for people with limited dexterity or strength.</p>	<p>All of the ticket machines used are DDA compliant, however the Council is prepared to make allowances for special cases where individuals are unable to use the ticket machines (e.g. offer advanced payment tickets)</p>												
<p>The positioning of parking meters also causes problems for wheelchair users if they are situated in a place which is difficult to reach.</p>	<p>All of the machines located in the vicinity of the disabled bays in the car parks have been installed on the flat (i.e. not on a kerbed plinth) since 1996. All of the ticket machines used are DDA compliant. Representatives of Caerphilly Access Group were consulted/involved when the ticket machines were installed.</p>												
<p>The number of accessible parking bays provided in off-street car parks should be based on the size of the car park and take into account the external and local factors which affect the demand for accessible bays.</p>	<p>Disagree. It is considered that the number of disabled bays provided should comply with the minimum number recommended by The Department for Transport.</p>												
<p>Off-street disabled parking provision must therefore be calculated on an individual car park basis, taking into consideration external factors likely to affect demand.</p>	<p>Disagree. See comments above.</p>												
<p>Guidance on the required number and percentage of disabled parking bays should be based on the size of the car park, rather than a blanket '6%' of the total number of bays as previously recommended by the Department for Transport.</p>	<p>Disagree. See comments above.</p>												
<p>Disabled Motoring UK recommends the following provision of accessible spaces which reflects five ranges of car park size:</p> <table border="0" data-bbox="120 954 1115 1173"> <thead> <tr> <th data-bbox="120 954 694 991">No. of Spaces</th> <th data-bbox="703 954 1115 991">Designated Bay Provision</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td data-bbox="120 997 694 1034">1-50</td> <td data-bbox="703 997 1115 1034">2 + 3% of total car park</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="120 1040 694 1077">51-200</td> <td data-bbox="703 1040 1115 1077">3 + 3% of total car park</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="120 1083 694 1120">201-500</td> <td data-bbox="703 1083 1115 1120">4 + 3% of total car park</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="120 1126 694 1163">501-1000</td> <td data-bbox="703 1126 1115 1163">5 + 3% of total car park</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="120 1169 694 1206">1000+</td> <td data-bbox="703 1169 1115 1206">6 + 3% of total car park</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	No. of Spaces	Designated Bay Provision	1-50	2 + 3% of total car park	51-200	3 + 3% of total car park	201-500	4 + 3% of total car park	501-1000	5 + 3% of total car park	1000+	6 + 3% of total car park	<p>It is considered that the number of disabled bays provided should be in accordance with the Department for Transport's advice i.e. (3 bays or 6% of total capacity whichever is greater)</p>
No. of Spaces	Designated Bay Provision												
1-50	2 + 3% of total car park												
51-200	3 + 3% of total car park												
201-500	4 + 3% of total car park												
501-1000	5 + 3% of total car park												
1000+	6 + 3% of total car park												

Appendix 10 – Summary of Responses from Public Consultation Exercise

Comment
The majority of persons who completed the survey live within Caerphilly County Borough.
The highest number of persons were in the age range 40-64 years.
The majority of persons were blue badge holders.
The majority of persons have regular use of a vehicle.
The highest number of persons use Twyn car park.
The highest number of persons use the car parks for shopping.
The majority of persons use the car parks on a weekly basis.
The highest number of persons stay in the car parks for 1-2 hours.
All persons have encountered difficulty in finding an available parking space in the car parks.
The majority of persons have encountered difficulties when using the car parks.
The majority of persons consider that there is adequate signage provided in the car parks.
The majority of persons consider that the bays are not of sufficient size to accommodate their vehicle and mobility needs.
More persons needs are unmet than met.
The majority of persons are aware that designated bays are provided for blue badge holders on street.
The majority of persons are aware that blue badge holders can park on single and yellow lines for up to three hours (no return within four hours) where it would not cause an obstruction to other road users.
The majority of persons are not aware that blue badge holders are able to park in Resident Permit Holders Only parking bays for an unlimited period of time.
The majority of persons are not aware that blue badge holders are able to park in Limited Waiting parking bays for an unlimited period of time.
The majority of persons felt that it would be beneficial to allow an additional hour to all tariffs free of charge for blue badge holders.
Buses and trains are the most popular alternative forms of transport used when visiting shopping centres within the county borough.
The majority of persons consider that the current parking tariffs are not reasonable for all users.
The majority of persons consider that the existing balance between short stay and long stay car parks is reasonable.
The majority of persons who completed the survey live within Caerphilly County Borough.
The highest number of persons were in the age range 40-64 years.
The majority of persons were blue badge holders.
The majority of persons have regular use of a vehicle.
The highest number of persons use Twyn car park.
The highest number of persons use the car parks for shopping.
The majority of persons use the car parks on a weekly basis.

The highest number of persons stay in the car parks for 1-2 hours.
All persons have encountered difficulty in finding an available parking space in the car parks.
The majority of persons have encountered difficulties when using the car parks.
The majority of persons consider that there is adequate signage provided in the car parks.
The majority of persons consider that the bays are not of sufficient size to accommodate their vehicle and mobility needs.
More persons needs are unmet than met.
The majority of persons are aware that designated bays are provided for blue badge holders on street.

Appendix 11 – Recommended Actions

Concern	Recommended Action	Implications	Priority/Timescale
There are not enough disabled parking spaces provided in all pay and display car parks to comply with the minimum number of spaces recommended by DFT i.e. 3 disabled bays or 6% of total capacity (whichever is greater) in car parks with less than 200 bays that are used for shopping, recreation and leisure.	Increase number of disabled parking bays in 12 public car parks to meet minimum requirement of 3 disabled bays or 6% of total capacity (whichever is greater).	Significant cost (£13k). Will reduce the overall number of parking bays provided.	Works to be carried out as part of planned maintenance works over forthcoming years. Works estimated to take 5 years to complete from available budgets.
Not all of the disabled parking bays provided in the pay and display car parks comply with the minimum dimensions (2400x4800mm) recommended by DFT.	Increase size of disabled parking bays in 9 car parks to meet minimum requirement. Works to be carried out as part of planned maintenance works over forthcoming years.	Significant cost (£30k). Will reduce the overall number of parking bays provided.	Works to be carried out as part of planned maintenance works over forthcoming years. Works estimated to take 5 years to complete from available budgets.
Some form of concession for blue badge holders would be appropriate as an allowance for the additional time that it can take disabled persons to go about their business.	Implement concession that provides blue badge holders with an additional 1hr free parking on top of ticket purchased. Concession will only apply when blue badge holders are parked in a disabled bay.	Significant implementation cost (£28k) and ongoing annual income loss (£20k).	2014/15
Persons are not aware that blue badge holders are able to park in Limited Waiting and Residents' Permit Holders Only parking bays for an unlimited period of time.	Better publicise/promote the traffic order exemptions that exist for blue badge holders within Caerphilly County Borough via disability groups, Council's website and Newslines. Investigate feasibility of including details of exemptions within promotional literature given out when blue badges are issued.	Dissatisfaction from local communities/residents about increased numbers of blue badge holders parking in limited waiting and residents' parking bays.	2014/15



EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT FORM

This Council recognises that people have different needs, requirements and goals and we will work actively against all forms of discrimination by promoting good relations and mutual respect within and between our communities, residents, elected members, job applicants and workforce.

We will also work to create equal access for everyone to our services, irrespective of ethnic origin, sex, age, marital status, sexual orientation, disability, gender reassignment, religious beliefs or non-belief, Welsh language, BSL or other languages, nationality, responsibility for any dependents or any other reason which cannot be shown to be justified.

NAME OF NEW OR REVISED POLICY / FUNCTION / PROCEDURE	Revised operation and parking charges for blue badge holders in council owned public car parks
DIRECTORATE	Environment
SERVICE AREA	Engineering Services – Traffic Management
CONTACT OFFICER	Mr Dean Smith – Principal Engineer (Traffic Management)
DATE POLICY WILL BE REVIEWED / REVISED NEXT	TBA following monitoring exercise

PURPOSE OF THE POLICY / FUNCTION / PROCEDURE

1. What is the policy / function / procedure intended to achieve?
(Please give a brief description of the purpose of the new or updated policy / function / procedure)

The revised operational procedure is intended to improve accessibility to the council's public car parks for blue badge holders.

2. Who are the service users for whom the policy / function / procedure has been developed?
(Who will be directly affected by the delivery of this policy / function / procedure? e.g. staff members, the public generally, or specific sections of the public i.e. youth groups, carers, road users, people using country parks, people on benefits etc.)

Members of the public who are blue badge holders.

IMPACT ON THE PUBLIC AND STAFF

<p>3.</p>	<p>Does the policy / function / procedure ensure that everyone has an equal access to all the services available? <i>(What has been done to examine whether or not these groups have equal access to the service, or whether they need to receive the service in a different way from other people?)</i></p> <p>The revised policy has been developed following a review of the operation and current parking charges for blue badge holders in the council’s off-street public car parks. The consultation was published on the council’s website and also sent to a number of partnerships and groups in the local community as well as organisations that represent disabled and older members of the community. The proposed changes to the operational procedure are intended to address a number of concerns raised by disabled members of the community.</p>
	<p><u>Actions required</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provision of additional disabled bays in public car parks • Increase size of disabled bays in a number of public car parks • Introduce a concession of 1 hour extra free parking for blue badge holders in all pay and display car parks • Publicise/promote exemptions for blue badge holders in Caerphilly county borough.

<p>4.</p>	<p>What are the consequences of the policy for particular groups? <i>(Has the service delivery been examined to assess if there is any indirect affect on any groups? Could the consequences of the policy differ dependent upon people’s disability, race, gender, sexuality, age, language, religion/belief?)</i></p> <p>The increased number of disabled parking bays will result in marginally less standard parking spaces being provided for able bodies users</p>
	<p><u>Actions required</u></p> <p>None</p>

INFORMATION COLLECTION

5.	<p>Is full information and analysis of users of the service available? <i>(Is this service effectively engaging with all its potential users or is there higher or lower participation of uptake by one or more groups? If so, what has been done to address any difference in take up of the service?)</i></p> <p>The survey was primarily aimed at blue badge holders and those groups who represent disabled persons were specifically targeted. However, the survey was made available to all members of the public and the views of local partnerships and town & community councils were sought.</p>
	<p><u>Actions required</u></p> <p>None</p>

CONSULTATION

6.	<p>What consultation has taken place? <i>(What steps have been taken to ensure that people from various groups have been consulted during the development of this policy / function / procedure? Has the Council's Equalities groups/staff been consulted?)</i></p> <p>Questionnaires were published on the councils website and also sent to local partnerships, town & community councils and groups that represent disabled people. The report has been passed to the council's equality officer for comment.</p>
	<p><u>Actions required</u></p> <p>None</p>

MONITORING AND REVIEW

7.	<p>How will the policy be monitored? <i>(What monitoring process has been set up to assess the extent that the service is being used by all sections of the community? Are comments or complaints systems set up to record issues by Equalities category?)</i></p> <p>The level of usage by blue badge holders will be electronically monitored.</p>
	<p><u>Actions required</u></p> <p>Car park usage to be monitored during twelve month period of changes being introduced.</p>

8.	<p>How will the policy be evaluated? <i>(What methods will be used to ensure that the needs of all sections of the community are being met?)</i></p> <p>The feedback/complaints from blue badge holders will be monitored as well as usage of disabled bays and 1 hour free parking if implemented.</p>
	<p><u>Actions required</u></p> <p>Ongoing monitoring of level of usage and complaints received.</p>

9.	<p>Have any support / guidance / training requirements been identified? <i>(Has the EIA or consultation process shown a need for awareness raising amongst staff, or identified the need for Equality training of some sort?)</i></p> <p>No</p>
	<p><u>Actions required</u></p> <p>None</p>

10.	<p>What wider use will you make of this Equality Impact Assessment? <i>(What use will you make of this document i.e. as a consultation response, appendix to approval reports, publicity etc. in addition to the mandatory action shown below?)</i></p> <p>The equality impact assessment will be appended to the Scrutiny report and any subsequent Cabinet report.</p>
	<p><u>Actions required</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • EIA, when completed, to be returned to equalities@caerphilly.gov.uk for publishing on the Council's website.

Completed By:	Mr Dean Smith
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Date:	07 August 2013
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Position:	Principal Engineer, Traffic Management
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Name of Head of Service:	Mr Terry Shaw
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