Parking review 2025 - update Introduction

In February Somerset Council agreed to go to public consultation on the following proposals:

Key Points/Summary

* These changes remain proposals, subject to a public consultation.

* Main proposals include Sunday parking in all car parks, on-street charging in limited waiting areas and introducing charges at car parks which are currently free.

* Resources are being put in place to ensure that initial changes such as Sunday parking charges could be implemented as a priority, pending the public consultation.

* Following public consultation, if we proceed with Sunday charging, we would anticipate being able to deliver this, in October.

* Further consultation will be required for rolling out on street charging and charges to free car parks - we will be carrying out further engagement on a town-by- town basis with local Councillors and City/Town and Parish Councils in the first instance.

* The proposals are about harmonising parking charges to bring consistency and fairness and ensuring the service continues to be self-funding.

* Importantly, the projected parking income assumptions within the MTFP are still valid projecting current income levels forward.

Nominations are open for the 2025 Youth Parliament Elections in Somerset. Young people aged 11-17 years who live and go to school or college in the county, are encouraged to apply.

It's chance to campaign on issues that matter to young people, to represent peers, and Somerset, on a national stage.

Three Members of Youth Parliament (MYPs) will be elected with support from schools, colleges, and the community. Each will lead a campaign of their choice and work alongside local services, organisations, and decision-makers to platform young people's voices.

MYPs are also supported by an Advisory Group of young people aged 10-25 from a range of backgrounds. The group develops campaigns, takes part in consultations, interviews, presentations, promotions and contributes to planning.

Somerset Youth Parliament is a space for young people to learn new skills, grow confidence, share their views, get involved in current issues and make a difference.

The deadline for nominations is Monday 3 November 2025. Elections will take place in December 2025. Young people in schools, colleges and youth clubs across Somerset will be eligible to vote.

Anyone aged 11-17 years can register to nominate themselves for election at: <u>https://somersetyouthparliament.org.uk/elections/</u> with full voting information and links to be released in September. The Somerset Youth Parliament Advisory Group is free to join and open to anyone aged 10-25 who lives, works, or studies in Somerset. New members are always welcome. Find out more information here: <u>https://somersetyouthparliament.org.uk/about/join-us/</u>

Somerset's annual Special Educational Needs and/or Disability (SEND) satisfaction surveys for 2025 are now live.

The surveys have been developed in partnership with Somerset Parent Carer Forum CIC, Somerset Council and NHS Somerset Integrated Care Board (ICB).

Two surveys have been created, one for parent carers and one for practitioners, to gather feedback from both parent carers and practitioners on their experiences of SEND services over the past 12 months. They close on 6th July 2025

The findings will help identify strengths and areas for improvement across education, health, and care provision in Somerset. The surveys can be accessed below:

Parent Carer Feedback on Somerset's 2025 SEND Services

Practitioner Feedback on Somerset's 2025 SEND Services

The Parent Carer survey is open to all parent carers of children and young people aged 0-25 with SEND. Where families have more than one child with additional needs, a separate response may be submitted for each child.

The Professional's survey is open to professionals working with children and young people aged 0-25 with SEND across education, health, and care settings.

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